



Shipping Your POV Update

With tens of thousands of service members' vehicles shipped each year, it's important to keep track of the latest information concerning taking your vehicle to a foreign destination.

The military printed a new version of the "Shipping Your POV" pamphlet in April 2007. Reading up on the rules and regulations can save headaches and money when it comes time to ship your vehicle. Remember, stresses the pamphlet, it's your POV—ask questions, be involved and read what you sign. And contact your local transportation office prior to making any plans to ship a POV. Officials also suggest that you have sufficient funds available in case of any delays or expenses to, from or at the POV Processing Center.

The most common mistake people make, say officials, is dropping off their vehicles with more fuel than is allowed. Each vehicle can have no more than a quarter tank of fuel for safety reasons, and having to take your vehicle to a service station to have the fuel drained is an unnecessary extra expense.

It is also important to have the right paperwork completed and the proper verification that the vehicle is yours (the title) or is otherwise authorized to leave the country. If the service member is not present, the spouse must have a Power of Attorney to drop off or pick up a vehicle.

For more information and a list of what to do at both origination and destination, visit www.sddc.army.mil/sddc/Content/Pub/8808/dbcn8808.pdf •

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What You Need to Know

Restrictions

Only one POV owned or leased by you or your dependent and for your personal use may be shipped to your new duty station at Government expense.

If you desire to make your own arrangements to ship an additional POV commercially, consult your sponsor and transportation office for any restrictions. You may have to pay an import duty on a second POV.

Your local transportation office has information on specific United States and overseas host nation restrictions.

Size Limitations

You may ship at Government expense a POV that does not exceed 20 measurement tons.

Exceptions may be granted for medical reasons. A measurement ton equals 40 cubic feet. A compact car averages about nine measurement tons; a full size car, about 15. If you ship a pickup truck with a camper, a recreational vehicle, a panel truck converted to a camper, or similar vehicle that exceeds 20 measurement tons, you will be liable to pay transportation costs for any measurement ton in excess of 20. These costs will be collected in accordance with your military service's regulations. Separatees must pay in advance of shipment. Exterior dimensions determine the size (measurement tons) of a vehicle; therefore, remove truck mirrors and other articles that extend from the vehicle and that could create excess cost.

Insurance and Licensing

United States. In some U.S. states, armed forces or host -nation vehicle registrations, license plates, and licenses either are not valid or are valid for only a very short time. Arrange to obtain these items prior to taking delivery of your POV. Most state motor vehicle divisions will accept registrations of POVs by mail. If you are returning from overseas, make arrangements prior to leaving your old duty station for the continental United States. You should insure your POV before taking delivery.

Coverage must meet minimum requirements prescribed by the state where your next duty station is located. Prior arrangements may save you money, as you will be able to compare prices offered by various insurance companies.

Overseas. Insurance, taxes, and licensing vary from country to country overseas. The best sources of information are your local transportation office and your overseas sponsor. Remember, you are responsible for obtaining insurance and licenses and paying any taxes. Be sure to check on these items well in advance of making your shipment. Insurance is often much more expensive overseas; research this matter carefully prior to making your shipment.