Animals on Airplanes
This story is part of the Access for All program for people with disabilities at the Philadelphia International Airport (PHL). This program can be used to assist you when you are flying to or from PHL.
The Air Carriers Access Act (ACAA) applies on the Airplane.

The Air Carriers Access Act (ACAA) is a law that provides rules to the airlines about what takes place on airplanes as it relates to people with disabilities. The law provides penalties if the airlines fail to follow the rules.
A service animal is a dog that has been trained to do work or perform tasks to assist with a disability.
Some of the assurances you will provide to the airline are:

- Dog has been trained to behave.
- Dog remains under the control of its handler.
- Dog does not bite, bark, jump, lunge, or injure people or animals.
- It does not go to the bathroom indoors inappropriately.
- If dog shows that it has not been properly trained to behave, the airline may treat as a pet.
Airlines can ask two questions about service animals.

- Is the animal required to accompany the user because of a disability?
- What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?
Service animals can be denied if they do not behave or are not under the control of the handler.

If the dog is not under the control of their owner or is not housebroken. A single bark would not be grounds for denial, but a dog that will not respond to owner's commands to stop barking would be.

Any accommodation request can be denied if there is an undue burden, direct threat, or the if request would cause a fundamentally alteration.
Service animals must be securely leashed or in a carrier while in the aircraft or in airline-controlled spaces.
Airlines require forms for service animals.

One form is used whenever you are flying with a service animal no matter how long the flight will take. The form can be obtained from **U.S. Department of Transportation Service Animal Air Transportation Form**.
Airlines require forms for service animals.

Another form is only used on flights that are longer than eight (8) hours. The form can be obtained from [United States Department of Transportation Service Animal Relief Attestation Form](http://example.com/service-animal-form).

![Service Animal Relief Attestation Form](image)
The airlines are required to assist individuals in completing the forms if needed.
A pet is not a service animal.

A pet is not a service animal, you will follow various pet polices and the animal will not be covered by the Air Carriers Access Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act.
Airline pet policies are determined by the Airlines.

Airline pet policies dictate if pets can fly in the cabin. Please read the airline’s webpage to understand the pet policy. Contact the airline with questions.
Want more info?

You can learn more about accessibility at PHL by visiting https://www.phl.org/about/accessibility
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Thank you!