

How to ship necropsy submissions

Step 1: Bag the animal

Double bag the animal. For smaller animals or fetuses, a sealable bag is also an appropriate alternative. ***A \$25 fee will be imposed for any leaky or hazardous packages received by the lab.***

Step 2: Place absorbent material and ice packs

Line the bottom of a shipping cooler with absorbent material, then place reusable ice packs on top. Do not use loose ice, as melting water can compromise the packaging and create shipping issues.

Step 3: Pack the animal

Place the bagged animal into the cooler on top of the ice packs. If you are including additional samples with the submission, seal them in separate bags and place them in the shipping cooler alongside the animal. Then, place additional ice packs and absorbent material on top. Refer to the "How to Ship Clinical Samples" instructions for proper sample packaging requirements.

Step 4: Pack the paperwork

Place the completed [Necropsy Submission Form](#) and [Owner Release Form](#) in a resealable bag. Be sure to include a [Waiver and Release of Remains for Cremation Form](#) if you would like private cremation for your pet. Pack all submission forms on top and seal the lid of the cooler with shipping tape.

Shipping Recommendations

The lab recommends shipping via FedEx or UPS with next-day delivery. Unlike USPS shipments, which must be processed through a post office, FedEx and UPS packages are delivered directly to the lab — reducing transit time and minimizing temperature fluctuations. Prompt delivery directly affects what the lab is able to determine through testing, so timely shipping is crucial for informative results.

Please note that the lab cannot receive shipments on weekends or State holidays. Plan your shipment accordingly or contact Kord Lab at 615-837-5125 or kord.lab@tn.gov if you have any questions.

