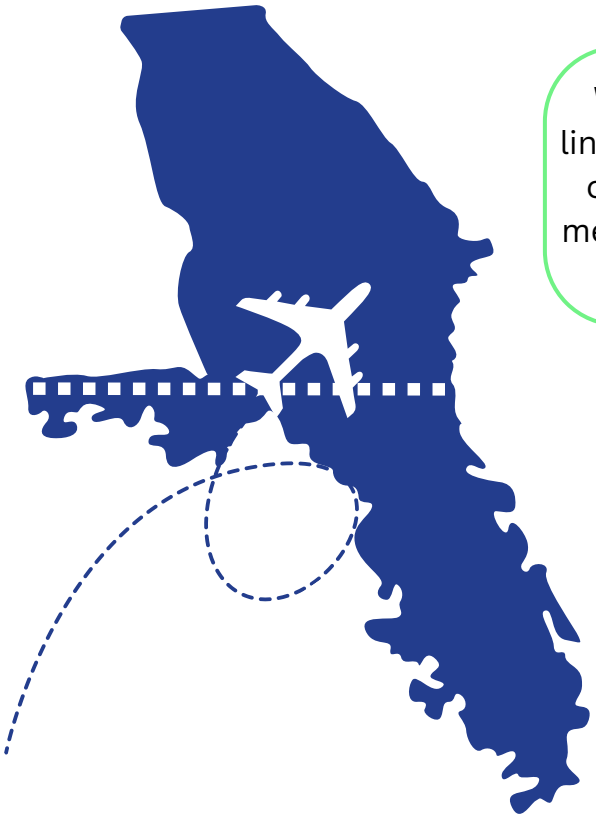
KNOWING INTERSTATE DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS HELPS OWNERS AVOID ENFORCEMENT TROUBLES

For owners and handlers, the to-do list before traveling to events is always long: getting the dogs bathed and groomed, preparing the vehicle, packing equipment for the dogs, packing clothes for us…the list goes on. Getting the list completed is usually exhausting, and that's before hitting the road.



When our travels take us across state lines, there's something else that must be checked off the list: Ensuring our dogs meet the veterinary care requirements of the states we're traveling to.

There is a lot of variation among states' requirements. Failing to provide evidence requirements are met can bring about more serious consequences, including removal from event sites, confiscation and quarantine, and fines. For your convenience, use the above QR code or visit https://www.akc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/CVI-matrix-5-27-26.pdf for a summary of states' requirements.

Regardless of whether you and your dogs travel by car, plane, or a combination of both, the AKC always encourages owners to know and comply with all laws and regulations that apply to them, including interstate travel requirements.

Need help identifying the appropriate state agency to contact for additional information? AKC Government Relations is happy to help! Email doglaw@akc.org.

USDA also provides information about traveling with pets and about where to find an accredited veterinarian who can provide you with a certificate of veterinary inspection. Go to https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel.

JUNE 2026 EMERGING ISSUE: Cases of New World Screwworm (NWS) have been identified in rural southwest Texas. NWS is a devastating pest that can cause serious damage and death to animals and people in areas where it spreads. To stop the spread of NWS, state agriculture departments have begun issuing heightened CVI requirements for animals, including dogs, coming from areas where NWS has been identified. For the latest information, and to see whether shows you are attending would be impacted, visit www.screwworm.gov (USDA).

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