
Exhibition Permit Protocol for Vermont Shows and Fairs

Effective February 2013

Updated April 2018

Horses imported into Vermont for exhibition may travel during Vermont's Fair season on an Exhibition Permit. The term "Exhibition" is defined in the *Rules Governing the Importation of Domestic Animals, Including Livestock and Poultry* as the following:

Exhibition means any spectator event in which a domestic animal is exhibited or entered in competition and usually receive awards or prizes.

The terms associated with the use of the "Exhibition Permit" are also described in the *Rules*:

Exhibition Permits:

1. Persons transporting domestic animals into the state for exhibition or competition between May 1 and October 31 may obtain an exhibition permit from the Agency of Agriculture prior to entering.
2. Animals listed on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection will be exempt from the requirement for a new Certificate of Veterinary Inspection every 30 days for the duration of the exhibition permit. All tests listed on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection must be kept current for the duration of the exhibition permit.
3. Exhibition permits will expire in 180 days.

To obtain an Exhibition Permit for horse importation into Vermont, complete the following steps:

1. At the owner's request, the licensed, accredited veterinarian must examine the horse(s) and fill out a standard health certificate or Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), either in electronic or hard copy format, for the horse(s) traveling.
 - a. If the horse originates from out of state and is attending only Vermont events, the destination/consignee address field on the health certificate must state: Vermont Shows and Fairs with current year.
 - b. If the horse originates from out of state and is attending events across New England, the destination/consignee address field on the health certificate must state: "New England Shows and Fairs" with current year.
 - c. The CVI must include a written list of the events (event name and physical address) that the horse(s) will be traveling to for the duration of the exhibition permit. That list must be signed by the veterinarian issuing the CVI.
2. After examining the horse, completing the CVI, and signing the destination list, the veterinarian must call the Vermont Agency of Agriculture at 802-828-2421 (between 7:45AM and 3:30PM, Monday-Friday) to request an exhibition permit number. When calling, the veterinarian must state they are requesting an **exhibition permit**. This will ensure that the Agency's Animal Health Office issues a permit that is good for 180 days. The veterinarian must also provide:
 - a. The owner's name and mailing address
 - b. The number of horses traveling
3. The exhibition permit number will be issued over the phone by the Agency.

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- a. **Please note: The VT exhibition permit number only applies to importation into VT and *does not* permit importation of the horse into other states. If the horse is also traveling to other New England state(s) during the same season, permit number(s) may be needed from each of those other state(s). It is the responsibility of the owner and veterinarian to check with each state of destination to determine other states' import requirements.**
4. The veterinarian must then write the number on the CVI.
 - a. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture no longer mails the exhibition permit to the horse owner so the permit number must be recorded on the CVI.
5. The veterinarian must then provide the animal owner with their copy of the CVI and forward other copies to their state agriculture office within one week as required by law.
6. The horse must travel with the CVI, the list of destinations signed by the issuing veterinarian, and the exhibition permit number.