

Video Ante-Mortem Inspection (VAMI)

How to access the VAMI online tool

The VAMI slaughter option is designed for animals that cannot be transported to an abattoir to receive an ante-mortem inspection via video technology and be humanely slaughtered on site. The VAMI allows the animal to be inspected according to Alberta's Meat Inspection Act (MIA) and Meat Inspection Regulation (MIR) and be sold. Follow the steps in this document to access and use the VAMI online platform.



The VAMI process

1) **The requester (for example, a producer or feedlot operator) determines the animal meets the program criteria:**

- the animal is unfit for transport or its ability to be transported is compromised,
- the animal cannot be transported without endangering itself, another animal or a person,
- the animal has escaped but is contained in order for a suitable video ante-mortem inspection to be performed

Important note: The life of an animal is not to be extended to meet the VAMI program time frame if it prolongs pain and distress for the animal.

2) The requester contacts the operator of a provincially licensed abattoir to request a VAMI slaughter.

Arrangements must be made with the abattoir operator prior to the stun and bleed of the VAMI animal. The operator may or may not be able to accommodate the animal.

Please click on [directory of licensed slaughter operations](#) and then select "Abattoir (red meat)" for Licence Type.

3) The operator contacts the Alberta regional supervisor to schedule the inspection.

An approved inspector must be available to conduct both the ante-mortem and the post-mortem inspections of the animal.

4) The operator informs the requester of the date and time of the inspection.

The video ante-mortem inspection may proceed once arrangements are made.

5) The requester logs on to the VAMI online tool at <https://goaprod.service-now.com/vami>

Secure sign-in

To continue using this service, please choose a sign-in method. You will be directed back to the application once you have logged in.

Select an account type

[Sign in as an individual](#)

Access provincial government online services, including health records, financial supports and fine payments.

[Sign in on behalf of an organization](#)

Access provincial services and information for organizations, including tax accounts and licences.

[Sign in as an Alberta government employee](#)

Access information and services for Government of Alberta employees and contractors.

Learn more about:

- [Your Alberta.ca Account](#)
- [Alberta.ca Account for organizations](#)

6) Requester completes the online intake form.

Click on Sign in as an individual or sign in on behalf of an organization (for business account). You will see a window that looks like this for your Alberta.ca account:

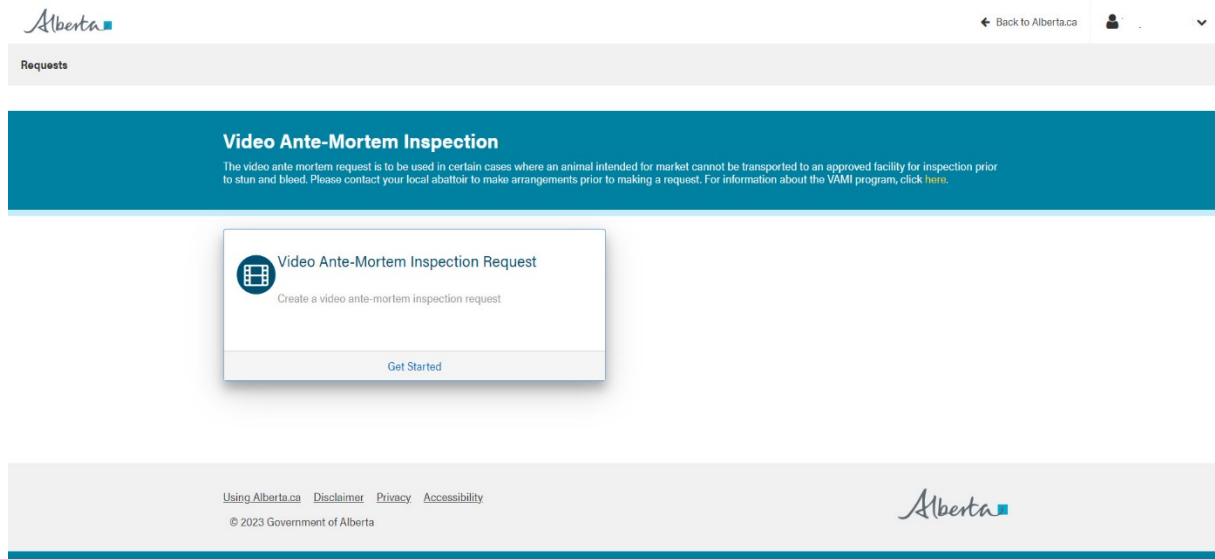


Or looks like this for your Alberta.ca for business:



Fill in the username and password for the Alberta.ca account. If you do not have an account, you can apply for an account on the spot.

Once signed in you will be redirected to the VAMI home page:



Follow the instructions to request a video ante-mortem inspection and submit a video. Some fields are mandatory and marked with a red asterisk. The form cannot be submitted with mandatory information missing.

7) The requester takes a video of the animal.

When the requester clicks on the “attach video” icon, they have the option to attach a video from their storage/gallery or to take the video directly with their camera. The requester can attach additional video or photos if necessary.

8) Inspector views the video.

The video must clearly demonstrate the reason that the animal cannot be transported to an abattoir and why VAMI is necessary.

If more information is required, the inspector will contact the requester by phone to discuss what is needed prior to making an inspection decision.

9) Inspector notifies the requester of the VAMI outcome.

There are three possible outcomes to the inspection:

- 1) “Pass” If the animal passes the ante-mortem inspection, the inspector authorizes the stun and bleed of the animal.
- 2) “Fail” If the animal does not pass the ante-mortem inspection, it is condemned or held for further direction from the inspector.
- 3) “Ante-mortem inspection not performed” This option is used if an inspection cannot be performed due to technical difficulties (poor video, failed attachment upload, cell phone dies, etc.). If this scenario occurs, the requester has options to deal with their animal outside of the VAMI process, see Section 4.4 of the [Video Ante-mortem Inspection Technical Guide](#).

10) If the animal passes the video ante-mortem inspection, then it is stunned and bled, and the animal is transported to the abattoir.

The animal is NOT eviscerated (skinned and gutted) until it reaches the abattoir, only the stun and bleed occurs at the site of the ante-mortem inspection. After a “pass” on ante mortem inspection the requester must complete the form by entering the time of the stun and bleed and click on the declaration box.

Stun and bleed

I declare that the animal described above was slaughtered following best practices by the following individual at the time indicated.

Who performed stun and bleed?

-- None --

Name

Actual time of stun and bleed

11) The animal arrives at the abattoir within two hours of the stun and bleed

The evisceration is completed as soon as possible upon arrival at the abattoir.

12) Post-mortem inspection is conducted.

If the carcass passes the post-mortem inspection, it proceeds to chilling and processing as per facility procedures.

If the carcass does not pass the post-mortem inspection, the carcass is disposed of according to abattoir procedures.

NOTE: The abattoir operator has the choice to accept the animal into their facility.

An operator may be unable to complete the slaughter and/or may not have the cooler space to chill the carcass. The requester may be required to contact another operator if this occurs.