

## Transporting Your Pet

The following information is provided to assist you in preparing your pet for transportation in conjunction with your permanent change of station (PCS). We are sure all pet owners would agree; your pet's health and well-being is of utmost concern.

In addition to obtaining all pet movement requirements, please remember to check with your destination Housing Office to ensure your pet breed/pet size is authorized. It is also important to ensure your destination (host) country does not prohibit your pet breed from entering; to include potential transiting countries. Contact your local transportation office for assistance on obtaining information related to your pet's movement. Additional information can be found in the Foreign Clearance Guide at [www.fcg.pentagon.mil](http://www.fcg.pentagon.mil) and the Personal Property Consignment Instruction Guide (PPCIG). Consult the OCONUS Country Instructions of your specific country and scroll to "Pets/Quarantine" at:

<https://move.mil/sites/default/files/inline-files/OCONUS%20Country%20Instructions%20%28March%202019%20v.6%29.pdf>.

### DoD Pet Transportation Guidelines

Please remember, you 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. Additionally, you assume all associated risk and costs with the transportation of your pet/pets. No guarantees can be provided that future changes won't prevent subsequent movement/return of pets.

**Air Mobility Command Patriot Express (PE):** DoD policy may allow passengers traveling in a PCS status to ship pets at their own expense. Pets are limited to dogs and cats only, with no more than 2 pets per family and must be accompanied by their owner. The combined weight of the pet and its kennel/carrier will not exceed 150 pounds when transported in the baggage compartment (aircraft belly). The combined weight of a pet and its kennel/carrier booked in cabin will not exceed 20 pounds. Please remember PE flights may not be available when you rotate back from an overseas location, resulting in commercial options at your personal/non-refundable expense.

When traveling on a PE flight, please know pet spaces are very limited. We highly recommend you contact your local transportation office as early as possible to book your travel and pet space reservation. A 20-day travel performance period (TPP) is recommended when submitting a reservation request. This allows the transportation office to consider multiple PE flight to accommodate you and your pet on the same flight. Orders/Customer Identification Codes (CIC) are not required to make a passenger and related pet reservation.

**Scheduled Commercial Airlines (includes GSA City Pairs Program):** Currently, most airlines limit pet movement to a combined pet and kennel weight of 100 pounds. If traveling on

commercial airlines, bear in mind each Airline establishes their own rules and restrictions which vary from airline to airline. In addition, commercial carrier restrictions and regulations may differ (weather embargoes, breed restrictions, weight limits, etc.), therefore, prior to scheduling your travel, we recommend you confirm the information you have is current and complete. Please check with your local transportation office, veterinarian and the commercial airlines.

### **Patriot Express (PE) Pet Kennels/Pet Carrier Requirements**

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. All pets will be individually kenneled (see note below for exception).

If the container does not meet requirements, you will be placed on duty standby under administrative hold until pet is travel ready.

You're responsible for providing an authorized kennel/carrier and ensuring your pet is transported in accordance with U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines.

Kennels 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 delays, two-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 and must fit under the seat in front of you.

**Note:** 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.

### **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 higher 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.

Additional information on charges, labeling, marking, food, check in, etc. may be found at:

<https://www.amc.af.mil/Portals/12/AMC%20Tv1%20Pg/AMC%20Pet%20Brochure%20Apr%202018.pdf?ver=2018-05-15-140425-867>