

## **Traveling by Air with Service Animals**

The U.S. Department of Transportation(DOT) is issuing a final rule to amend the Department's Air Carrier Access Act(ACAA) regulation on the transport of service animals by air ,with the intent to ensure a safe transportation system for the traveling public and accessible to individuals with disabilities. This rule is effective 11<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2021.

### **Definitions:**

**Service animal-** The rule defines a service animal as a dog, regardless of breed or type that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a qualified individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.

**Emotional support animal-**Emotional support animals are to be recognized as a pet, rather than service animal.

Incorporated in the Final Rule are the following two new USDOT forms

- U.S. Department of Transportation Service Animal Air Transportation Form
- U.S. Department of Transportation Service Animal Relief Attestation Form

U.S Dot requires passengers with a disability traveling with a service animal to complete and submit to the airline the Air transportation form, attesting the animal's training and good behavior and certifying the animal's good health. For flight segments of eight hours or more, passenger is required to submit the animal relief attestation form , attesting that the animal has the ability to either not relieve itself on a long flight or to relieve itself in a sanitary manner.

These forms are to be submitted 48 hours in advance of the date of travel if the passenger's reservation was made prior to that time, otherwise to be collected at check-in/departure.

To ensure safety of passengers and crewmembers, the rule requires the service animal to be harnessed, leashed, or otherwise tethered onboard an aircraft and includes other requirements that would address the safe transport of large service animals in the aircraft cabin.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this information collection is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Warning:** It is a Federal crime to make materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements, entries, or representations knowingly and willfully on this form to secure disability accommodations provided under regulations of the United States Department of Transportation (18 U.S.C. § 1001).



## U.S. Department of Transportation Service Animal Air Transportation Form

Service Animal Handler's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Animal User's Name (if different from Handler): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Animal Handler's Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Animal's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Description of the Animal (including weight): \_\_\_\_\_

### Animal Health

\_\_\_\_\_ is vaccinated for rabies. Date of last vaccination: \_\_\_\_\_ Date vaccination expires in the dog: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Insert Animal's Name]

To my knowledge, \_\_\_\_\_ does not have fleas or ticks or a disease that would endanger people or other animals.  
[Insert Animal's Name]

Veterinarian's Name (signature not required): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Animal Training and Behavior

\_\_\_\_\_ has been trained to do work or perform tasks to assist me with my disability.  
[Insert Animal's Name]

Name of Animal Trainer or Training Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ has been trained to behave in a public setting.  
[Insert Animal's Name]

I understand that a properly trained dog remains under the control of its handler. I understand that a properly trained dog does not act aggressively by biting, barking, jumping, lunging, or injuring people or other animals. It also does not urinate or defecate on the aircraft or in the gate area.

I understand that if \_\_\_\_\_ shows that it has not been properly trained to behave in public, then the airline may treat \_\_\_\_\_ as a pet by charging a pet fee and requiring \_\_\_\_\_ to be transported in an FAA-approved pet carrier.  
[Insert Animal's Name] [Insert Animal's Name]

To the best of my knowledge, \_\_\_\_\_ has not behaved aggressively or caused serious injury to another person/dog.  
[Insert Animal's Name]  
If you cannot check the box above, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

### Other Assurance

I understand that \_\_\_\_\_ must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered at all times in the airport and on the aircraft.  
[Insert Animal's Name]

I understand that if \_\_\_\_\_ causes damage, then the airline may charge me for the cost to repair it, as long as the airline would also charge passengers without disabilities to repair the similar kinds of damage.  
[Insert Animal's Name]

I am signing an official document of the U.S. Department of Transportation. My answers are true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I knowingly make false statements on this document, I can be subject to fines and other penalties.

Signature of the Service Animal Handler: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this information collection is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Warning:** It is a Federal crime to make materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements, entries, or representations knowingly and willfully on this form to secure disability accommodations provided under regulations of the United States Department of Transportation (18 U.S.C. § 1001).



## United States Department of Transportation Service Animal Relief Attestation Form

Service Animal Handler's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Animal User's Name (if different Handler): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Flight Length: \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Airport: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Airport: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one or both boxes:

\_\_\_\_\_ will not need to relieve itself while on the aircraft.  
[Insert Animal's Name]

\_\_\_\_\_ can relieve itself on the aircraft without creating a health/sanitation issue.  
[Insert Animal's Name]

Describe how \_\_\_\_\_ will refrain from relieving itself, or relieve itself without posing a health/sanitation issue (e.g., the use of a dog diaper):  
[Insert Animal's Name]

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that if \_\_\_\_\_ causes damage, then the airline may charge me for the cost to repair it, as long as the airline would also charge passengers without disabilities to repair the same kind of damage.  
[Insert Animal's Name]

I am signing an official document of the U.S. Department of Transportation. My answers are true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I knowingly make false statements on this document, I can be subject to fines and other penalties.

Signature of the handler: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_