

Do You Need An Import Permit From CDC?

The CDC Import Permit Program, or IPP, regulates infectious biological materials coming into the U.S. in order to prevent the introduction and spread of disease in humans. This helps to protect the health of laboratory workers and those in the surrounding communities.

If you plan to import one of the following items, you will need an import permit from CDC:



- Infectious biological agents capable of causing illness in humans (e.g., bacteria, viruses, fungi)



- Materials known or reasonably expected to contain an infectious biological agent (e.g., blood, tissues, fluids)



- Vectors of human disease (e.g., mosquitoes, ticks, bats)

IPP helps to ensure that anyone who brings these materials into the U.S. is aware of the proper steps needed to protect public health when working with the imported materials (such as using appropriate laboratory facilities and following safe work practices). The program may also inspect a facility that has applied for a permit before the permit is issued.

How do I submit an application?

Import permit applications must be submitted via the program's electronic permitting system, BioPermit. Use of this system is mandatory for anyone applying for a CDC import permit.

All potential applicants are required to have a special secure account, known as a SAMS account, in order to access the system.

Please visit the BioPermit webpage at <https://www.cdc.gov/import-permit-program/php/biopermit/index.html> for more information and to get started. Currently, there is no fee for processing an import permit.

Still unsure?

An interactive e-tool, available at <https://www.cdc.gov/import-permit-program/php/etool/index.html>, can help you determine if a CDC import permit is needed.

For more information, please contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Import Permit Program via phone (404-718-2077) or email (importpermit@cdc.gov), or visit <https://www.cdc.gov/import-permit-program/php/index.html>.

Note that additional permits from other federal agencies may also be required for the importation of materials.



**U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND PREVENTION**