



Nourishing Today  
Sustaining Tomorrow

# Animal Welfare Policy Templates for Packers & Processors



Compiled by Meat Institute Animal Welfare Task Force and Reviewed by Meat Institute Animal Welfare Committee.

## Animal Welfare Policy Template – Slaughter

*This template is for slaughter establishment use to establish a policy for their direct live animal suppliers.*

Direct live animal suppliers shall implement an animal handling and welfare program that includes employee training and specific standards for animal care through *(insert relevant species standard(s), see Resource Appendix for examples)* certification. Direct live animal suppliers are expected to use humane procedures and sound animal husbandry practices designed to prevent the mistreatment of animals and prioritize animal health and welfare.

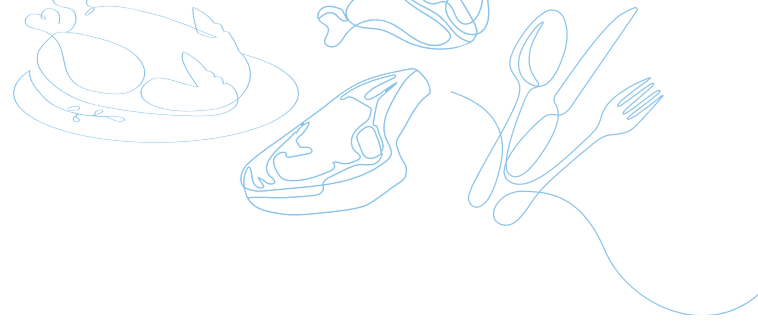
## Animal Welfare Policy Template – Further Processing

*This template is for further processor establishment use to establish a policy for their slaughter establishment suppliers.*

Direct supplier slaughter establishments shall have a comprehensive animal handling and welfare program that follows the Meat Industry Animal Handling Guidelines. *(Optional: Direct supplier slaughter establishments shall pass a third-party Meat Industry Animal Handling Guidelines and Audit annually.)* We expect our direct supplier slaughter establishments to practice humane handling and stunning procedures designed to prevent mistreatment of animals and prioritize animal welfare.

## Resource Appendix

- Meat Institute Animal Handling Guidelines and Audit  
[https://www.meatinstitute.org/Animal\\_Welfare/Guidelines\\_and\\_Audits](https://www.meatinstitute.org/Animal_Welfare/Guidelines_and_Audits)
- USA: Species Specific Resources
  - » Beef Quality Assurance Transportation Training & Certification  
<https://bqatransportation.beeflearningcenter.org/>
  - » Beef Quality Assurance (BQA)  
<https://www.bqa.org/>
  - » National Dairy FARM (Farmers Assuring Responsible Management) Program  
<https://nationaldairyfarm.com/>
  - » Veal Quality Assurance (VQA) Program  
<https://www.veal.org/veal-quality-assurance/>
  - » Livestock Market Association (LMA) Animal Handling Modules  
<https://www.lmaweb.com/Membership/Services/animal-handling-sustainable-practices>
  - » Sheep Safety and Quality Assurance (SSQA) program  
<https://www.sheepusa.org/assuranceprograms>
  - » Pork Quality Assurance Plus (PQA+)  
<https://porkcheckoff.org/certification-tools/training-certification/pqa-plus/>
  - » S. Poultry Handling and Transportation Certification  
<https://www.uspoultryhandling.org/certMeet.cfm>
  - » National Chicken Council Animal Welfare Program  
<https://www.nationalchickencouncil.org/policy/animal-welfare/>
  - » National Turkey Federation Standards of Conduct  
<https://www.eatturkey.org/animal-welfare/standards/>



- Canada: Species Specific Resources

- » Canadian Livestock Transport  
<https://campus.animalhealthcanada.ca/>
- » Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+)  
<http://www.verifiedbeef.ca/>
- » Ontario Corn Fed Beef (OCFB) Quality Assurance Program  
[https://ontariocornfedbeef.com/ocfb-qa-manual/;](https://ontariocornfedbeef.com/ocfb-qa-manual/)
- » Dairy ProAction  
<https://www.dairyfarmers.ca/proaction/how-it-works/overview>
- » Veal Farmers of Ontario Welfare Assessment  
<https://vealfarmers.ca/producer-information/resources/>
- » Canadian Bison Association & National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Bison  
<https://www.nfacc.ca/bison-code-of-practice>
- » National Farm Animal Care Council Code of Practice for the Care & Handling of Sheep  
<https://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/sheep>
- » Alberta Lamb Producers Animal Welfare & Handling  
<https://ablamb.ca/index.php/resources/new-producer-information/basic-sheep-care-supplies>
- » Canadian Pork Excellence (CPE) program is the new national platform replacing the Canadian Quality Assurance® (CQA) program  
<https://www.cpc-ccp.com/canadian-pork-excellence>
- » Canadian Pork Council PigCARE  
<https://www.cpc-ccp.com/pigcare>
- » National Farm Animal Care Council Code of Practice - Pigs  
<https://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/pigs>
- » Canadian Livestock Transport (CLT) – Poultry  
<https://campus.animalhealthcanada.ca/>
- » Canada's Guidance Document Repository (GDR) – Livestock and poultry transport in Canada  
<https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/humane-transport/livestock-and-poultry-transport-in-canada/eng/1363748532198/1363748620219>
- » International Poultry Welfare Alliance (IPWA) Broiler Guide – Transportation of poultry to slaughter facilities (page 50 – 57)  
[https://poultrywelfare.org/files/IPWA%20Broiler%20Chickens%20Guide%20V10\\_PUBLIC.pdf](https://poultrywelfare.org/files/IPWA%20Broiler%20Chickens%20Guide%20V10_PUBLIC.pdf)
- » International Poultry Welfare Alliance (IPWA) Turkey Guide – Key Welfare Indicator(KWI) Transport & Handling Mortality from Farm to Processing (page 50 – 57)  
[https://poultrywelfare.org/files/IPWA%20Turkey%20Guide%20V5\\_PUBLIC.pdf](https://poultrywelfare.org/files/IPWA%20Turkey%20Guide%20V5_PUBLIC.pdf)
- » Animal Care Assessment Framework  
<https://www.nfacc.ca/animal-care-assessment>
- » Chicken Farmers of Canada's Animal Care Program  
<https://www.chickenfarmers.ca/high-animal-care-standards/>
- » Turkey Farmers of Canada's On-Farm Food Safety Program© (OFFSP)  
<https://www.turkeyfarmersofcanada.ca/on-the-farm/caring-for-our-birds/>