



## Dog Is My CoPilot

### Transport Frequently Asked Questions

We're excited to partner with you on lifesaving flights as Dog Is My CoPilot (DIMC) continues expanding operations with our third aircraft. Strong coordination and communication help ensure every mission runs smoothly — and together, we can move more animals to safety. Below are answers to frequently asked questions about our transport program.

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#### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Do you transport both dogs and cats?**

**A:** Yes. DIMC transports both dogs and cats on the same flight.

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**Q: How many animals can fit on the plane?**

**A:** On average, we transport **approximately 75 animals per flight**.

The exact number depends on the size of the animals:

- Flights with mostly small animals may carry 75+ pets.
- Flights with medium to large dogs may accommodate closer to 50 animals.
- A minimum of 50 animals is typically required for a flight to operate at capacity.

(Refer to our Crate Capacity Example for details from previous flights.)

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**Q: What should receiving partners expect at the airport?**

A detailed flight itinerary will be emailed to all participating partners. This includes:

- Airport pickup location
- Arrival and departure times

**Important:** The aircraft is typically on the ground for approximately 30 minutes to unload and refuel. Timely arrival is essential.



## Airport & Unloading Guidelines:

- Check in at the designated Fixed Base Operator (FBO) for tarmac access instructions.
- Drive vehicles to the aircraft as directed by FBO staff.
- Coordinate in advance with DIMC's Flight Coordinator regarding how many vehicles will be needed.
- Plan for **2–6 team members** to assist with unloading, depending on crate count and participating partners.
- Pilots typically fly solo, so receiving partners are responsible for unloading animals.

## Kennel Instructions:

- All transport kennels must be taken with you.
- Please plan adequate vehicle space for empty crates.
- Bring broken-down crates (with doors secured between top and bottom halves) to replace the ones used during transport.
- Exact kennels may not return to the original sending shelter.

## Media:

Media is welcome but must be pre-approved by the airport in advance. Please notify DIMC if media will be present.

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### Q: What type of kennels are used?

A: Animals are transported in plastic kennels (no wire crates).

Receiving partners are responsible for returning broken-down crates on a future flight so they remain in circulation for sending shelters.

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### Q: What does a flight cost?

A: DIMC provides all flights at **no cost** to sending or receiving partners.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we rely entirely on grants, sponsors, and individual donors to fund our operations.

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### Q: How are flight dates scheduled?



Dog Is My CoPilot

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Flight dates are scheduled in advance to allow partners to coordinate staffing and logistics.

Once routes and partnerships are established, DIMC aims to provide **consistent monthly service** whenever possible.