

**AMC Space-Available Travel Handbook
& Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)**



AMC Space-Available Handbook & FAQ's

AMC Space-Available Travel Handbook & Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

OPR: AMC/A4TP, Passenger Policy Branch

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* Space-Available regulations and guidance can be found in the following regulations: **AMCI 24-101, Volume 14, DoD 4515.13-R and Defense Transportation Regulation (DTR).**

Country clearance, travel restrictions and notices may be found in the, [Personal Property Consignment Instruction Guide \(PPCIG\)](#) or [Travel.State.gov](#).

For additional travel information, visit our AMC Travel Webpage (www.amc.af.mil/amctravel).

AMC Space-Available Travel Handbook & Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

1. Welcome to Air Mobility Command (AMC) and Space-Available (Space-A) travel. AMC is dedicated to helping you, our customer, make the most of your Space-A travel privilege. This handbook was developed to help guide you through the Space-A travel system.

Space-A travel program is a privilege (not an entitlement) for Uniformed Services members as an avenue of respite from the rigors of Uniformed Services duty. The military does not guarantee transportation to the final destination or return travel. The military is not responsible for providing lodging, ground transportation, meals, parking, or other incidental expenses incurred during Space-A travel if flights are delayed, diverted or canceled. Due to safety and health concerns please do not sleep on terminal floors or camp in the passenger terminals.

Space-A travel is authorized by the Congress allowing authorized travelers to occupy surplus seats on DoD aircraft after all Space-Required (Space-R) passengers have been accommodated. Space-A travel is allowed on a non-mission interference basis only. DoD aircraft shall not be scheduled to accommodate Space-A passengers. No (or negligible) additional funds shall be expended and no additional flying hours shall be scheduled to support this program. In order to maintain the equity and integrity of the Space-A system, seats may not be reserved or "blocked" for use at scheduled layovers along mission routes.

Our passenger terminals offer information on a variety of flights servicing a multitude of locations. If you are unsure on your travel destination choices, feel free to contact your local AMC Passenger Terminal for information. Terminal contact information can be found at the AMC Travel Webpage (www.amc.af.mil/amctravel). This handbook includes important rules for your information and much more detail is located on the AMC Travel Webpage.

Retired Uniformed Services members are given the privilege in recognition of a career of such rigorous duty and because they are eligible for recall to active duty (AD). The underlying criteria for extending the privilege to other categories of passengers is their support to the mission being performed by Uniformed Services members and to the enhancement of AD Service members' quality of life.

While we cannot guarantee movement in your desired specific time frame, we will do our best to make available every seat possible. In case you are delayed in getting to your final destination, ensure you have sufficient funds to complete your journey or return home. Remember, Space-A passenger's travel only after all duty cargo and passengers have been accommodated. Space-A passengers may also be bumped at enroute stops to meet other space required cargo and or passengers requirements.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact an AMC Passenger Service Agent (PSA) at the respective passenger terminal or use the Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) feedback process located on the AMC Travel Webpage. (www.amc.af.mil/amctravel). We wish you the best in your travels!

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2. Registration.

2.1. Prospective passengers may register for Space-A travel by several methods: In-person at any military passenger terminal or remotely by fax, email, or by mail. Travelers may select up to five destination countries. Valid travel documents must be presented when selected for travel. Sponsors traveling with family members must present all required documents: Identification (ID) cards (Common Access Cards [CAC] or DD Form 2, *Armed Forces ID Card*), passports, immunization records, and visas as required by the DoD [FCG](#). The following summarizes documentation requirements. Please have them ready for review when selected for travel:

2.1.1. AD Uniformed Services Member: Includes National Guard (NG), Reserve members on active duty in excess of 30 days and cadets and midshipmen of the U.S. Service academies: CAC (Active), Form 2 NOAA (Green) Uniformed Services ID and Privilege Card (Active), or PHS Form 1866-3 (Green) United States Public Health Service ID Card (Active); and a valid leave authorization or evidence of pass status as required by the service concerned.

2.1.2. Retired Uniformed Service Members: DD Form 2 (Blue), US Armed Forces ID Card (Retired), DD Form 2 NOAA (Blue), Uniformed Services ID Card (Retired), or PHS Form 1866-3 (Blue), US Public Health Service ID Card (Retired).

2.1.3. National Guard and Reserve Members: DD Form 2 (Red), Armed Forces ID Card (Reserve) and DD Form 1853, Verification of Reserve status for travel eligibility.

2.1.4. Retired Reservists Entitled to Retired Pay at Age 60: DD Form 2 (Red) and a notice of retirement eligibility as described in DoD Directive 1200.15. If the automated DD Form 2 (Red) has been issued, the member is registered in his or her service personnel system as a Reserve retiree entitled pay at age 60 and a notice of retirement is not required.

2.1.5. On Active Duty for 30 Days or Less: DD Form 2 (Red) and orders placing the Reservist on active duty and a valid leave authorization or evidence of pass status.

2.1.6. ROTC, Nuclear Power Officer Candidate (NUPOC), and Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) Members: When enrolled in an advanced ROTC, NUPOC, or CEC course or enrolled under the financial assistance program: DD Form 2 (Red) and DD Form 1853.

2.1.7. Family Members of Uniformed Services Members: DD Form 1173, *US Uniformed Services ID and Privilege Card*. Command/Non-Command/ Deployment Letters.

2.1.8. Environmental and Morale Leave (EML) Travelers: Travel orders issued by the Unified Command. year Participants of the EML program may take no more than two trips per and may not be taken within 6 months of the beginning or end of the tour.

2.1.9. AMC Form 140, Space-Available Travel Request.

2.1.10. Passports and visas (as applicable).

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3. Travel Categories/Selection Priorities.

3.1. A complete listing of eligible passengers by category is contained in DoD 4515.13-R (www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/451513r.pdf). The following is a partial listing of eligible individuals:

3.2. Category I:

3.2.1. Emergency travel upgrade by OIC/Supt of Passenger Service to bottom of Cat I to reach their specified destination (Cat I upgrade is not applicable for return transportation) in connection with serious illness, death, or impending death of a member of the immediate family of authorized travelers.

3.3. Category II:

3.3.1. Sponsors on EML and accompanied family members. Military personnel must also be on ordinary leave. DoD Dependent School teachers and their family members in EML status during school year holiday, vacation periods or employer-approved training during recess periods.

3.4. Category III:

3.4.1. Members of the uniformed services in an ordinary, or reenlistment leave status and uniformed Services patients on convalescent leave. Members on convalescent leave may not travel overseas unless their leave form is so annotated and military personnel traveling on permissive temporary duty (PTDY) orders for house hunting.

3.5. Category IV:

3.5.1. Unaccompanied family members (18 years or older) traveling on EML orders. Family members under 18 must be accompanied by an adult family member who is traveling EML. DODDS teachers or family members (accompanied or unaccompanied) in an EML status during summer break. Dependents of military members deployed more than 120 consecutive days.

3.6. Category V:

3.6.1. Students whose sponsor is stationed in Alaska or Hawaii. Students enrolled in a trade school in CONUS when the sponsor is stationed overseas. Military personnel traveling on PTDY orders for other than house hunting.

3.7. Category VI:

3.7.1. NG/Reserve components/members of the Ready Reserve/Standby Reserve who are on the Active Status. Retired military members who are issued DD Form 2 and eligible to receive retired or retainer pay. Family members with a valid ID card of retired members when accompanied by a sponsor.

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NOTES:

1. Only AD service members and their dependents, certain government agency personnel and retired service members and their dependents are authorized to use the Space-A program. However, some restrictions may exist; contact your local terminal for guidance. Spouses of deceased service members, spouses of retired members not travelling with the sponsor and medically disabled veterans (non-retired), have not been afforded Space-A entitlement by OSD.
2. Space-A eligible travelers may not use their privilege for personal gain or in connection with business enterprises or employment. Space-A travel may not be used to establish a home or when international or theater restrictions prohibit such travel.
3. Due to recent policy change, Space-A seats are now identified as early as 5 hours and as late as 2 hours prior to departure. Recommend you check with the terminal personnel for the Space-A show time for your flight prior to departing for the terminal. Be ready for immediate processing and boarding.
4. As a Space-A traveler, even though you may be manifested to your destination of choice, at any time during the travel, you can be removed from the flight (bumped) for a Space-R passenger (those on travel orders) or cargo.
5. Pass. AD military may travel on a pass but may only remain on the Space-A register for the duration of the pass. Dependents may accompany their sponsors
6. A complete eligibility listing can be found on the AMC Travel Webpage (www.amc.af.mil/amctravel).

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4. Baggage.

4.1. AMC adheres to most Transportation Security Agency (TSA) (www.tsa.gov/) regulations and requirements for air travel. Each passenger may check two pieces of checked baggage not to exceed 70 pounds each (140 pounds total) and 62 linear inches in size. Family members may pool their baggage allowances. Hand-carried baggage must fit under the seat or in the overhead compartment, if available. Baggage weight may be limited due to type of aircraft or other restrictions.

4.2. Hand Carried. Each passenger is permitted to hand-carry one article (small luggage, garment bags, backpack, etc.) and one personal item (cosmetic case, purse, briefcase, small box, package, etc.) for storage in the passenger cabin area. The weight of these items will not be considered as part of the passenger's baggage authorization on military aircraft. Hand carried items will be no larger than 45 linear inches and must fit under the passenger's seat or in the overhead compartment. Items that are too large will not be accepted for passenger cabin storage and must be checked-in.

4.3. AMC adheres to TSA guidelines (listed below) for hand carried baggage.

4.3.1. 3-1-1 for carry-ons: 3 ounce bottle or less (by volume); 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag; 1 bag per passenger placed in screening bin. One-quart bag per person limits the total liquid volume each traveler can bring. The 3 oz. container size is a security measure.

4.3.2. Consolidate bottles into one bag and x-ray separately to speed screening.

4.3.3. Declare larger liquids. Medications, baby formula and food, breast milk, and juice are allowed in reasonable quantities exceeding three ounces and are not required to be in the zip-top bag. Declare these items for inspection at the checkpoint.

NOTE: Baggage weight may be limited due to type of aircraft or other restrictions. Check with your PSC for more information.

4.4. Excess Baggage. Excess baggage is not authorized for Space-A passengers. Disposition of unauthorized excess baggage is the responsibility of the passenger.

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5. Selection Process.

5.1. Travelers remain on the register for 60 days or the duration of their leave orders or authorization, whichever occurs first.

5.2. When registering, you are assigned a category of travel (see paragraph 3 for eligibility) and compete for seats within that category based on the date and time of sign-up. This sign-up date/time is yours through to destination and you will receive a new date and time of sign-up when you register for your next destination leg.

5.3. Space-R passengers or cargo have priority on AMC missions and may require the removal of Space-A passengers at any point. If removed en route, you may re-register with your original date and time of sign-up. If you change or add destinations, AMC passenger agents will assign a new date and time of sign-up. Once you depart, your name will be removed. Always be prepared to purchase onward or return commercial transportation, meals and lodging, if flying Space-A becomes a nonviable travel option.

5.4. Space-A roll call: Roll call is a phrase used to signify the beginning of the process in which eligible passengers in each category are selected by date and time of sign-up. This shall enable passengers to plan their activities and ensure equitable opportunities for all. There will be a roll call for each flight. All Space-A passengers shall be assigned a seat (in-lap passengers are not authorized).

5.4.1. At the beginning of the roll call: All Space-A passengers competing for a seat must be marked present. When roll call begins, it will be done based on the category.

5.4.2. Travel Ready. All passengers are required to be travel ready at start of roll call. To be considered travel ready, passengers must have all required documentation, checked baggage, accompanying family members/group member must be present and rental car turned in.

5.5. Seat Refusal. All passengers shall be briefed, before selection for movement, when the aircraft shall be un-pressurized, is transporting hazardous cargo requiring a passenger deviation, engine running on/off loading, or human remains are aboard. Passengers who refuse a seat shall not lose their place on the Space-A register.

NOTES:

1. Space-A Passenger Removal. When necessary to remove Space-A passengers to accommodate Space-R passenger/cargo, the order of selection for removal shall begin with the lowest category passenger with the latest date/time of sign-up as reflected on the manifest. If removed passengers elect to continue travel to their specified destination, they shall be entered into the Space-A backlog using their original date/time of sign-up.

2. If passenger elects to change their destination, they shall be entered into Space-A backlog with a new date and time of sign-up and be placed at the bottom of the Space-A register within their category.

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6. Tips for Traveling Space-Available.

6.1. Plan your trip, be flexible and be patient. Generally, military installations offer more travel opportunities than commercial gateways (i.e., travel chances are better to Europe from Dover AFB DE than Baltimore IAP MD).

6.2. If possible, travel at off-peak Space-A travel periods (i.e., peak periods are the summer months after school is dismissed and Christmas holiday season). Historically, Feb-Mar and Oct-Nov are low travel periods.

6.3. Be as flexible as possible in choosing a destination. If your destination is Ramstein AB, Germany, consider a flight into Spangdahlem AB, Germany, or even RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom, as an alternative. Once at RAF Mildenhall, try for another flight bound for Germany.

6.4. Carry extra cash with you when you travel. There is a head tax on all contracted commercial aircraft and federal inspection fee on all CONUS arrivals. In addition, if your mission diverts to another location at any time, you will possibly need cash for essentials.

6.5. When traveling Space-A with young children, prepare for possible delays along the way where baby supplies may not be readily available. A good supply of games and books is also recommended. Be aware that a baby's ears, like adults, are sensitive to altitude pressure changes.

6.6. Space-A is just that, space that is available after all mission requirements are fulfilled. Military aircraft are subject at all times, first and foremost, to DoD mission response.

6.7. Be familiar with the restrictions of your destination. Retirees do not have the same options that AD personnel do when arriving or transiting through a country. For example, did you know retirees travelling in Germany for less than 30 days are not allowed to shop in at the Base Exchange? Some sites to check for restrictions are: Department of State Travel Advisory (<http://travel.state.gov>), Foreign Clearance Guide (www.fcg.pentagon.mil) and the website for the specific destination in mind.

6.8. You can fly on non-AMC missions as a Space-A passenger. However, we do not manage these missions. For information on these missions, you will need to contact the respective military installation you would like to travel out of. Basic contact information for these locations can be found on the respective service military webpages.

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7. Travel Attire.

7.1. Uniform Policy. Uniform wear is controlled by dress and appearance regulations of each service. However, wearing of the uniform may be prohibited in accordance with the DoD Foreign Clearance Guide or restricted travel advisory message.

7.2. Appropriate civilian attire (not torn, dirty, tattered, revealing or suggestive clothing, etc.) should be worn and good personal hygiene is a must.

7.2.1. Passenger footwear must not be of the type that could hinder emergency egress or increase chances of injury. The wear of open-toe or open heel shoes (five-toe-shoes, sandals, flip-flops, etc.) is prohibited on military aircraft. Shoes with heels should have a wide base and be designed low to the ground. Narrow-based, high-heeled shoes are not to be worn. Since passengers traveling on military aircraft may have to climb up and down vertical ladders to board most aircraft, they should dress accordingly. This restriction does not apply to Patriot Express/commercial aircraft.

7.2.1.1. The wear of shoes with integrated wheels (Heelys) is allowed within the terminal and on military or commercial contract flights, however the wheels must remain retracted.

7.2.2. Body Piercing and Tattoos. Major, obvious or blatant violations of the DoD policy on body piercing and tattoos are unauthorized and shall be corrected before customer service is provided for military passengers (AD and reserve/guard) departing on all AMC flights.

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8. Space-Available Travel Questions.

8.1. People not familiar with the Space-A system often do not ask the right questions to make their travel easier. The following is a list of some really good Space-A questions and their answers, it is advised to be reviewed by anyone considering Space-A travel. Please contact your nearest AMC Passenger Terminal with any additional questions.

Question 1: What is Space-A?

Answer: Space-A or Space-Available air travel on DoD owned or controlled aircraft. When mission and cargo loads allow, there are often seats made available to eligible passengers. With a little patience and flexibility, you can travel all over the world at little to no cost.

Question 2: What documents do I need to sign-up and travel Space-A?

Answer: To travel Space-A and depending on your status, you must have in your possession the following items, a valid DoD issued ID card, travel authorizations (orders), for example, leave form, unaccompanied dependent memorandum, EML orders, DD Form 1853, or emergency orders. For international travel a valid passport must be presented prior to selection.

Question 3: What restrictions are there on Space-A travel?

Answer: You cannot use Space-A travel privileges for: Personal gain or in connection with business enterprises or employment; to establish a home; to transport dependents to a duty station where you are or will be serving an unaccompanied tour; to transport dependents to a TDY duty station or when international or theater restrictions prohibit such travel.

Question 4: When can I mark myself present for a flight?

Answer: You may mark yourself present for a flight 24 hours prior to scheduled departure.

Question 5: After I sign-up, what is my next step?

Answer: On the day you would like to travel, you must see a PSA to be marked present. Once marked present you will be able to compete for Space-A travel in the next 24 hours. Once selected, you must be travel ready, this means all family members are present, travel documents verified, baggage is ready for check-in and rental vehicles turned in. Refer to section 5.

Question 6: What is remote sign-up?

Answer: Remote sign-up allows passengers to sign-up for Space-A travel by emailing or faxing copies of proper service documentation along with desired country destinations and family member's first names to the aerial port of departure. Email or fax data header will establish date/time of sign-up; therefore, AD personnel must ensure email or fax is sent no earlier than the effective date/time of leave. Sign-up via postal mail will also be permitted date and time for sign-up will be assigned when received at the PSC.

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Question 7: My sponsor is stationed in Korea; can I fly Space-Available to visit?

Answer: Travel is authorized to the sponsor's unaccompanied permanent PCS location. Travel under this program is not authorized when sponsor is on TDY/TAD orders. Travel is authorized Overseas-CONUS, CONUS-Overseas, and Overseas-Overseas. However, CONUS-CONUS travel is not authorized unless they are manifested on an aircraft that has a scheduled layover at a CONUS location. Sponsor must obtain proper documentation from their unit commander verifying authorized travel.

Question 8: I just traveled from Overseas to CONUS under the Command Sponsored Dependent Program. Why can't I travel from state to state (CONUS to CONUS)?

Answer: Once a dependent lands in CONUS, onward travel is complete unless they are manifested on an aircraft that has a scheduled layover at a CONUS location, i.e. Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Travis AFB-Dover AFB where Dover is the final destination on the same mission.

Question 9: What documentation do I need for dependents under 10 years old without an ID card?

Answer: Dependents less than 10 years old without an ID card should show proof of age, i.e. birth certificate, passport or other government provided document.

Question 10: I have non-command sponsored dependents. Can they travel unaccompanied?

Answer: Yes, for those 18 years or older, under the Non-Command Sponsored Program, travel is only authorized to the sponsor's unaccompanied permanent PCS location. Travel under this program is not authorized when sponsor is on TDY/TAD orders. Travel is authorized CONUS-Overseas, Overseas-CONUS and Overseas-Overseas. Once the dependent lands in the CONUS, they are no longer authorized to travel Space-A to another destination. CONUS-CONUS travel is not authorized unless they are manifested on an aircraft that has a scheduled layover to a CONUS location. Refer to AMC Travel Website for additional info.

Question 11: Can I have family members travel with another military member if given power of attorney, other releases, or authority?

Answer: No, family members may only travel when accompanied by their sponsor except as noted in Question 10.

Question 12: My sponsor was retired and is now deceased. Can I still fly Space-Available?

Answer: No, Space-A travel is a privilege granted to service members and does not carry over to dependents after death with one exception; dependents of retired Uniformed Services members who die overseas, travel is authorized for the purpose of accompanying remains of the deceased retired member from overseas to CONUS. Return travel is authorized if accomplished within one year of arrival in CONUS. Documentation certified by DoD mortuary affairs personnel shall be presented to air terminal personnel and shall be in the dependents' possession during travel.

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Question 13: Where do I find terminal phone numbers?

Answer: Terminal phone numbers can be found in guidebooks, information sheets provided by passenger terminals and the internet. Many passenger terminals list their phone numbers on their web and social media pages (i.e. Facebook).

Question 14: What is Environmental and Morale Leave (EML).

Answer: EML is authorized at overseas installations where adverse environmental conditions require special arrangements for leave in more desirable places.

Question 15: Can my command-sponsored dependents travel unaccompanied without me?

Answer: Yes, if they are 18 years of age or older. However, non-spouse dependents (siblings, close blood relatives, etc.) 18 years and older cannot act as escorts for minor siblings. Intent of this program is to afford command sponsored dependents relief from their overseas duty location. Travel is authorized Overseas-CONUS, CONUS-Overseas, and Overseas-Overseas. Once your dependent lands in CONUS, they are no longer authorized to travel Space-A to another destination unless manifested on an aircraft that has a scheduled layover at a CONUS location. Please refer to AMC Travel Website (www.amc.af.mil/amctravel) for additional information.

Question 16: What is self sign-up?

Answer: Self sign-up allows passengers to sign-up at a terminal without waiting in line. Most locations provide self sign-up counters with easy to follow instructions for registration. AD personnel must ensure sign-up takes place no earlier than the effective date/time of leave. If your travel will take you to a foreign country, ensure border clearance documentation is up to date. If you are unsure of specific requirements a PSA on duty would be happy to assist.

Question 17: How can I find where my name is on the Space-Available register?

Answer: Each terminal maintains a Space-A register organized by priority category along with date and time of registration for travel. The register is conveniently located in each terminal directly accessible and updated daily. Travelers may call any terminal to find out where they stand on the register.

Question 18: As a Reservist, where can I fly?

Answer: Reserve members with DD Form 2 (Red) ID or DoD CAC 57 and DD Form 1853 may fly to, from and between Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and in CONUS. Dependents are not authorized to travel. Additionally, when on AD for more than 30 consecutive days, members may fly anywhere overseas that AMC has flights operating, when member is on leave.

Question 19: Can dependents travel with retired Reservists?

Answer: Once the reserve member reaches the age of 60 and is entitled to retired pay, then dependents will be authorized to travel with the sponsor.

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Question 20: What is Date and Time of Sign-up?

Answer: Date and Time of sign-up is used to determine the next selected passenger in their category during the Roll Call process. Original date and time of sign-up shall be documented and stay with the passenger until his or her destination is reached. On reaching destination, the passenger may sign-up for Space-A travel to return to home station. Refer to section 5.2.

Question 21: Can I travel unaccompanied Space-Available if my military sponsor is deployed?

Answer: Unaccompanied dependents of deployed uniformed service members, when deployment orders indicate deployment is between 120 and 365 consecutive days, are authorized to travel Space-A unaccompanied in Category IV. If deployment period exceeds 365 consecutive days, unaccompanied dependents are authorized Category III travel.

Question 22: I am a retiree that requires a wheelchair to get around. Can I fly Space-Available?

Answer: Yes, however, there are certain restrictions you need to be aware of. Wheel chairs and mobility assistance equipment are eligible for air transport; however, if you require motorized assistance, the current weight allowance for mobility assistance equipment is 100lbs maximum.

Question 23: I am disabled. Can my brother, sister or friend accompany me to assist me?

Answer: The only individuals permitted to accompany you are your spouse, dependents or other persons eligible for Space-A travel. Every effort shall be made to transport passengers with disabilities who are otherwise eligible to travel. Passenger service personnel and crew members shall provide assistance in boarding, seating and deplaning passengers with special needs. **NOTE:** Aircraft configuration, steep ladders, constrained areas, cargo already loaded, weight restrictions and offload equipment at arrival locations are limiting factors for persons with disabilities.

Question 24: Do I have to be in uniform to travel?

Answer: Each service determines its own travel uniform policies. When civilian clothing is worn on DoD-owned or controlled aircraft it should be in good taste and not in conflict with accepted attire in the overseas country of departure, transit or destination, as defined by the DoD Foreign Clearance Guide. Clothing should also be capable of keeping you warm especially on military aircraft. Passengers are reminded high heeled, open toed and five-toe-shoes may not be worn on military aircraft. Refer to section 7.

Question 25: Do you have any recommendations on baggage?

Answer: Yes, travel light, take only essential items. Do not place valuables, medicine, or important documents in your checked baggage. Be sure your name and current address are inside and on each bag. AMC terminals have baggage ID tags available for your use. It is also advisable to place a copy of your leave/EML paperwork inside each checked baggage. Refer to section 4 for further guidance.

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Question 26: Can I take excess baggage when flying Space-Available?

Answer: No, only duty passengers may check-in excess baggage. Refer to section 4.4.

Question 27: How much baggage can I take?

Answer: As a Space-A traveler, you may check two pieces of luggage at 70 pounds each per person. Family members traveling together may pool their baggage allowance as long as number of bags does not exceed the total allowance. Each passenger is permitted to hand-carry one article (small luggage, garment bags, backpack, etc.) and one personal item (cosmetic case, purse, briefcase, small boxes, packages, etc.) for storage in the passenger cabin area. **NOTE:** Smaller type aircraft have restrictions (C-12, C-21 & UC-35 aircraft have 30lbs baggage limitation. Navy C-40 & C-9's are restricted to two bags at 50lbs total). Also, refer to section 4.

Question 28: Can my pet travel with me on a Space-A flight?

Answer: No, DoD has reserved pet shipments for passengers in Permanent Change of Station (PCS) ONLY. **NOTE:** Service animals may fly with a member with proper documentation.

Question 29: Is Space-A travel expensive?

Answer: In general, no, you might spend some money on phone calls, a room for the night along the way or bus fare to get from one base to another. You will be assessed a Federal Inspection Service fee if you travel on a commercial mission arriving CONUS from overseas. Head tax is another fee that applies to Space-A passengers who arrive/depart Customs Territories of the United States to/from overseas locations on these missions. It will depend on how frugal you are (e.g. take a bus vs. rent a car) and how flexible you are (e.g. get a room on base vs. pay for an off base hotel room). Meals may be purchased at a nominal fee at most air terminals while traveling on military aircraft. Meal service on AMC commercial (i.e. Patriot Express) is complimentary. Refer to section 6.

Question 30: What services are available at AMC terminals?

Answer: Facilities may include Base Exchange, eatery, United Services Organization (USO) and/or family lounge. The type of facility available varies according to terminal size and location. **NOTE:** Most AMC passenger terminals close overnight. Space-A travelers should be prepared for billeting expenses.

Question 31: What is best time of the year to travel Space-Available?

Answer: Any time other than peak travel and holiday (December-January and June-August) periods. Refer to section 6.2.

Question 32: What are current trends in availability of Space-A travel? Will there be more or less Space-A travel opportunities in the coming year?

Answer: Although AMC has led efforts to improve Space-A travel in the past few years, movement still remains a result of unused seats. Present DoD personnel and budget trends are affecting Space-A movement opportunity. AMC is dedicated to putting a passenger in every available seat.

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Question 33: Is it easier to go to some destinations more than others?

Answer: Yes, places where we fly often such as Japan and Germany are much easier than low frequency areas. Larger aerial ports have regular flights to regions of the world (i.e. Dover/Baltimore to Europe or Travis to Pacific) as opposed to smaller terminals with random flights.

Question 34: Can people travel Space-A to Alaska or South America?

Answer: Yes, travelers may obtain Space-A travel to Alaska, South America and other interesting locations; i.e. Australia, New Zealand, etc. Travel to Alaska is relatively easy when departing from Travis AFB, California and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. Travel to South America and other remote areas can be much more difficult. Infrequent flights to remote areas are primarily cargo missions and have few seats available for passenger movement, expect long waiting periods for movement.

Question 35: I am retired and traveling on a passport and my flight originated overseas. Where in the Continental United States (CONUS) can I fly into?

Answer: When traveling on a passport, all family members, retired uniform service, reserve and others may return to CONUS through authorized ports of entry where customs and immigration clearance is available. While you may depart the CONUS literally from any military airfield, reentry locations for passport holders are limited. AD passengers who do not require immigration clearance have more reentry options available.

Question 36: Can I fly on Space-Available on other than AMC flights?

Answer: Yes, your travel eligibility is for all DoD-owned or controlled aircraft. AMC, however, does not always have knowledge of other command/services' scheduled flight information.

Question 37: Can I call bases for flight information?

Answer: Due to security reasons we can only release limited flight information up to 72 hours. However, we encourage you to call the passenger terminal you plan on traveling through 30-60 days before travel. Passenger terminals will be happy to discuss Space-A opportunities from their location.

Question 38: Is Space-Available travel a reasonable substitute for commercial airline travel?

Answer: The answer depends on you. Space-A travel may be a good travel choice if you have a flexible schedule and your finances allow for a hotel stay (sometimes in a "high-cost" area) while awaiting movement. While some travelers may sign up and travel the same day, many factors could come together and make buying a commercial ticket your best or only option. Traveling Space-A depends on flexibility and good timing.

Question 39: May I use my Government Travel Card (GTC) or personal credit card to pay for meals and any other fees associated with AMC travel?

Answer: Yes, the GTC and personal credit cards are accepted at most AMC terminals. Contact your local and or departing terminal to ensure service is available.

NOTE: Government Travel Card is for official use only.

AMC Space-Available Travel Handbook & Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Question 40: Where and when can my family members travel with me the Military Sponsor?

Answer: Few examples listed below are not all inclusive. Family members may travel to/from and between overseas locations and within the US. Dependents of AD members may travel within the US when accompanying their sponsor on emergency leave. One dependent may accompany the sponsor on permissive house-hunting trips incident to a permanent change of station. Command sponsored dependents stationed overseas are allowed unaccompanied travel to, from and within their overseas theater (in addition to environmental morale leave previously authorized). Travel restrictions may apply to certain overseas areas as determined by the combatant commander. Unaccompanied dependents must have documentation signed by their sponsor's commander verifying command sponsorship during their travel and show to passenger terminal personnel. Command sponsorship letter is valid for one round-trip from the sponsor's duty location. Family members under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an eligible parent or legal guardian.

Question 41: Who determines travel eligibility to fly Space-A?

Answer: DoD 4515.13R governs travel eligibility. Passenger terminal personnel interpret travel documents and ensure travel eligibility.

Question 42: As a Retiree, where can I fly?

Answer: Retired members with DD Form 2 (Blue) ID card may fly any Space-A flights. Refer to section 6.7.

Question 43: I am a Disabled Veteran but I did not retire, can I fly Space-Available?

Answer: Sorry, but even though you are entitled to other benefits, Space-A travel privilege has not been authorized by congress at this time.

Question 44: How long does my name stay on the Space-A register?

Answer: Travelers remain on the register for 60 days after registration, for the duration of their travel authorization, until they are selected for travel or lastly, for the duration of their leave orders, whichever occurs first. Refer to section 5.1.

Question 45: What is country sign-up, and how does it affect me?

Answer: When signing up to travel Space-A, you may sign up for five different countries, for example, Germany, Japan, CONUS (USA), Turkey and Korea. This allows you to compete for any mission flying into that specific country rather than a specific destination.

Question 46: What documents are required for Mil to Mil/stepparent dependent travel?

Answer: Regardless of which parent is designated as the sponsor in DEERS, the designated military sponsor may authorize the non-sponsor parent in writing with an original signature notarized letter that is valid for 180 days from the date it was signed and notarized. Non-sponsor parent must carry authorization letter during travel.