



# USDA Electronic Identification Requirements for Cattle

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

## General Information

- EID stands for Electronic Identification
- Goes into effect November 5, 2024
- Animals with existing metal tags/official ID are grandfathered in - EID changes only apply to new tags being applied
- Only applies to cattle being moved interstate

## Accepted Forms of Official Identification

*(EID tag requirements only apply to new tags being applied. Existing official ID's listed below will still be accepted.)*

- Official ear tags
  - Metal tags applied before this goes into effect are considered official ID
  - **Does Not** include RFID tags starting with 9 (900 series tags)
- Registered brands if accepted by state of origin and destination
- Breed registration tattoos if accompanied by a breed registration certificate
- Group/lot identification number

## Types of Cattle EID is Required for

- Groups of cattle required to be officially identified with EID if crossing state lines:
  - Dairy cattle
    - Female dairy cattle of any age
    - Male dairy cattle born after March 11, 2013
  - Sexually intact cattle and bison over 18 months of age
  - Cattle and bison of any age used for shows or exhibitions
  - Cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo or recreational events
  - Excludes cattle and bison going directly to slaughter
  - Cattle vaccinated for brucellosis are also required to have an official ID, even if not crossing state lines

## Changes to Official ID Tags

- Official ear tags applied after the rule goes into effect must be readable - visually and electronically
  - Two types of low-frequency tags available: FDX and HDX
  - Currently 8 approved manufacturers
- Does not require that producers or veterinarians purchase RFID readers because the tags are visually readable as well

## More Information

- Tags cannot be reused, and it is illegal to remove an official tag
- RFID tags are passive tags - the power is provided by the reader and allows the antenna in the tag to send the tag number. There is no power source within the tag.
- There is no information other than the ID number stored within the tag