California requires an **Interstate Livestock Entry Permit** for all dairy breed 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 all cattle within 30 days before movement into the state.

**Exemptions:**
- Cattle moving directly to slaughter are exempt from the CVI requirement if brand documents or owner/shipper statements accompany the shipment.

**Official Identification**
All dairy breed cattle must have Official Identification (ID) and it must be listed on the CVI (*dairy breed feeder steers do not need ID listed on the CVI*).

Acceptable methods or devices for Official ID of cattle include:
- Official brucellosis calfhood vaccination tags
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) metal “silver brite” tags
- Tags conforming to Animal Identification Number (AIN) system, commonly known as 840 tag
- A tamper-proof location-based numbering system tag. This tag combines a state issued location identification (LID) number or USDA-issued premises identification number (PIN) with a unique producer livestock production numbering system
- USDA-approved back tag—for slaughter cattle to be slaughtered within 3 days of arrival
- Registration tattoos if the animal health officials in the shipping and receiving state agree on their use

**Note:** Brand inspection requirements remain in effect.

**Brucellosis**
California requires official brucellosis calfhood vaccination and a legible brucellosis tattoo for all female cattle over 4 months of age before movement into the state. If the tag is lost, a “silver brite” tag is acceptable with the tattoo. 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 and a special entry permit.

**Trichomonosisis**
California requires a negative individual trichomonosis test on bulls 18 months of age and over and non-virgin bulls less than 18 months of age, sampled 10 days after last contact with sexually mature cows, and within 60 days before movement into California. California requires the CVI to include the statement, **“Trichomonosis has not been diagnosed in the herd of origin within the past 24 months.”**

Test results from pooled samples are not acceptable.

**Exemptions:**
- Bulls moving to a certified semen collection facility for artificial insemination.
- Bulls used for exhibition, confined to exhibition location without access to mature female cattle, and that will return directly to the state of origin after the exhibition.
- 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.

**Tuberculosis (TB)**
California requires a negative TB test for dairy breeding cattle 6 months of age and over, obtained within 60 days before movement into the state.

If you are transporting livestock into California with an electronic CVI, please print and present a hard copy to the Inspector at the Border Protection Station. This will prevent future follow up by CDFA personnel to verify the authenticity and accuracy of the document.

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

For more information on the Animal Health Branch, please visit: [www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah)

For California entry requirements of other livestock and animals, please visit the following:
- [Information About Livestock and Pet Movement](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov)
- [Animal Health Entry Requirement Interactive Website](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov)