

PET RESEARCH MATTERS, DON'T RELY ON CHATTER!



Host country regulations regarding pets vary by country, but some of the greatest restrictions are related to the transportation of dogs and cats. Many foreign country laws govern strict pet care guidelines, therefore, thorough research regarding pet regulations in your host country must be accomplished prior to leaving your current permanent duty station. Example: the most common requirements for pets entering European countries are certificates of health, international micro-chips (ISO) and rabies vaccinations.

Preparing to execute Permanent Change of Station can be an overwhelming experience, especially for an international move. Nonetheless, in the midst of packed boxes and paperwork, don't forget your pets! Documentation is required for both your host country and airline. Additionally, specifications regarding the type and size of kennel, labeling for the container, check-in requirements and air temperature may impact your pet's travel.

Due to recent reforms in the commercial airline industry, breed restrictions and shipping fees must also be considered. Meticulous research of your pet's breed must be accomplished before you begin your travel preparations. Under the new restraints, several breeds are restricted on many commercial airline carriers. Furthermore, the cost to ship your pet may vary from carrier to carrier, so give yourself adequate time to research third party pet shipping services if an alternative is required. Contact your local veterinary/pet clinic and the airline well in advance to ensure that you and your pet companion meet all of the necessary requirements for travel.

Remember your Local Transportation Office/Distribution Management Office are there to assist, but ultimately it is your responsibility to make sure your pets arrive safely to their next home. If circumstances arise that keep you from taking your pets, please make every effort to find them a good home. They deserve the best care and consideration possible.