

Driver /Transporter Protocol

In this Protocol

This protocol contains a description of the transporting process and the requirements for the Driver and the crates used for transport.

The Transporting Process

The table below summarizes the process of transporting the dog and the responsibilities of each party.

Caution: All persons must use proper lifting techniques when moving the crate and/or the animal.

Stage	Who does it	Description	Note(s)
1	The Sending Organization (Shelter or ACO)	Places the dog in the crate and in the vehicle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sending Organization must determine whether it is safer to place the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – dog into the crate then move the crate into the vehicle, or – crate in the vehicle and then put the dog in the crate. • If necessary, the shelter may request the driver's help in lifting the crate or getting the crate situated in the vehicle.
2	The Driver	Transports the dog directly to the Receiving Organization.	The driver will not handle the dog and will not take the dog out of the crate during the drive.
3	The Receiving Organization (Shelter personnel/ACO)	Remove the dog from the vehicle and the crate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Receiving Organization must determine whether it is safer to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – remove the dog from the crate while in the car, or – move the entire crate into a secure area first. • The driver may help with moving the crate. • The driver will not assist with removing the dog from the crate.

Crate Requirements

Stressed animals travel more easily when in a den-type carrier where it is quieter, darker, and there is less visual stimulation. Therefore, whenever possible, use Vari-type kennels for transporting the dogs.

If using a Wire crate, be sure to cover it with a sheet or blanket to act as a barrier between the driver and the dog and provide a more comforting den for the dog.

Driver Requirements

The Driver must

- have a valid driver's license.
- be able to read a map book.
- have a cell phone.
- provide a copy of his/her license and contact information to the Volunteer Coordinator for the records.
- have completed training and signed a statement (provided by the Volunteer Coordinator) indicating that he/she has read and understood the transporting protocol.

Note: The Volunteer Coordinator provides training and answers any questions the driver may have.