



# DIMC Transport Requirements

## General Transport Requirements for Source and Destination Organizations:

*DIMC works as a third party entity, meaning we are an independent organization specializing in transport and we are not a sheltering agency. DIMC works with both the source and the destination agency to facilitate transport. While we are not responsible for choosing the animals that are transported, we have come up with a few guidelines to help make the most of each animal transported. DIMC will never take ownership of an animal. Each animal becomes the property of the destination when it is placed on board.*

### 1. Administrative Requirements:

- a. **A Designated Coordinator is Required:** There must be a designated coordinator from the source and destination group. The role of the coordinator is to:
  - i. Liaison between the agencies and DIMC
  - ii. Organize and communicate timing, number, and types of dogs, puppies, cats or kittens to be transported and ensure proper transport containment
  - iii. Evaluate any health or behavior considerations
  - iv. Maintain good communication between all agencies involved.
  - v. Timely provide DIMC with the required paperwork and information necessary for a smooth flight
- b. **Required Paperwork:**
  - i. Source and Destination groups are required to fill out the DIMC rescue partner agreement found online at: <http://dogcopilot.org/join-dimc-transport-list/>
  - ii. Each animal transported is required to have a health certificate signed by a veterinarian; this must be sent via email to Kara the day before the flight
  - iii. The "Pre-flight Checklist"; provided to each source group prior to a rescue flight is required to be handed to Pilot Peter the day of the flight

### 2. Pre-transport Medical Requirements:

- a. Transported animals 16 weeks or older (canine and feline) will be administered a rabies vaccination and be signed by a licensed veterinarian.
- b. Animals transported across state lines will have a Health Certificate, signed by a licensed veterinarian, and submitted to DIMC at least 24 hours prior to the flight.
- c. Animals with known contagious or communicable diseases are not eligible for transport
- d. In general, puppies and kittens should be at least eight weeks old at time of transport unless they are being transported with their mother. However, transfer of orphaned animals under eight weeks old may be justified if resources for proper orphan care are unavailable at the source organization and can be provided at the destination organization,
- e. Destination and Source groups will have a clear understanding of medical requirements and any breed specific information for their particular rescue

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- f. All transported animals must be sterilized prior to adoption by traditional methods or alternative methods such as ovary-sparing spays or vasectomy. Either the Source or Destination groups upon mutual agreement based on what makes most sense financially or otherwise will do sterilization.
- i. Reference: <https://www.parsemusfoundation.org/projects/ovary-sparing-spray/>
  - ii. Reference: <http://bestfriends.org/our-work/spay-and-neuter-education>

### 3. Animal Behavior Requirements:

- a. DIMC is not responsible for the behavior of any of the animals that are chosen for transport. However, we highly suggest the source and destination groups have a clear understanding of the following information:
- Establish a clear understanding of each agency's behavior assessment process. The agencies should mutually agree on the type of assessment that is used, how results are recorded and interpreted, and how assessment information is used to determine adoptability
  - Have a clear understanding of the term "adoptable" and the two groups should communicate the adoptability of each animal chosen for transport – meaning animals meeting the criteria identified and set forth by an individual group as being a safe, healthy and responsible candidate to be rehomed in their community through their adoption program

### 4. Rescue flight Details:

- a. Watch our helpful tips videos: <http://dogcopilot.org/helpful>
- b. Be very familiar with airport/FBO information and address provided by Kara prior to the flight
- c. Rescue Coordinators will meet Pilot Peter on the tarmac to help load or unload animals -DIMC tail #N307PR
- d. **All groups are required to arrive to the airport at least 30 minutes ahead of LOAD time or UNLOAD time**
- e. **Day before flight, Coordinator notify all personnel of scheduled loading time and time to arrive with animal at airport (30 minutes prior to scheduled loading time)**
- f. Please bring along at least 2 shelter staff/volunteers that will help to load or unload crates
- g. Withdraw food the night before transport; animals must fly on empty stomach for their comfort and safety unless they nursing mothers, puppies or kittens under 12 weeks of age
- h. Provide an envelope for each destination group that includes; health certs for each animal, rabies certificate, other medical records, shelter health records/behavior notes along with any additional pertinent information on the animals; hand this to

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Pilot Peter on the day of flight. He will pass this along to the appropriate destination group.

## 5. Crates:

- a. Day before flight, Coordinator contact all personnel and ensure that they have the appropriate crates for the animals
- b. **We require that animals be transported in the smallest size crate which allows the dog/cat to comfortably get in, turn around and lie down**
- c. DO NOT put small animals in large crates; cats and small dogs must be in small crates
- d. Arrive with all your animals already IN CRATES
- e. No Wire crates allowed
- f. Use zip ties to secure crates
- g. No crate over 32" high
- h. You may put nursing moms and babies or kennel mates/house mates in the same crate
- i. Coordinator should bring **extra**, smaller sized crates in the chance of down sizing at the airport if needed
- j. The animals transported by DIMC and the crates in which they travel will become the property of the Destination Organization when they board the plane. At no time does DIMC take ownership of the animals or crates
- k. We recommend placing either a pee pad, newspaper or other absorbent material in each of the kennels

## 6. Labeling of Crates:

- a. Crates must be clearly labeled with the following information securely attached to the FRONT of each kennel:
  1. **Animal Name and/or Identification Number**
  2. **Destination Airport Code** (provided on flight itinerary)
  3. **Destination Group Name**
  4. If the source group is sending to multiple destination organizations; Color coding tags works well
  5. The following link is a great example of a label we recommend using:
    - [https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00K6EISPO/ref=oh\\_aui\\_detailpage\\_o05\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00K6EISPO/ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o05_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

**As the Designated Coordinator, I have read and agree to comply with the information above.**

Designated Coordinator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated Coordinator Initial \_\_\_\_\_