

## Transport Best Practices Agreement

Adhering to animal transport best practices is integral in ensuring the health and safety of the animals being transported and the community they enter.

The ASPCA recognizes that shelters and rescues engaged in this work have varying levels of resources available and that those available resources will determine how robust one's transport program can be. However, there is a basic set of standards that must always be met in order to responsibly and effectively engage in relocation/transport programs.

As the recipient of grant funding from the ASPCA Animal Relocation Initiative, the organization agrees to make its best effort to meet or exceed best practices as recommended by the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators\* (full link below), including but not limited to the following:

1. Public health and safety is a primary concern. To that end, sick animals are not eligible for transport, all animals transported across state lines will have a Rabies vaccination (if age appropriate) and a health certificate signed by a veterinarian (in addition to other core vaccinations and testing for contagious and zoonotic diseases);
2. Transfer agencies must be a 501(c)(3) agency or a municipal agency;
3. Participants must be committed to abiding by all local, state, and federal laws and regulations; and
4. Humane standards of care must be afforded to every animal being transported.
5. The Destination shelter must:
  - a. Have a community demand for transported animals.
  - b. Not euthanize local animals of the same species and type as those being transported for time or space.
  - c. Have a strong infrastructure to receive large groups of animals.

Throughout the transport process, efforts should be made to create a plan for addressing the overpopulation issue in the community of origin. Ultimately, the Source shelter should benefit from the transport partnership addressing the root causes of pet overpopulation.

The Organization understands and acknowledges that the execution of this document does not in any way ensure that the organization will receive a grant, and the ASPCA may determine to approve or reject the grant application in its sole and absolute discretion. If the ASPCA determines to provide a grant to the organization, the organization will be required to enter into a grant agreement with the ASPCA (the "Grant Agreement"). I understand and agree that if a grant is received, the organization will be bound by both the Grant Agreement and this Transport Best Practices Agreement, and the Grant Agreement will be in addition to, and not in substitution of, this Transport Best Practices Agreement.

I represent that I am an authorized representative of \_\_\_\_\_  
(shelter name) and have the authority to bind that organization.

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On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (shelter name), I agree that all future animal transports will meet or exceed the best practices listed in this agreement and those outlined in the document linked to below.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\*The Society of Animal Welfare Administrators Best Practice for Companion Animal Transport Programs can be found at their website:

[http://www.sawanetwork.org/uploads/3/1/1/7/31179579/sawa\\_campanion\\_animal\\_transport\\_best\\_practice\\_june\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sawanetwork.org/uploads/3/1/1/7/31179579/sawa_campanion_animal_transport_best_practice_june_2016.pdf)