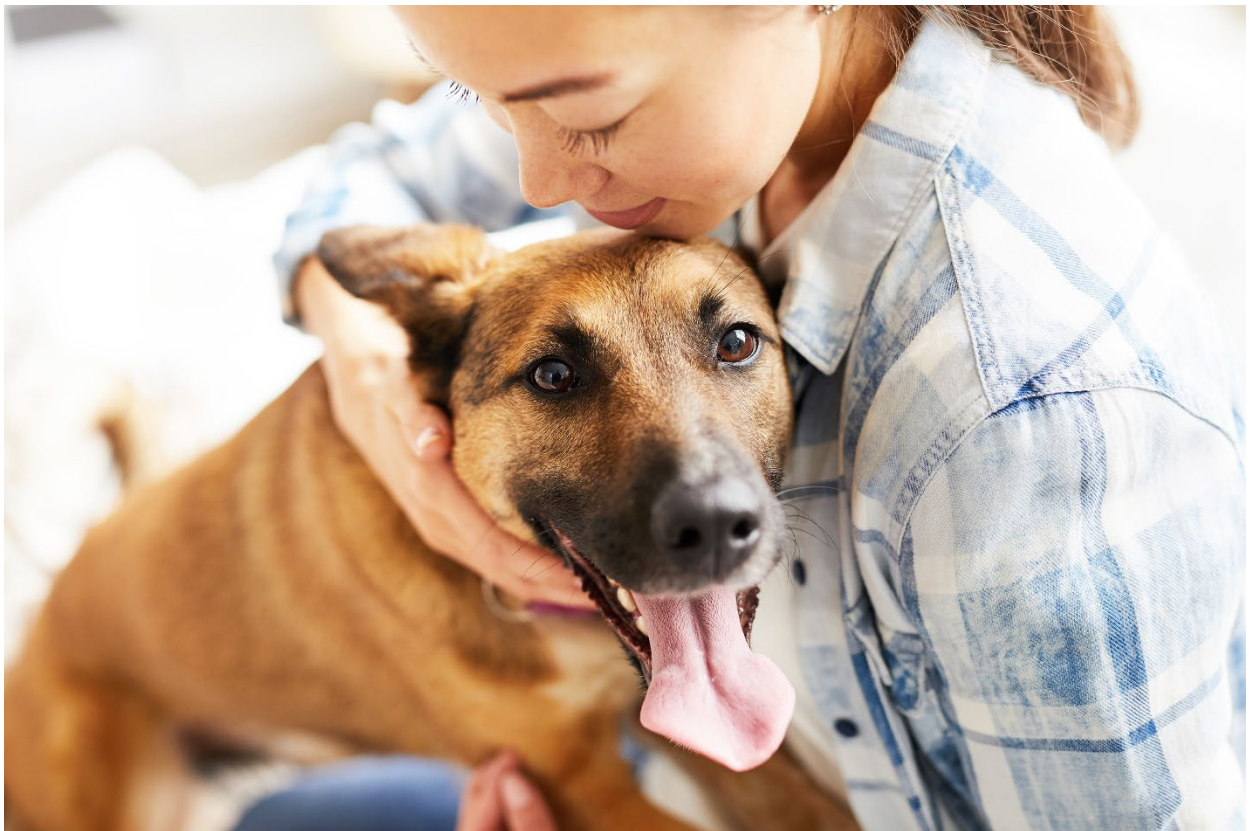


# ESSENTIAL PRESERVATION PET SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

---

*A GUIDE FOR ALCOR MEMBERS*



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Enrollment</b>	3
<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Supplies</b>	4
<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Packing for Shipment</b>	5
<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Shipping</b>	6
<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Aftercare</b>	7

This guide walks you through every step of cryopreserving your pet with Alcor, from enrollment through shipping. Please read it in full before the need arises.

## Contact Information

**Membership & Arrangements:** (480) 905-1906 ext. 132 | [info@alcor.org](mailto:info@alcor.org)

**Emergency Line (US):** (800) 367-2228

**Emergency Line (International):** (480) 922-9013

**Address:** 7895 E Acoma Drive, Suite 110, Scottsdale, AZ 85260

# ENROLLMENT

---

## Requirements

To enroll your pet, you must already be an Alcor member — we want every animal in our care to be reunited with its human companion. You do not need to hold a full Cryopreservation Membership at the time of enrollment; this gives you flexibility to finalize funding.

Most pet patients at Alcor have undergone Essential Preservation (straight freeze), and most members choose the neuropreservation option.

Contact the membership department to complete your Alcor contract and arrange payment. Costs are determined by the size of the animal.

**⚠ DO NOT SHIP YOUR PET TO ALCOR UNTIL ALL ARRANGEMENTS — INCLUDING FINANCIAL — ARE FULLY IN PLACE.**

## How to Get Started

1. Confirm your active Alcor membership (any tier).
2. Call the membership department at **(480) 905-1906 ext. 132** to begin enrollment.
3. Complete the Alcor pet contract and arrange full funding before anything else.
4. Once all arrangements are confirmed, proceed to the Planning section.

### Preservation Options

**Essential Preservation (Straight Freeze):** The most common option. Your pet is cooled and placed in long-term cryogenic storage upon arrival at Alcor.

**Enhanced Preservation (Perfusion):** Requires advance scheduling and must be performed at the Alcor facility. Involves protective cryoprotectant perfusion immediately following euthanasia.

# PLANNING & SUPPLIES

---

Gather supplies before your pet passes — ideally well in advance. You will not want to be sourcing materials in a moment of grief.

## What You Will Need

- Completed arrangements with Alcor
- Hard-shell ice chest (size-appropriate for your pet)
- Packing tape or duct tape
- Leather-faced work gloves
- Dry ice — block or pellet form
- FedEx waybill
- A veterinarian available for euthanasia when appropriate

## Sourcing Your Supplies

**Ice chest:** Choose a hard-shell cooler (Igloo, Yeti, or Pelican). The cooler must be large enough that no part of your pet comes within 2 inches of any wall — do not pick one that merely "fits." Coleman and Rubbermaid brands do not provide adequate insulation and should not be used. Available at Walmart (Sporting Goods) or any sporting goods retailer.

**Leather-faced work gloves:** Available at Walmart in Gardening or Hardware. Required for safe handling of dry ice.

**Dry ice:** Available at many grocery stores (slabs) or from suppliers such as Airgas (pellets). Pellets fill the cooler more completely than blocks.

**⚠ Dry ice safety: Dry ice is a simple asphyxiant and a hazardous substance. Read all packaging warnings carefully. Always handle dry ice with leather-faced work gloves. Never transport dry ice in a fully closed vehicle — keep windows cracked and AC recirculation off.**

# PACKING FOR SHIPMENT

Cool your pet as quickly as possible after death occurs. The steps below apply whether the passing was expected or sudden.

## If the death was expected

Arrange euthanasia with your veterinarian in advance, and have all supplies ready before the appointment. Place your pet directly into dry ice immediately afterward — you do not need to pre-cool the animal.

## If the death was unexpected

Place your pet in a watertight plastic bag (your vet can provide one, or use a heavy-duty trash bag at home). Put the pet in your freezer while you gather the remaining materials, then transfer to dry ice as soon as possible.

Important — body position: Pets should never be rewarmed after freezing. The position the animal is in when frozen is the position it will be shipped in. Make sure there is adequate cooler clearance in that position.



*Minimum 2" of dry ice on all sides between pet and cooler wall*

## Preparing the Cooler — Step by Step

1. Add at least **2 inches of dry ice** to the bottom of the cooler (block or pellet).
2. Place your pet in a thick, **watertight plastic bag**.
3. Set the bagged pet on top of the dry ice. Pack dry ice around all edges, maintaining a minimum 2-inch gap on every side.
4. Fill remaining space as completely as possible. If using block dry ice, crush it to fill gaps.
5. Close the lid fully. Some dry ice will sublimate as the pet cools — **refill as needed**.
6. Top off the dry ice daily while finalizing arrangements with Alcor.
7. Allow at least **24 hours** for the pet to reach dry ice temperature before shipping.
8. Immediately before shipping, refill the cooler completely with fresh dry ice.

# SHIPPING

Only ship after Alcor has confirmed that all arrangements are approved and in place.

## Preparing the Cooler for Transport

1. Top off with dry ice one final time.
2. Wrap tape around the ice chest several times to keep it securely closed. Cover the latches. **Do not tape around the seam between the cooler body and lid.**
3. **Partially open the drain plug** to allow CO<sub>2</sub> gas to escape safely.

**⚠ VERY IMPORTANT: DO NOT SEAL THE COOLER. CO<sub>2</sub> gas must be able to escape — a sealed container can rupture.**

## FedEx Shipping

Take the ice chest to an **Official FedEx Shipping Center**. If you cannot bring it in yourself, FedEx pickup can be arranged. Overnight shipping costs vary by size and weight — for reference, recent overnight costs for a small pet have been approximately **\$1,000**.

### Required Shipping Options:

- Next morning delivery before 8:00 AM (10:30 AM if 8:00 AM unavailable)
- Mark contents as “Dry Ice” and label appropriately. FedEx can help you.
- List “Specimen” on the Contents line

**Ship on a Monday.** Do not ship on Fridays or before holidays.

### Delivery Address:

Alcor Pet Preservation Program  
Alcor Life Extension Foundation

7895 E Acoma Drive, Suite 110  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85260

Someone is available to receive shipments by 7:00 AM daily.

## After Shipping

Send Alcor the FedEx tracking number immediately. Alcor will begin the final cooldown procedure as soon as your pet arrives and then transfer them into long-term storage.

If there is no tracking update on the day of delivery and the expected arrival time has passed, call FedEx customer service. Explain that the package contains a temperature-sensitive specimen and that it is critical it remain at dry ice temperatures. They will open a case and a case manager can expedite the shipment.

## AFTERCARE

We will take the best possible care of your pet and keep you updated throughout the process once they arrive at Alcor.

### Pet Wall

Like our human patients, we display photos of our pet patients on the walls of the Alcor facility. Please send us your favorite photo if you would like your companion featured on the Pet Wall.



### Pet Urn



Pets selecting neuropreservation may have cremains returned to their family. Cremains are presented in a cedar urn with a personalized plate bearing the cryopreservation date, sent approximately one-two months *after* the procedure.

For full-body preservation, a personalized keepsake urn is still available — suitable for holding a collar or displaying on a shelf. Please coordinate with the membership team which option you would like.

### Questions? Contact Alcor

info@alcor.org | (480) 905-1906 | alcor.org  
 Emergency: (800) 367-2228 | International: (480) 922-9013