

---

# HQ AMC

## PET TRAVEL PAMPHLET

---



This pamphlet assists 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.

Current as of: 12 July 2024

---

# PET TRAVEL RISKS

---

- **All pets are susceptible to the risk of heat stroke, respiratory problems, and the possibility of death during travel.**
- **Pets will experience altitude changes and extreme temperatures. AMC will limit the amount of time your pets are exposed to extreme temperatures, but we cannot prevent it. If your pet does not handle extreme temperatures at home, their risk might be higher in a kennel with the added stress of travel. Recommend you acclimate your pet: Suggest your pet be allowed to spend time outdoors to acclimate to extreme temperatures in a secure setting where you can monitor them.**
- **Pets with underlying health conditions, including obesity, are at increased risk during travel. Air travel may not be possible for some pets based on their age, health status or breed. Owners must carefully evaluate (with their veterinarian) their pet's health when making the decision to travel with their pet.**
- **Sedation during air travel is not recommended. Recommend speaking with your veterinarian regarding your pet's health and potential reactions or side effects of these medications and follow the prescribing information carefully.**
- **Pets may experience sensory overload during travel. Loud noises coupled with other animals and strangers near the kennel may lead to added stress and raise the risk of travel for your pet. Allowing your pet to experience these scenarios prior to traveling will assist in reducing stress to your pet.**

- **Brachycephalic (snub or pug nosed) breeds are more prone to medical emergencies while flying on planes than other types of dogs/cats. Their shortened airways make it difficult to breathe during normal circumstances, and the added heat, stress, and humidity and confinement in the kennel can make breathing even more difficult. This may lead to a respiratory emergency and even death. This risk applies to mixed breed animals as well. American Veterinary Medical Associations (AVMA) Air travel and short-nosed dogs FAQ can be found <https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/pet-owners>.**
  
- Your veterinarian can help advise you on your pet's current health condition and discuss risks of air travel with you. Questions to ask your veterinarian include, but not limited to:
  - What are the risks of air travel with my pet?
    - How can I prepare my pet for travel?
    - Is my pet considered a high-risk animal: (i.e., breed, age, weight, health, etc.)
      - If so, is travel appropriate, or what are some ways to decrease the risk?
    - What travel documentation should I have for my pet?
    - What is the appropriate kennel size for my pet?
    - Should I medicate my pet and what are the risks of doing so?

---

# PET TRAVEL TIPS

---

- Pet space is very limited on AMC Patriot Express flights due to the limited space within the pressurized cargo hold.
- Pet reservations are booked on a first come first served basis.
- Typically, a flight's pet spaces are available for reservation 90-120 days prior to the departure month of the flight.
  - These reservations are handled by the local base transportation office.
- Once notified of an assignment, contact the local transportation office to determine the documentation required and timeframe to submit for a reservation.
- Passengers are authorized to travel with two (2) pets per family.
- All pets, including service animals are subject to country importation requirements, which may include quarantining. Contact your local veterinarian office for specific importation requirements to include pet **quarantine and detention**.
- **Effective 01 August 2024, all dogs to include service dogs entering or returning to the United States from an overseas location must adhere to new, specific requirements based on the location of the animal 6 months prior to entering the United States and where the canine received their Rabies vaccinations, if required.** U.S. canine importation requirements and timelines can be found on the CDC website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/dogs-entering-us-after-august-1.html#current-vaccination>
- Talk with your veterinarian if you have ANY concerns about your pet's health.
- Owners should exercise pets before arriving at the terminal. Carry a leash to walk pets before check-in and after arrival at destination.
- Keep strangers, especially children, at a safe distance from pets. Even the most gentle pet can be provoked into growling or snapping.
- Mark the kennel with your pet's name, your name, destination or unit address, and phone number (if available). An ID tag for your pet is also recommended.
- A familiar article of clothing or toy in the kennel may help placate your pet.
- More helpful tips and links can be found on the [AMC Pet Travel](#), [USDA APHIS Pet Travel](#), [USDA APHIS Pets on Planes](#), [AVMA](#) pages.

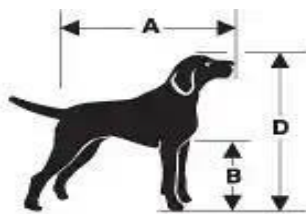
Current as of: 12 July 2024

# PET KENNEL REQUIREMENTS

Prior to the flight day, allow your pet to spend some time getting used to the kennel. The day of your flight should not be the first time in the kennel for an extended duration. Recommend at least a week prior to the flight placing the animal in the kennel to allow them to become comfortable with the space.

From IATA Pet Travel Corner <https://www.iata.org/en/programs/cargo/live-animals/pets/#tab-1>

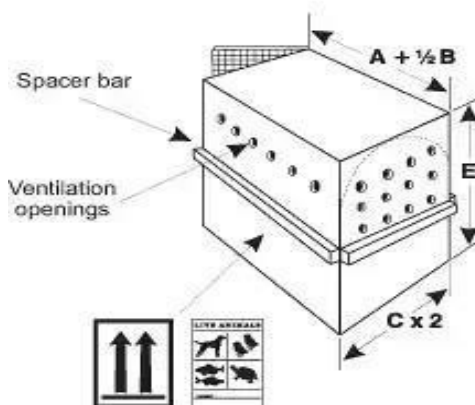
- Passengers are responsible for providing an authorized kennel/carrier and ensuring your pet is transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) and U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines.
- Ventilation must be provided on all 4 sides. The whole of one end of the kennel must be ventilated (can be the door).
- All openings of the kennel must be nose and paw-proof to prevent injury to the animal or handler. A welded wire mesh insert must cover the ventilated areas and be securely fixed to the kennel so the animal cannot dislodge it.
- Ventilation openings must be a maximum of 1" x 1" for dogs and 3/4" x 3/4" for cats.
- Ventilation openings may be required to be smaller to be nose and paw proof.
- Absorbent bedding that is suitable for the species will be provided in the kennel. Do not use any, hay, grass, wood shavings, sand or soil.



- Kennels must be large enough for your pet to stand-up, turn around, and lie down with normal posture and body movement. **Snub-nosed breeds will require 10% larger kennel to allow more airflow.** Pets will not be accepted if containers are too small.

- Minimum internal container dimensions for a single animal:

- Container length =  $A + \frac{1}{2} B$
- Container width =  $C \times 2$
- Container height  $E = D +$  bedding
- Two animals:  $C \times 3$



Current as of: 12 July 2024



- 2-piece kennels must be bolted together with metal nuts/bolts. Plastic/nylon slides, clips, or screws/bolts are not authorized.
- Securing 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.
- Combined weight of your pet and kennel will not exceed 150 pounds.
- All kennels will have one green “Live Animals” and at least two “This Way Up” labels on opposite sides of the kennel.
- If a sedative is used, the name of the drug, the time and type of administration must be clearly marked on the kennel.
- A maximum of two animals may be kenneled together provided they are of comparable size, up to 31 pounds (14 kg), and used to cohabitating.
- Female pets that are in heat will not be shipped due to possible distress to other pets and/or may result in injury.
- Weaned puppies younger than 8 weeks old will not be accepted for air shipment due to the possibility of dehydration.
- Pet owners must provide a separate food and water supply source attached to the inside of the kennel. Water containers must be capable to be replenished without opening kennel doors.
  - Food and water containers must allow the pet unrestricted access during transportation and must be secured so they can’t be dislodged.
  - Water bottles or similar dispensers attached either inside or outside the kennel are not considered a replenishable water supply source.

Current as of: 12 July 2024

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 in front of you and pets must remain in container for the duration of the flight.

For animals traveling in-cabin the non-rigid kennel (Soft-Sided) will:

- Not exceed 18"L x 11" W x 10.5" H in size
- Allow the animal stand-up, turn around, and lie down with normal posture and body movement.
- Have a ventilated area on all four vertical sides.
- Be marked with the "Live Animal" label that does not cover any of the ventilated area.
- Only one in-cabin pet space per ticketed traveler can be booked. This is to not exceed two total pets per family.



# CDC Information Sheet for Importers of Dogs Arriving by Air

(includes private aircraft)



Effective August 1, 2024, entry requirements for ALL dogs (including service dogs) arriving in the United States by air must:

- Be at least 6 months of age or older;
- Appear healthy on arrival;
- Be accompanied by veterinary documentation with a microchip number included on the form;
- Be accompanied by a receipt of the *CDC Dog Import Form* receipt; and
- Have an air waybill (AWB) regardless of whether dogs were transported as cargo, checked baggage, or hand-carried baggage on all flights.



Scan here to find our dog importation homepage.

Additional entry requirements depend on which countries the dog has been in during the past 6 months and where the dog was vaccinated against rabies.

## Foreign-vaccinated dogs arriving from [high-risk countries](#) by air:

- Must arrive at a port with a [CDC-registered animal care facility \(ACF\)](#).
  - The ports are: ATL, IAD, JFK, LAX, MIA, and PHL.
- Must have a reservation at the ACF prior to arrival.

## U.S.-vaccinated dogs arriving from [high-risk countries](#) by air:

- Allowed to enter at any ports with one of the following:
  - *Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination* form with valid rabies vaccination date included on form
  - During the transition period: A USDA-endorsed export health certificate with a valid (not expired) U.S.-rabies vaccine listed on the form
    - The export health certificate must have been issued before August 1, 2024.
    - The export health certificate must be for the country where the dog's return itinerary originated.

## Dogs arriving from dog rabies-free or low-risk countries by air:

- Allowed to enter at any port with one of the following documents, provided they are valid (not expired):
  - *Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip* form completed in a dog rabies-free or low-risk country + titer, veterinary records, **OR** proof of veterinary payment for services completed in the exporting country at least six months prior to traveling to the United States **AND**
    - The initial rabies vaccine must be given at least 28 days before arrival **OR**
  - *Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination* form **OR**
  - A USDA-endorsed export health certificate
    - The export health certificate must be for the country where the dog's return itinerary originated **OR**
  - A foreign export health certificate from a dog rabies-free or low-risk country stating the dog is at least six months old and listing the microchip number.
    - The export health certificate must be certified by an official veterinarian in the exporting country **AND**
    - Foreign veterinary records (such as the EU Pet Passport) or proof of veterinary payment for services completed the exporting country at least six months prior to traveling to the United States must accompany the export certificate **OR**
  - A *Certification of dog arriving from rabies-free or low-risk country* form with attached foreign veterinary records **OR** proof of veterinary payment for services completed in a dog rabies-free or low-risk country at least six months prior to traveling to the United States.
    - The form must be certified by an official veterinarian in the exporting country **AND**
    - Documents must be from the same country where the dog's itinerary originated.

Please contact [CDC-INFO](#) with any questions.





Summary of requirements beginning August 1, 2024

Requirements	Dogs from dog rabies-free or low-risk countries	U.S.-vaccinated dogs	Foreign-vaccinated dogs from high-risk countries
Vaccination form	<p>1. Certification of dog arriving from DMRVV-free or low-risk country form + titer or veterinary records</p> <p>2. Foreign-endorsed export health certificate + veterinary records;</p> <p>3. Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination form;</p> <p>4. USDA-endorsed export health certificate for country;</p> <p>5. Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form + titer or veterinary records</p>	<p>1. Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination form</p> <p>2. USDA-endorsed export health certificate with age (<math>\geq 6</math> months), microchip and valid rabies vaccine</p>	<p>1. Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form</p>
Titer	None (unless using <i>Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form</i> or <i>Certification of dog arriving from DMRVV-free or low-risk country</i> without veterinary records)	None	<p>One per dog, as long as vaccination coverage does not lapse</p> <p>*28-day wait before importation</p>
Six months of age or older	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
Microchip	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
CDC Dog Import Form	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
Air waybill if arriving by air	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
Ports of Entry (POE)	Any POE	Any POE	<p>POE with Animal Care Facility (air only)</p> <p>*Service dogs may enter via seaport with vaccination and titer documentation</p>

This message is approved for release by Col(S) Ricardo R. Garza, Chief, Air Transportation Division, HQ AMC/A4T.

**DTG:** 301800ZJUL2024

**FROM:** HQ AMC Scott AFB IL//A4TP//

**TO:** All AMC Air Passenger Terminals and AMC Operated Air Terminals

**SUBJECT:** U.S. Entry Requirements for Dogs

**PURPOSE:** This message supersedes message 24-004P and provides direction on Center of Disease Control (CDC) pet importation requirements into the United States from overseas locations.

**POLICY:** Effective 01 August 2024, all dogs, including service dogs, entering or returning to the United States from an overseas location must adhere to new, specific requirements based on the risk level of the country which the dog is being transported from. Passenger Terminal Agents must be alert to the new requirements and required actions

1. All dogs must meet the following requirements for importation into the United States (including those that left the United States and are returning – regardless of the country they are being imported from.)

Entry Requirements for Dogs from Dog Rabies-free or Low-risk Countries

- Must appear healthy upon arrival to the CONUS.
- Must be at least 6 months of age prior to arrival to the United States.
- Owner must complete CDC Dog Import Form. The CDC Dog Import form is accessible on the CDC's website at <https://cdc-786687.workflowcloud.com/forms/090dc543-7b2f-4538-b2c7-2919d12ecc73>. Upon completion of the form, a receipt will be autogenerated and immediately emailed to the pet owner. **\*\*Passenger Service Agent to verify pet owner possess, electronic or paper, CDC Dog Import Form receipt at check-in. See attached sample form**

Entry Requirements for U.S. Vaccinated Dogs from High-risk Countries

**High-risk Countries list: (<https://www.cdc.gov/importation/dogs/high-risk-countries.html>)**

- Must appear healthy upon arrival to the CONUS.
- Must be at least 6 months old at time of entry or return to the U.S.

- Must have an International Organization of Standardization (ISO) compatible microchip, which was implanted prior to any required rabies vaccinations.
- Must have a valid U.S. issued rabies vaccination form, signed by a USDA Accredited Veterinarian.

Pet Fatality En Route to the U.S. or at a U.S. Port Prior to Admission: **\*\*Passenger Service Agents must brief pet owners of the risk and financial responsibility with the new Risk Acknowledgement Document. See attached.**

- Necropsy of any cat or dog arriving to the CONUS deceased is mandatory.
- Pet owner is responsible for all costs associated with transportation, necropsy, and subsequent infectious disease testing.

2. Please direct comments or suggestions concerning this message to HQ AMC/A4TP via email at: [ORG.AMCA4-71@us.af.mil](mailto:ORG.AMCA4-71@us.af.mil)

//SIGNED//

GARZA.RICARDO. Digitally signed by  
GARZA.RICARDO.RAUL.125924  
RAUL.1259243846 3846  
Date: 2024.07.30 10:38:00 -05'00'

RICARDO R. GARZA, Col(S), USAF  
Chief, Air Transportation Division  
Directorate of Logistics, Engineering, and Force Protection

Attachments:

Atch-1 CDC Import Form Receipt

Atch-2 AMC Pets-Risk Acknowledgement Document (RAD) (29 July 24)

UNCLAS

**From:** No-Reply DGMQ Admin (CDC) <[DGMQAdminSupport@cdc.gov](mailto:DGMQAdminSupport@cdc.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 23, 2024 3:20 PM  
**To:** William Lovepup >  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] CDC Dog Import Form Receipt

You don't often get email from [dgmqadminsUPPORT@cdc.gov](mailto:dgmqadminsUPPORT@cdc.gov). [Learn why this is important](#)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Dog Import Form Receipt: COMPLETE

**This is your Dog Import Form receipt.**

**Date of issuance:** 07/23/2024

**Valid for multiple entries until:** 01/23/2025

This receipt is valid for 6 months from the date of issuance for the dog listed below.

This receipt may be used for the dog listed below for multiple entries to the United States from **low-risk or rabies-free** countries. If the dog has been in a high-risk rabies country since you submitted the Dog Import Form, this receipt is no longer valid for entry and you must complete a new Dog Import Form.

**You must show this receipt (printed or on your phone) to airline staff and/or U.S. port of entry officials.** CDC reserves the right to request additional documentation verifying the information contained in this receipt upon arrival in the United States.

<b>SECTION A: TRAVEL INFORMATION</b>
<b>Date of Arrival:</b> 08/02/2024
<b>Country of Departure:</b> Germany
<b>Travel Type:</b> Air

<b>SECTION B: PERSON IMPORTING THE ANIMAL</b>
<b>Name of Importer:</b> William Lovepup
<b>Passport#/Driver's License:</b> A444-0011-2222
<b>Country or State of Issuance:</b> IL
<b>Date of Birth:</b> 10/01/1993

**Email:** [william.lovepup@us.xx.mil](mailto:william.lovepup@us.xx.mil)

**Phone Number:**

**SECTION C: ANIMAL INFORMATION**

**Name:** Lucky

**Age:** 10 year(s) and 0 month(s)

**Sex:** Female Neutered

**Breed:** Boxer

**Color:** Fawn

**Imporation Purpose:** Personal Pet (this includes emotional support animals)



# Passenger Acknowledgment of Risk during Pet Movement

Version: 29 July 2024

We understand the trust you have put into Air Mobility Command (AMC) to transport your pet. Their safety and comfort are paramount. As a condition of transporting your pet, you must: (1) obtain a valid and up-to-date health certificate for each pet when required, (2) consider the risks associated with transporting your pet via air, including those outlined below, (3) acknowledge your understanding and willingness to accept those risks, and (4) review and agree to the terms and conditions outlined below.

## **Risk factors associated with pet transportation:**

- All pets are susceptible to the risk of heat stroke, respiratory problems, and the possibility of death during travel. **Brachycephalic** (snub or pug nosed) breeds have the highest fatality rate from air travel than any other breeds of dogs/cats. Over the past five years, AMC also identified this breed having the most fatalities during air travel. Approximately, 89% of AMC's pet fatalities are related to these breeds.
- Not allowing proper time for pets to acclimate to their travel crate prior to departure increases stress, potential for injury, and attempting to escape
- Stress may result from extreme temperatures, an unfamiliar environment, and other travel related factors
- Pre-existing health conditions may worsen during air travel
- Multiple connections, long flight times, and layovers may increase these risks

More information regarding these and other risk factors can be found in the AMC pet travel pamphlet located on the AMC Travel Pet site, <https://www.amc.af.mil/AMC-Travel-Site/> and by speaking with your veterinarian.

## **To maximize pet safety and as a condition of AMC accepting and transporting your pet:**

- I confirm I have reviewed the information provided by AMC to include its pet acceptance policies and have prepared my pet accordingly

- I understand AMC has the right to deny travel if my pet demonstrates aggressive behavior or is otherwise deemed a risk for travel
- I confirm I have complied with all AMC policies, International Air Transportation Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations, United States Department of Agriculture, /Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS), and any other applicable local, state, federal and/or international pet travel requirements, including those applicable to my pet's destination (the "Applicable Regulations")

**I further understand and agree:**

- I accept the risk associated to air travel for my pet and understand current health conditions, and ability to handle stress may affect the ability of my pet to survive air travel.
- It is my responsibility to comply with all applicable regulations and AMC policies
- I accept and agree to all terms of this Passenger Acknowledgment document (Pet Transportation) as the conditions on which AMC provides transportation for my pet
- Certain failures to comply with AMC Policies and Applicable Regulations constitute fraudulent representation for which AMC may deny travel for my pet. Fraudulent acts and/or misrepresentations for which AMC may deny travel include without limitation (a) providing a health certificate that is false, intentionally incomplete, or prepared for a different pet, (b) providing false statements regarding the acclimation procedures previously performed and/or (c) providing false statements regarding the overall health or behavioral temperament of my pet
- In the event of my pet death enroute to the United States, I understand the CDC mandates a necropsy and testing be performed with final report and results provided to the CDC quarantine station. I further understand I am responsible for all costs.

It is my responsibility to comply with applicable guidance, assessing my pet's health, and understanding travel impacts on my pet's age/condition and breed/species. My pet may be at further risk of complications from air travel. AMC will reduce exposure to extreme temperatures, but we cannot modify or alter your pet's experience with anxieties of being in a kennel, exposure to noise of other pets, people, or altitude changes.

My signature below acknowledges that I have read and understand the requirements provided by AMC and agree to the terms and conditions set forth in this Passenger Acknowledgment document as a condition of the transportation of my pets with AMC, and understand that they are not comprehensive, and that air travel is inherently stressful and affects each pet differently.

---



---

Passenger Name

Signature

Date