August 2020

Guidelines for Private Cars on Amtrak

These guidelines apply to Private Cars, defined as non-Amtrak cars moved on regularly scheduled Amtrak trains, parked at Amtrak-controlled facilities, or repaired by Amtrak employees for commercial customers. These guidelines do not apply to any such move, parking, or repair activity that Amtrak may perform for its own or for governmental purposes.

For Charter Train Information, please see Guidelines for Charter Trains Operated by Amtrak.

Amtrak's primary objective is to operate its core scheduled train service safely, punctually, and efficiently. As a result, the following guidelines applies to Private Cars effective January 1, 2020:

- In every instance of Private Car movement/service requests, the needs of regularly scheduled Amtrak passenger trains and customers will take first priority. Private Car services are dependent on the availability of facilities, equipment, and resources. All such activities require prior Amtrak written approval.
- Private Cars must not delay Amtrak trains. This guideline contains a list of Amtrak-served locations which are eligible for adding or removing Private Cars from designated Amtrak trains, subject to operating conditions at the time of the requested movement.
- Maintenance performed by Amtrak on Private Cars is limited to FRA-required repairs of safety appliances, with such maintenance performed only as necessary on a Private Car in the consist of an Amtrak Train during a Private Car Move. If a Private Car requires an FRA-required repair to a safety appliance that can be repaired at the destination terminal on a Private Car Move, the Private Car Owner or Designee or the Person-in-Charge is to contact the CNOC Charter & Special Movements Desk for authorization at 1-800-424-0217 and choose option "9" from the main menu, then "1" for Private Car Manager. For mechanical emergencies, press "7" to be transferred to an open line (available 24/7). Amtrak will provide wheel truing and wheelset replacement services utilizing current AAR rates, subject to the availability of Amtrak facilities, equipment, and resources. This work shall not impede the servicing or maintenance of Amtrak equipment.
- Private Car activities on Amtrak are subject to the then-current version of the "Conditions for Movement Privately Owned Railroad Cars on Amtrak Effective January 1, 2019" as amended from time to time and must be approved by Amtrak in advance.
- Private Car activities and personnel are subject to all applicable safety, security, operational and other rules and requirements of Amtrak and its host railroads. Private Car owners and staff are strictly responsible for compliance with all such applicable rules and requirements.

If you have questions about Private Car guidelines, please contact specialmoves@amtrak.com.

Locations and Trains Eligible for Private Car Moves
(Moves require case-by-case prior Amtrak written approval)

Switching Location	Station Code	Extra Crew Needed	Eligible Trains
Albany, NY	ALB	No	Cars are added when locomotive is added
Albuquerque, NM	ABQ	Host Railroad Crew	3, 4
Boston, MA	BOS	No	Non-Acela originating/terminating trains 448, 449- head-end only
Carbondale, IL	CDL	No	Originating/terminating trains; no same day connections
Charlotte, NC	CLT	No	Originating/terminating trains
Chicago, IL	CHI	No	Originating/terminating trains
Denver, CO	DEN	No	5, 6 (train length limits apply)
Emeryville, CA	EMY	No	Originating/terminating trains
Fort Worth, TX	FTW	No	21, 22, 821, 822
Grand Rapids, MI	GRR	No	370, 371
Houston, TX	HOS	Host Railroad Crew	1, 2
Indianapolis, IN	IND	No	51-Monday departure, 50- Saturday departure
Kansas City, MO	KCY	Host Railroad Crew	3, 4, 311, 313, 314, 316; no same day connections
Los Angeles, CA	LAX	No	564,1564,584,1584,579,593, plus originating/terminating long distance trains
Miami, FL	MIA	No	Originating/terminating trains
Milwaukee, WI	MKE	Host Railroad Crew	Originating/terminating trains
Montreal, PQ	MTR	No	Originating/terminating trains
New Haven, CT	NHV	Depending on Train	Cars are added when locomotive is added
New Orleans, LA	NOL	No	Originating/terminating trains
New York, NY	NYP	No	Non-Acela originating/terminating trains
Newport News, VA	NPN	No	Originating/terminating trains
Niagara Falls, NY	NFL	No	Originating/terminating trains
Oakland, CA	OKJ	Yes, Amtrak Crew required- additional cost	11,14 (Removal Only) train length capacity of 16 units maximum. Private Cars may leave the Oakland area only on train 6 from Emeryville.
Philadelphia, PA	PHL	No	42, 43 with cars added with the locomotive on headend
Pittsburgh, PA	PGH	No	Originating/terminating trains; rearmost arrival/departure
Pontiac, MI	PNT	No	Originating/terminating trains
Portland, OR	PDX	No	27,28 car(s) stays with consist
Quincy, IL	QCY	No	Originating/terminating trains
Richmond, VA	RVR	No	Originating/terminating trains
Roanoke, VA	RNK	No	Originating/terminating trains
Rutland, VT	RUD	No	Originating/terminating trains
San Antonio, TX	SAS	Host Railroad Crew	1, 2, 21, 22
San Diego, CA	SAN	No	564,1564,584,1584,579,593
Savannah, GA	SAV	No	Originating/terminating trains
Seattle, WA	SEA	No	Originating/terminating trains; Trains 7,8 headend only
Springfield, MA	SPG	No	Originating/terminating trains
St. Albans, VT	SAB	No	Originating/terminating trains
St. Louis, MO	STL	No	Originating/terminating trains; no same day connections
St. Paul, MN (Midway)	MSP	Host Railroad Crew	7, 8 (pickup if train is on time)
Toronto, ON	TWO	No	Originating/terminating trains
Tucson, AZ	TUS	Host Railroad Crew	1, 2
Washington, DC	WAS	Depending on Train	Originating/terminating plus cars added to through trains when locomotive added, weekend operation only

- Train length limit applies train 5 and 6
- Rearmost positioning may not be available on some long distance trains due to Amtrak seasonal consist