

Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)

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Region 4 Director



A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) is a document which is issued by an accredited veterinarian. A vet will examine the animal and by issuing a CVI is stating that the animal is not showing signs of an infectious, contagious, and/or communicable disease and that the animal appears healthy.

A CVI is also issued as a requirement for certain movements of livestock. This movement may be intrastate as in the case of entries into shows/fairs/exhibitions/special sales, but often times the movement is interstate. A CVI is valid for 30 days on all species except for equine, in which case it is valid for 45 days.

The CVI is to accompany the shipment and is used to identify the animals in the shipment as well as providing documentation that the animals have met entry requirements including any necessary tests, examinations, and/or treatments.

In Texas, CVIs can only be obtained by accredited veterinarians and once issued, copies are to be received in the TAHC central office within 30 days. Upon receipt in the TAHC central office, copies are then forwarded to the state of destination if the movement is interstate. These CVIs are then reviewed by the receiving state to verify the shipment is in compliance with entry requirements. If deficiencies are noted, the receiving state will either notify the issuing veterinarian directly or the TAHC central office of the deficiencies. If the TAHC central office is notified, copies of the documents are then forwarded to the appropriate TAHC regional office for follow-up contact with the issuing veterinarian. This may lead to compliance action depending upon the number and severity of deficiencies. Most of these deficiencies noted to date have been failure to obtain prior entry permit, failure to record test results or certification statements, failure to record official identification on cattle, as well as delinquent CVIs. Most states consider a CVI delinquent if it was not received in the TAHC central office within the required 30 day time period. It may be necessary for veterinarians to submit copies of CVIs twice per month in order to ensure timely receipt. If test documents are attached to the shipper's copy of the CVI, be sure such documents are attached to all other copies as well. Official means of identification of cattle includes breed registration brands/tattoos, Brite metal eartags, or RFID eartags. Owner bangle tags are not considered an official identification device.

Finally, veterinarians should contact [the state office of destination](#) to verify entry requirements prior to issuing a CVI for interstate movement. For reference purposes, be sure to record the name of the person with whom you spoke.

See the [TAHC Health Certificates web page](#) for information about how to order CVI's.