

## Helpful Information

### 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, bilingual certificates, proof of ownership, etc..**

### Pet and Kennel

Allow your pet to get accustomed to the kennel a few days before departure so it will be more comfortable in its 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.

### 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 purchasing an ID tag for your pet.

### Pet Health

Have your pet evaluated by your personal veterinarian to be sure it 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 will not be shipped due to possible distress to other pets which may result in injury. We cannot accept females with nursing young nor 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. **Pets and kennels with a combined weight exceeding 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 flights 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.**

For more information, visit our **AMC Travel Website** <http://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/> or contact one of the two AMC Commercial Airport locations, your Local Transportation Office, or an 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 Pet Brochure August 2021



**AIR MOBILITY WARRIORS  
PROJECTING DECISIVE STRENGTH AND  
DELIVERING HOPE... ALWAYS!**

## TRANSPORTING YOUR PET

This brochure is designed to assist you in preparing to transport your pets aboard AMC Patriot Express (PE) flights in conjunction with permanent change of station (PCS). The Department of Defense (DOD) defines **pets as dogs and cats only**. Commercial carrier restrictions and regulations may differ, therefore if you have a commercial flight prior to, or following your PE flight, contact the airline to determine any additional requirements.

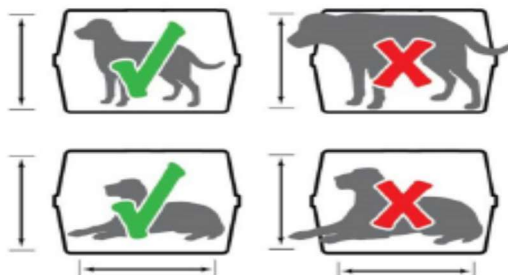
### Initiating Pet Travel

Pet space is very limited on AMC PE flights due to pressurized cargo hold limits and is booked on a first come, first serve basis. Spaces are available for booking 90 days prior to departure and must be reserved through your local transportation office. Passengers may request up to two (2) pet reservations per family. Pet transportation is at owner's expense. Pets must be accompanied by their owner.

**Note – Pets are not authorized on military organic aircraft.**

### Kennel/Carrier Requirements

Your pet's health and well being is our utmost concern. **In accordance with FAA & AMC pet travel policy, in-cabin pet kennels/carriers are treated like carry-on baggage and will be stowed under the passenger seat and pets must remain in the container for the duration of the flight.** You are responsible for providing an authorized kennel/carrier and ensuring your pet is transported in accordance with U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines. **In-cabin kennel/carrier 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. Kennels/carriers must 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. Kennels must provide adequate venti-



lation on at least three sides. Soft-sided carriers should be constructed of leak-proof/water repellent padded nylon with mesh ventilation on at least two sides. Soft-sided pet carriers may be accepted for in-cabin movement only. Wood kennels must be IATA\* compliant. Two-piece kennels must be bolted together with **metal nuts/bolts**. Plastic/nylon slide clips, screws, and bolts are not authorized. Securing kennel doors with a zip tie is recommended but not required.

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 8 weeks - 6 months old of the same species and comparable size may be transported in same kennel as long as both can stand up, turn-around, and lie down with normal posture and body movement. **If your kennel and/or carrier does not meet requirements, you will be placed on duty standby under administrative hold until travel ready.**

### Pet Travel Risks

All pets are susceptible to the risk of heat stroke, respiratory problems, hypoxia, and the possibility of death during travel. Pets traveling in larger kennels must be loaded in the pressurized, temperature controlled cargo hold, which limits the number of pets on each aircraft to 4 to 10 depending on the type of aircraft and kennel sizes. 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 these or other complications with a veterinarian prior to air transport and ensure pet kennels have adequate ventilation.

### Examples (Not All Inclusive)



### Pet Immigration

All pets, including service animals are subject to country quarantine procedures. Contact your local transportation office for specific immigration requirements to include pet **quarantine and detention**. Additional information is available in the **"OCONUS Country Instructions" link located on the following website: <https://move.mil/sme>** under the "Pets/Quarantine" section your destination country. When it is necessary to detain an animal, 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.

### Important Advisory

Effective 11 January 2021, the Department of Transportation (DoT) issued a final rule amending the Air Carrier Access Act. Under the rule, **Emotional Support Animals (ESA) are now considered "pets"**. DoDI 4515.13, *Air Transportation Eligibility*, also defines ESAs as "pets" (**dogs and cats only**). This change **limits each family to two (2) pets**, regardless of each pet's ESA status.

### Service Animals

In accordance with DoDI 4515.13, passengers may travel with no more than two (2) properly trained service animals (**dogs only**) that fit in the service animal handler's lap or within the service animal handler's foot space on AMC aircraft. Service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or otherwise tethered at all times within air terminals and on aircraft. Service animal handlers must keep service animals under control at all times to include restraining service animal from relieving itself in air terminals or on aircraft without posing a health or sanitation issue (e.g., dog diaper).

**Service animal handlers may be required to pay a pet fee and transport service animals in a pet carrier or pay for damage from service animals that do not follow travel requirements within DoDI 4515.13.**

### Important Advisory

#### Service Animal Statement of Assurance

**No later than 48 hours prior to aircraft departure**, handlers must provide the AMC Passenger Terminal with a signed Statement of Assurance stating the following:

1. Service animal handler's name, email, and phone number.
2. Service animal user's name if different from the handler and phone number.
3. Service animal name and description that includes appearance, height, and weight.
4. Current service animal information:
  - a. Rabies vaccination date and date vaccination expires.
  - b. Other health, disease, or conditions such as fleas, ticks or disease that could endanger people or other animals.
  - c. Veterinarian's name and phone number.
  - d. Name and contact info. of service animal trainer or training organization that provided training to do work or perform tasks for the service animal user.
5. Statement of assurance to comply with requirements in paragraphs 10.1.b.(1) to 10.1.b.(7) of DoDI 4515.13

A **Service Animal Statement of Assurance template** is available on the AMC Pet Travel Website:

[www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/AMC-Pet-Travel-Page/](http://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/AMC-Pet-Travel-Page/)

\* **International Air Transport Association—Traveler's Pet Corner**  
<https://www.iata.org/en/programs/cargo/live-animals/pets/>