

## TRAVELING WITH SERVICE DOGS

### GENERAL TIPS

1. A Dog traveling as a service dog must meet the definition of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which states "A service animal means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability."
2. Consider temperament of service dog to make decision regarding whether or not travel is best for passenger and animal.
3. If traveling abroad, become familiar with rules and regulations regarding traveling with animal as well as when the dog has reached destination.

### TRAVEL BY AIR

1. Each airline has different policies regarding traveling with service dogs. It is recommended to contact airline as soon as possible to inform them.
2. Direct flights are recommended.
3. Service dog may accompany traveler on airplane as long as it is small enough to sit at the feet of the passenger or under the seat in front without getting into the aisles and exit areas.
4. Arrive at airport early and let security agent know about service dog -- this should allow for expedited movement to the front of the line since TSA agent may need to spend more time with passenger and animal while going through the security screening.
5. "Service Dog" should be printed on boarding pass.
6. Documentation indicating dog is a service animal is required by airlines -- forms of documentation include presence of harness and/or identification on harness or letter from doctor
7. Must tell TSA agent about traveling with service dog; may go through metal detectors together or separately
8. Service dog is allowed to have one carry on bag with supplies; however, passenger may not put anything in the dog's bag for themselves.
9. TSA is not allowed to ask passenger to be separated or remove harness (leash) from dog.
10. [FAA Procedures for Screening Service Animals](#).
11. Limit water and exercise dog prior to flight -- if leaving gate area after going through security is needed to allow animal to relieve themselves, passenger and animal MUST go through security process again.
12. [Where to Go](#): phone app that gives passengers information regarding where to relieve animals in airports.
13. [Pet Airways](#): allows for safe travel of animal if service dog is not required in airport or on plane but is needed at destination.

### TRAVEL BY SEA

1. It is best to contact individual cruise line regarding policies and procedures for bringing a service dog on board. Each cruise line has varying policies and procedures. The Greater Go can help you with this!

### SOURCES

<https://adata.org/publication/service-animals-booklet> <http://www.miusa.org/resource/tipsheet/serviceanimal>  
<https://www.tripsavvy.com/airport-security-and-service-animals-2972597>  
<https://www.anythingpawsable.com/how-to-travel-with-a-service-dog-a-complete-step-by-step-guide/>  
<https://www.servicedogsociety.com/flying-service-dog-guide/> <https://allthingscruise.com/cruise-line-pet-policies/>