

The journey of a vaccine on American Airlines

Shipping vaccines takes expertise and coordination. The steps in a vaccine's journey are identical to passenger travel: check in, board, fly and arrive.

1 Check In



Vaccines bound for an American Airlines flight depart manufacturing sites and arrive at one of the airline's **78 cargo terminals** around the world via one of the airline's logistics partners.



American's certified cold chain **experts closely monitor** each vaccine's packaging.

2 Board



Vaccines are briefly kept in American's network of climate-controlled areas capable of maintaining temperatures of **+25°C to -20°C**.



Throughout the boarding process, team members at the Integrated Operations Center in Fort Worth, Texas, **keep close watch on vaccine shipments around the world 24/7** to ensure they stay safe each step of the way.



Once aboard, vaccine shipments will have the space and temperature-controlled equipment, including dry ice needed for **safe transportation**.

3 Fly



Pilots are given special cargo briefings before each flight that has vaccines on board, including American's cargo-only flights. The airline has operated **nearly 5,000 cargo-only flights since the beginning of the pandemic**, helping to move millions of pounds of critical cargo.



American can deliver cold chain shipments around the globe to **more than 150 cities in 46 countries**.

4 Arrive



After pulling up to the gate, vaccines are safely transported to a cargo terminal, like American's **25,000-square-foot pharmaceutical facility** at Philadelphia International Airport, the largest operated by an airline in the United States.



Doses of vaccine are picked up immediately or temporarily kept in a temperature-controlled space.