



## Import of a dog with cropped ears into Ireland

In accordance with Ear-cropping of Dogs Regulations 2023 (S.I. No. 412 of 2023). From September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, a dog with cropped ears may only be imported into Ireland under licence issued by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

[Link: S.I. 412 of 2023 - Ear-Cropping of Dogs Regulations 2023](#)

For the purpose of this Statutory Instrument, ear cropping means the removal of all, or part, of the ear of a dog:

- (a) for a purpose other than the diagnosis or treatment of injury, disease or infection, or
- (b) by a person other than a veterinary practitioner.

### Import requirements for a dog with cropped ears

From September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, each dog with cropped ears imported into Ireland is required to have an import licence issued by Animal Welfare Division of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

To apply for a licence **Application Form to Import a Dog with Cropped Ears into Ireland** [[FORM AW\\_AFCE\\_2023](#)] must be completed.

In addition, each dog with cropped ears imported into Ireland must be accompanied by an original veterinary certificate stating the veterinary reason for the ear cropping procedure, signed by veterinary practitioner and with official veterinary practice stamp.

The application form outlines details to be included in this veterinary certificate.

The completed application form and signed veterinary certificate must be submitted electronically **at least 5 days** in advance of travel to: [welfarelicensing@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:welfarelicensing@agriculture.gov.ie)

Once an import application is approved, the signed import licence will issue electronically

[Link: Import licence application form](#)

### Documentation that must travel with a dog with cropped ears

A dog with cropped ears arriving in Ireland must be accompanied by a copy of the signed import licence issued by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, along with original ear cropping veterinary certificate issued in the country of origin, and any additional documentation required to import a dog into Ireland.



It will be an offence for a person have in their possession, or under their control, a dog with cropped ears imported into Ireland after September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 that has not fulfilled import requirements in accordance with S.I. No. 412 of 2023.

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### **Further Information**

For further information, please contact: [welfarelicensing@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:welfarelicensing@agriculture.gov.ie)