

# DOCKDOGS 2026 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP — MADISON, WI

## Bringing Your Dog to Wisconsin: Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) FAQ

If you are traveling to the DockDogs World Championship in Madison, Wisconsin with your dog, **Wisconsin state law requires a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)** for every dog entering the state. Read the section that matches where you are traveling from well before the event. This FAQ is provided by DockDogs as a convenience and summarizes requirements as of June 2026. Requirements and information can change—always confirm with the official sources before you travel.

## 1. What is a CVI, and why is it required?

A **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)**—often called a “health certificate”—is an official document completed by a licensed, USDA-accredited veterinarian certifying that your dog has been examined and meets Wisconsin’s movement requirements. **Wisconsin requires a CVI for any dog entering the state by any mode of transportation** (car, airplane, or rail). It is the state’s tool for keeping the incoming animal population healthy and disease-free.

### Your CVI must include all of the following:

- Complete physical origin and destination addresses
- Your dog’s age, species, breed, and sex
- Number of animals
- Purpose of the movement (e.g., “dog sports competition”)
- **Current veterinarian-administered rabies vaccination** for dogs 5 months and older, with the vaccination date and revaccination due date (or one-/three-year vaccine clearly indicated). Wisconsin accepts both valid one-year and three-year rabies vaccines.

Source: [Wisconsin DATCP — Pet Movement To/From Wisconsin](#)

**Important — the form matters:** Wisconsin may NOT accept the free, computer-generated/internet-downloaded APHIS 7001 form (the version with no pre-printed CVI number). Ask your vet to use an electronic CVI such as [GlobalVetLink](#), Vet-Sentry, or an official form from your state veterinarian’s office. (Older multi-copy 7001 forms with pre-printed numbers are still accepted.)

## 2. How long is my CVI valid?

A CVI is customarily valid for **30 days from the date of your dog’s veterinary exam**. Schedule your vet visit so the certificate is still valid for the full duration of your trip to Madison. Don’t get it too early.

### 3. How much does a CVI cost?

Costs vary by clinic, your destination, and whether your dog needs any updated vaccines or treatments. As a general guide for U.S. domestic travel here are some rough estimates below:

Scenario	Typical Cost	What's Included
Basic domestic travel	\$70 – \$150	Dog is up to date on core vaccines (e.g., rabies); covers the physical exam and completing the CVI paperwork.
Complex / airline domestic travel	\$150 – \$350+	Adds any airline-mandated health tests, acclimation certificates, or updated vaccines.
International travel	\$400 – \$1,200+	Requires a USDA-accredited veterinarian, microchipping, possible blood titers, and government endorsement fees.

*Note: The cost of the CVI typically does NOT include separate items such as a required microchip or the rabies vaccine itself. Confirm pricing with your own veterinarian.*

### 4. Is it one CVI per household or per dog?

Good news for multi-dog households: **a single CVI can list up to 10 dogs**. You do not need a separate certificate for every dog, as long as the dogs on one form meet these conditions:

- **Same owner and same destination:** Every dog listed on a single CVI must belong to the same owner and be traveling to the same final destination.
- **More than 10 dogs:** Your veterinarian simply fills out an additional CVI for the rest.
- **Rabies:** Each dog 5 months or older must have proof of a current, veterinarian-administered rabies vaccination recorded.

In short: for most competitors traveling with their own dogs, **one CVI covers the whole household (up to 10 dogs)**—not one per dog. The one-per-dog rule only applies to the separate federal CDC Dog Import Form for dogs entering from outside the U.S. (see below).

### 5. What do I need if I am traveling within the United States?

This is the most common situation for competitors. Here is your checklist:

- **Get a CVI from a USDA-accredited veterinarian** within 30 days before your trip, using an accepted electronic or numbered form (not the free downloadable APHIS 7001).
- **Make sure rabies vaccination is current** for any dog 5 months or older, with dates recorded on the CVI.
- **List all your dogs on one CVI** (up to 10), same owner and destination.
- **Submitting the CVI to Wisconsin:** Electronic CVIs (e.g., GlobalVetLink or an eCVI from your state) are submitted automatically—nothing more to do. If your state veterinarian's office forwards paper CVIs to Wisconsin, you're also set. If you must submit a paper CVI yourself, email [datcpwicvi@wisconsin.gov](mailto:datcpwicvi@wisconsin.gov) or mail to DATCP-DAH, P.O. Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911.
- **Texas residents:** Wisconsin also accepts the Texas Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) CVI.
- **Heartworm note:** A dog that tested heartworm-positive in its home state may not enter Wisconsin until it has completed the American Heartworm Society treatment protocol, documented on the CVI.

*Full details: [DATCP — Importing Household Pets to Wisconsin](#)*

### 6. What do I need if I am traveling from Canada?

Dogs entering the U.S. from Canada must meet **both** the federal U.S. CDC dog-import rules AND Wisconsin's state CVI requirements. Canada is classified by the CDC as a dog-rabies-free / low-risk country.

### Federal (CDC) requirements at the U.S. border

As of the rules effective August 1, 2024, every dog entering the U.S. must:

- **Appear healthy** upon arrival.
- **Be at least 6 months old** at the time of entry.
- **Be microchipped** with a chip readable by a universal scanner.
- Have a **CDC Dog Import Form** receipt. Complete this free online form ([CDC Dog Import Form instructions](#)); a receipt is emailed to you. **One form is required per dog**, and for dogs that have only been in the U.S., Canada, or Mexico the receipt is valid for multiple entries for up to 6 months.

For dogs coming straight from Canada that have **not** been in a high-risk rabies country in the past 6 months, the CDC Dog Import Form is the only federal document needed—no fee, no waiting period.

### Wisconsin (state) requirements

- **A valid CVI / health certificate** signed by a veterinarian within 30 days of entry, with current rabies vaccination recorded. Wisconsin accepts the health documentation used by the country of origin.

**Note:** A Wisconsin import permit is NOT required for ordinary dogs coming from Canada. (A permit applies only to dogs that originated in or passed through an African Swine Fever-affected country.) Always verify your specific situation with DATCP if unsure.

Sources: [CDC — Bringing a Dog into the U.S.](#) • [CFIA — Dogs Travelling to the United States](#)

## 7. What do I need if I am traveling from outside the United States and Canada?

Dogs arriving from any other country must meet **federal CDC and USDA rules AND Wisconsin's state requirements**. Requirements are stricter and depend on whether your country is CDC-classified as high-risk for dog rabies—so start early.

### Federal (CDC / USDA) requirements

- **Appear healthy, be at least 6 months old, and be microchipped** (same baseline as above).
- Complete the **CDC Dog Import Form** online—**one per dog**. [Check the CDC list of high-risk countries](#); if your country is not listed, it is treated as low-risk.
- **From a high-risk rabies country:** additional steps apply—valid rabies vaccination, the appropriate CDC certification form, and (for foreign-vaccinated dogs) arrival at a designated U.S. airport with a CDC-registered Animal Care Facility and an advance reservation. See the [CDC dog-importation FAQs](#) for your scenario, or call the CDC at (404) 639-3311. Also review [USDA APHIS Pet Travel](#) for anything not covered by the CDC.

### Wisconsin (state) requirements

- In addition to the federal rules, your dog must meet Wisconsin's regular import requirements, including **rabies vaccination and a CVI / health certificate**. Wisconsin accepts your country's health documentation but still does **not** accept the free downloadable APHIS 7001 form—use an approved electronic or authorized paper form.

Sources: [CDC — Bringing an Animal into the U.S.](#) • [DATCP — Pet Movement](#)

## 8. Where do I go if I still have questions?

**Wisconsin DATCP Division of Animal Health — Animal Imports:**

[datcpanimalimports@wi.gov](mailto:datcpanimalimports@wi.gov) | (608) 224-4874. When in doubt, talk to your veterinarian early—accredited vets can confirm the correct form and timing for your state or country.

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