Sheep Entry Requirements

Interstate Livestock Entry Permit
(3 CCR §760.5)

California requires an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit for all sheep moving into the state.

Exemptions:
- Sheep less than 18 months of age that are moving within an approved slaughter channel

To obtain an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit, please contact the Animal Health Branch (AHB) permit line at (916) 900-5052 before moving sheep into the state. Permits are valid for 15 days after being issued.

Certificate of Veterinary Inspection
(3 CCR §760.5)

California requires a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) for sexually intact sheep issued within 30 days before movement into the state with the statement, “The animals are not scrapie-positive or suspect or from a scrapie non-compliant flock.”

Exemptions:
- Sheep moving within an approved slaughter channel
- Sheep moving for grazing without change of ownership

Ovine Brucellosis - Rams
(3 CCR §760.4)

A negative Brucella ovis test is required for all rams 6 months of age and over within 60 days prior to entry. The CVI must include the test date, test result, and lab name.

Exemptions:
- A California ram that is entered in a show out of state, and then returns to California
- Rams moving for grazing without change of ownership
- Rams from a certified Brucella ovis-free flock with flock number on the CVI.

Official Identification (ID)
(3 CCR §760.5)

California requires Official Identification (ID) for all sheep. The ID must be written on, or included on a list attached to the CVI. Official ID may be listed as a range of numbers.

Exemptions:
- Sheep less than 18 months of age that are moving within an approved slaughter channel
- Non-exhibition castrated sheep less than 18 months of age
- Sheep moving for grazing without change of ownership

Acceptable forms of official ID for sheep include:
- Official ear tags
- Breed registration tattoos
- USDA (ISO) compliant microchip

See CDFA’s Fact Sheet “Sheep & Goats - Official Identification Options” for detailed information on options for official ID for sheep and goats.

Note: California’s entry requirements will change in the future based on recent changes in federal regulations. Please contact the AHB permit line at (916) 900-5052 for more information.

For information on Scrapie, please visit:
Animal Health Branch Scrapie Information
Eradicate Scrapie!
USDA Scrapie Disease Information

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.

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) 947-4462

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

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