

## Food

You must provide separate food and water troughs that can be fixed inside the container or attached to it and have food available for replenishment purposes.

## Labels/Tags

The owner will provide a green "Live Animals" label/tag, this is mandatory and may be imprinted on the container. A "This Way Up" label/tag is also mandatory.

## HELPFUL HINTS

**Prior to Check-In and Flight Departure.** Please remember, you, the owner are responsible for obtaining all required documentation, e.g., **microchip, immunizations, border clearance, kennel labels, DD Form 2208 Rabies Vaccination Certificate or civilian equivalent, DD Form 2209 Veterinary Health Certificate or civilian equivalent, bi-lingual certificates, proof of ownership, etc..**

**Pet and Kennel.** Allow your pet to get accustomed to the kennel a few days before departure so he/she will be more comfortable in his/her temporary home during flight. Animals travel under less stress when they become accustomed to their shipping container before they travel. Use their kennel as a bed or feed your pet in the kennel for several days before your trip. A familiar article of clothing or toy in the kennel may help placate your pet.

**Leash.** You should exercise your pet before arriving at the terminal. Carry a leash with you so you can walk your pet before you check-in and after arrival at your destination.

**Tranquilizers.** The American Veterinary Medical Association does not advise sedation since effects of tranquilizers on animals at high altitudes are unpredictable. If you plan to sedate your pet, you must have written consent from the pet's veterinarian.

**Kennel and Pet Identification (ID).** Mark kennel with your pet's name, your name, destination or unit address, and phone number if available. We also suggest you purchase an ID tag for your pet.

**Pet Health.** Have your pet evaluated by your personal veterinarian to be sure he/she is fit for air travel. Ensure your kennel has adequate ventilation and your pet is free of respiratory problems. Some species (e.g. pug or snub nosed dogs and cats) have difficulty breathing even under normal conditions. Female pets that are in heat (estrus) will not be shipped due to possible distress to other pets and/or may result in injury. We cannot accept females with sucking young or un-weaned

animals. Weaned puppies younger than 8 weeks old will not be accepted for air shipment due to the possibility of dehydration. You should also feed your pet a very light meal and provide water before turning him/her in for shipment/travel.

**Pet Stress.** Keep strangers, especially children, at a safe distance if your pet seems to be nervous. Even the most gentle pet can be provoked into growling or snapping.

### \*\*\*Be prepared to defray additional associated costs\*\*\*

Fees are charged on a per-kennel basis depending on the combined weight of your pet AND kennel and can vary from \$125-\$375. Your pet and kennel with combined weight  $\leq$  70 lbs will be charged as one piece of excess baggage. A combined weight of 71-140 lbs will be charged as two pieces of excess baggage, and a combined weight of 141-150 lbs will be charged as three pieces of excess baggage. Pet(s) and kennel weighing  $>$  150 lbs will not be accepted for shipment under any circumstances.

### Additional Information

Check-in time for AMC flights at **Baltimore/Washington International Airport** is NO LATER THAN 2 hours and 20 minutes prior to flight departure. Check-in time for AMC flights at **Seattle-Tacoma International Airport** is NO LATER THAN 3 hours and 20 minutes prior to flight departure. Contact your local transportation office or AMC passenger terminal for more info. Passengers on PE missions may check-in up to 6 hours prior to departure; but, due to limited pet storage space, you must retain custody of your pet until 45 minutes prior to boarding unless there is a suitable holding area available. **All pets must remain in their kennel or shipping container while in public or terminal areas.**

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**For more information, visit our AMC Travel Website**  
<http://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/>  
**or contact one of two AMC Commercial Airport locations,**  
**Local Transportation Office, or AMC Passenger Terminal.**  
**AMC Commercial Airport Locations**  
**Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood**  
**Marshall Airport (BWI)**  
(410) 918-6900 or DSN 243-6900  
Toll-Free (877) 429-4262  
Fax (410) 918-6932 or DSN 243-6932  
E-mail: [bwipax@us.af.mil](mailto:bwipax@us.af.mil)  
**Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA-TAC)**  
(253) 982-3504  
Flight Recording (253) 982-0555 or DSN 382-0555  
Fax (253) 982-3243 or DSN 382-3243  
E-mail: [seattle.gateway@us.af.mil](mailto:seattle.gateway@us.af.mil)

**HQ AMC Passenger Policy Branch**  
E-mail: [org.amca4-71@us.af.mil](mailto:org.amca4-71@us.af.mil)

# HQ AMC Pet Brochure April 2018



*Unrivaled Global Reach for  
America...ALWAYS!*

# Transporting Your Pet

This brochure is designed to assist you in preparing your pet for transportation aboard AMC Patriot Express (PE) flights, in conjunction with your permanent change of station (PCS). **Pets are defined as dogs and cats only.** Commercial carrier restrictions and regulations may differ, therefore, prior to scheduling your travel, we recommend you confirm this information with your local transportation office and veterinarian. Your pet's health and well being is our utmost concern.

## DoD Pet Transportation Guidelines

Regulations limit pet transport to passengers in PCS status only. Pet space is very limited on AMC PE flights therefore, pet spaces are booked on a first come, first served basis. We highly recommend you contact your local transportation office as early as possible to book your pet space. You are limited to 2 pets per family. If you have a 3rd pet, contact your transportation office **15 days prior** to your AMC flight departure to determine if any additional pet spaces are available. If so, the transportation office will secure a reservation for your pet and provide a confirmation screenshot or email for you to present to the passenger service counter as authority to transport more than 2 pets per family. Pets must be accompanied by their owner and transport is at owner's expense.

## Service Animals

Transportation of a service animal in the cabin or cargo hold is authorized without charge when accompanying a passenger who is disabled. DoD personnel will make every effort to ensure individuals with disabilities are not separated from their service animal. An animal's weight and size, as well as USDA and foreign country restrictions, may limit the transport of a service animal within the cabin or cargo hold.

## Emotional Support Animals (ESAs)/Psychiatric Support Animals

Passengers must provide proper documentation in order to travel with an emotional support or psychiatric service animal. Documentation may be NO OLDER THAN 1 year from the date of the passenger's initial scheduled flight and must be on the letterhead of a licensed mental health professional (e.g., a psychiatrist, psychologist, or licensed clinical social worker), stating:

- (1)The passenger has a mental or emotional disability recognized in the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders".
- (2)The passenger needs the emotional support or psychiatric service animal as an accommodation for air travel or for activity at the passenger's destination.

3) The individual providing the assessment is a licensed mental health professional and the passenger is under his or her professional care.

(4) The date, type, and state or jurisdiction in which the mental health professional's license was issued.

**\*\*ESA animals will only travel in cabin with the passenger\*\***

**Note 1:** Service Animals (if in cabin) and ESAs must sit on the customer's lap, or at their feet without protruding into the aisle or encroach on other passengers. **Note 2:** Proper sanitation is the responsibility of the traveler and must be maintained at all times. Passenger service personnel and aircrew members are not required to provide care or food for a service/emotional support animals or provide a special location for the animal's hygiene needs. **Note 3:** Animals may be removed from the premises if the handler cannot control the animal or the animal poses a threat to the health or safety of other passengers or passenger service personnel.

## Pet, Service Animal, and ESA Immigration

Contact your local transportation office for specific immigration requirements to include **quarantine and detention** for the country to which you are shipping your pet. Additional information can be found in the **OCONUS Country Instructions** <https://move.mil/sme>

under "Pets/Quarantine". Transportation of service animals and ESAs is also subject to country quarantine procedures. When it is necessary to detain a service animal/ESA pending a determination of admissibility, the traveler will provide detention facilities that are satisfactory to the quarantine officer. The passenger will bear the expense of such detention, including necessary examinations, vaccinations, and other expenses incurred.

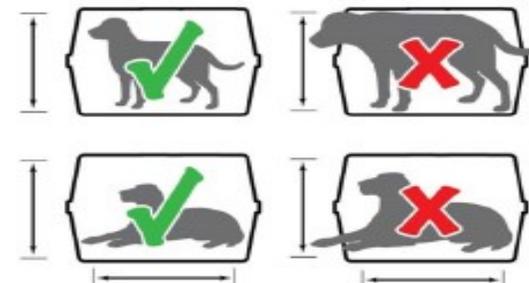
**NOTE:** If you have a commercial airline flight prior to, or following your PE flight, contact the airline to determine if additional documentation or charges are required to transport your pet(s).

## Kennel/Carrier Requirements

Again, your pet's health and well being is our utmost concern. You're responsible for providing an authorized kennel/carrier and ensuring your pet is transported in accordance with U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines. Kennel must provide adequate ventilation on at least three sides, be large enough for your pet to stand-up, turn around, and lie down with normal posture and body movement. Pets will not be accepted in containers that are too small. To prevent potential delays, 2 piece kennels must be bolted together with **metal nuts/bolts**. Plastic/nylon slides, clips, or screws/bolts are not authorized. Securing your pet's kennel door with a zip tie is recommended for additional safety, but not required. Soft-sided pet carriers may be accepted for in-cabin movement **only**. In keeping with major

airline in-cabin kennel requirements, soft-sided kennels should be constructed of leak-proof/water repellent padded nylon with mesh ventilation on at least two sides. Kennel size must not exceed 20" L x 16" W x 8.5" H to ensure it will fit under the seat in front of you. Several layers of newspaper, shredded paper, or absorbent material should be placed in the bottom of all kennels. Do not use straw, hay, grass, wood shavings, sand or soil. Pets will be individually kenneled, however, two small animals older than 8 weeks and younger than 6 months old of the same species and comparable size, weighing less than 20 pounds each may be transported in the same kennel as long as both can stand up, turn-around, and lie down with normal posture and body movement. **If container does not meet requirements, you will be placed on duty standby under administrative hold until pet is travel ready.**

**Note:** If ground time exceeds 2 hours, pets will be off-loaded and owners will be provided an opportunity to visit their pets.



## Brachycephalic or Snub Nosed Animals

All pets are susceptible to the risk of heat stroke, respiratory problems and the possibility of death during travel. The risk is increased for snub or pug nosed pets. For health and safety concerns, we recommend pet owners discuss their pet's susceptibility to complications with a local veterinarian prior to air transport, and ensure your kennel has adequate ventilation.

## Examples (Not all inclusive)



**Note:** Check with your destination's Housing Office prior to PCSing as some locations do not allow certain breeds.