



Beef Cattle Entry Requirements

Entry Documentation (3 CCR §831.4; FAC 10610)

California requires an **Interstate Livestock Entry Permit** for **all** cattle (including steers and slaughter cattle). To obtain an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit, please call the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) **Animal Health Branch (AHB) permit line at (916) 900-5052**. Permits are valid for 15 days after being issued.

California requires a **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)** for cattle within 30 days before movement into the state.

Exemptions:

- Cattle moving directly to slaughter, with a brand document, owner-shipper statement, or saleyard release.
- Beef breeding herds with a Pasture to Pasture permit.

Official Identification (ID) (3 CCR §831.3, §831.4; FAC 10610)

The following beef cattle require individual official ID:

- Sexually intact beef females 6 months and over
- Sexually intact beef males 18 months and over
- Any cattle used for show, exhibition, rodeo, or recreation

Official ID must be listed on the CVI, except:

- Cattle moving from an Approved Livestock Market directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment.
- Sexually intact beef breed cattle under 18 months.
- Steers or spayed heifers.
- Cattle from OR, NV, or WA if accompanied by a brand inspection certificate with registered brand.



Note:

- If official ID is not required, the **CVI** must state the exemption.
- If official ID is required, but listing it is not, the **CVI** must state “all animals are officially identified”.
- Brand inspection requirements remain in effect.

See CDFA’s Fact Sheet

“[Cattle - Official Identification Options](#)” for detailed information on options for official ID for cattle.



If you are transporting livestock into California with an electronic CVI, please have the information readily available on your device or print and present a hard copy to the Inspector at the Border Protection Station.

**Animal Health Branch Permit Line:
(916) 900-5052**

**Animal Health and Food Safety Services
Animal Health Branch**
 Headquarters - (916) 900-5002
 Redding District - (530) 225-2140
 Modesto District - (209) 491-9350
 Tulare District - (559) 685-3500
 Ontario District - (909) 947-5932

For California entry requirements of other livestock and animals, please visit the following:
[Information About Livestock and Pet Movement](#) or [Animal Health Entry Requirement Interactive Website](#)

For more information on the Animal Health Branch, please visit:
www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah



www.cdfa.ca.gov



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Brucellosis

([3 CCR §753.1](#); [FAC 10326, 10327](#))

Sexually intact cattle of any age moving from a **Designated Brucellosis Surveillance Area** require a negative brucellosis blood test obtained within 30 days before movement into the state and a **Special Entry Permit**.



Tuberculosis (TB)

([3 CCR §758](#); [FAC 9932](#))

California requires a negative TB test for beef breeding cattle **6 months of age and over** within 60 days before movement, *if* originating from states/zones not classified as "TB Free."

Distinction between Beef and Dairy Cattle

([3 CCR §830](#); [FAC 10610](#))

"Dairy cattle" means all cattle, regardless of age or sex or current use, that are 40 percent or more dairy in breed(s).

See CDFA's Fact Sheet "[Dairy Cattle Entry Requirements](#)" for detailed information on dairy cattle entry requirements.

Trichomonosis

([3 CCR §820.3](#); [FAC 10610](#))

California requires a negative individual PCR trichomonosis test on bulls 18 months of age and over and non-virgin bulls less than 18 months of age.

Samples must be taken at least 10 days after last contact with sexually mature cows, and within 60 days before movement into the state.

California requires the **CVI** to include the test date, test type, test result, and statement: **"Trichomonosis has not been diagnosed in the herd of origin within the past 24 months."**

Note: Test results from pooled or cultured samples are not acceptable.

Exemptions:

- Bulls moving to a certified semen collection facility.
- Bulls used solely for exhibition, confined to an exhibition location without access to mature female cattle.
- Bulls moving directly to a recognized slaughtering facility, or to a feedlot for feeding (no grazing or exposure to female cattle) and then to slaughter.

