Checklist for Requesting Direct Airport Release at Kona, Kahului and Lihue Airports

Please check each box to verify that all items have been read and understood. All procedures must be followed or the dog or cat will be denied entry at Kona, Kahului or Lihue Airport. Pets that are denied entry will be transported to Honolulu for inspection or transported out-of-State at the owner’s expense.

Contact a listed veterinary hospital before booking your flight to see if they are able to perform the inspection.

☐ Some airlines may not be participating. Check with your airline well in advance.

☐ Every dog or cat must meet all the requirements listed on the “Checklist for the 5-Day-or-Less Program” except that all required documents must be submitted earlier; 30 days or more before the intended date of arrival. Please follow the “Checklist for the 5-Day-or-Less Program” which is available at www.hawaii.gov/hdoa/ai/aqs/info

Owners must submit the following documentation to the Animal Quarantine Station 30 days or more ahead of the planned arrival:

☐ 1. Completed and notarized Dog & Cat Import Form (AQS 278).

☐ 2. Original rabies vaccine certificates for the 2 most recent vaccinations.

☐ 3. Payment of $145 in cashier’s check or money order made out to the Dept. of Agriculture (no personal checks).

☐ 4. Flight information (i.e. Airlines, flight number, date and time of arrival).

☐ 5. A letter from the owner requesting Direct Airport Release at either “Kona” or “Kahului” or “Lihue”.

Owners must contract with and make reservations for inspection with: Keauhou Veterinary Hospital (808) 322-2988 for Kona arrivals; At Home Animal Hospital & Mobile Veterinary Services (808) 873-0102, Central Maui Animal Clinic (808) 893-2380, Kahului Animal Hospital (808) 871-7387, Kihei Veterinary Clinic (808) 879-5777, Makawao Veterinary Clinic (808) 572-9003, Maui Humane Society (808) 877-3680, South Shore Veterinary Care (808) 874-3422, or West Maui Animal Clinic (808) 662-0099 for Kahului arrivals; or Kauai Humane Society (808) 632-0610 for Lihue arrivals. These contractors will send a confirmation to the Animal Quarantine Station that they have agreed to perform the inspection and release procedure. Owners are responsible for the additional fees to the contractor for this service.

☐ Contact a listed veterinary hospital before booking your flight to see if they are able to perform the inspection.

☐ A Kona, Kahului or Lihue Neighbor Island Inspection Permit will be mailed to the owner once the Animal Quarantine Station has:
  • Received the above required documents, information and payment (see 1-5 above);
  • Confirmed the pet meets all of the requirements for the 5-Day-or-Less program and neighbor island inspection and release; and
  • Received confirmation from Kona Veterinary Service, Keauhou Veterinary Hospital, At Home Animal Hospital & Mobile Veterinary Care, Central Maui Animal Clinic, Kahului Animal Hospital, Kihei Veterinary Clinic, Makawao Veterinary Clinic, Maui Humane Society, South Shore Veterinary Care, West Maui Animal Clinic or Kauai Humane Society that they will meet the pet.

☐ The original Neighbor Island Inspection Permit must accompany the dog or cat on the aircraft and be submitted to the inspector upon arrival in Hawaii.

➤ Airlines are not permitted to fly a dog or cat directly to Kona, Kahului or Lihue from the Continental US without a valid Neighbor Island Inspection Permit issued by the Department of Agriculture.

☐ The Animal Quarantine Station will send permits to owners via regular mail. If an owner prefers faster delivery, they must submit a prepaid self-addressed return envelope from an overnight carrier (FedEx, UPS, etc.) with the documents.

☐ An original health certificate (dated within 14 days of arrival) will be collected by the inspector upon arrival in Hawaii. It is highly recommended that owners check with their airline as some require the health certificate to be dated within 10 days of arrival.