



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canine Airport Therapy Squad Celebrates Four Years at Denver International Airport

Give a 'round of ap-paws' to the largest pet therapy program in the country

DENVER – Oct. 29, 2019 – On National Cat Day, Denver International Airport (DEN) celebrates a different type of animal. Today is the four-year anniversary of the Canine Airport Therapy Squad (CATS) at DEN. Launched in 2015, this paw-some program is now the largest airport therapy pet program in the U.S.

The CATS program is designed to help relax and delight passengers on their journey through DEN. These furry volunteers and their human companions can be found throughout the airport offering friendly wags and often posing for photos with DEN passengers.

The CATS program began with 28 registered therapy dogs representing 14 breeds. Today, the program has grown to over 115 dogs representing over 45 breeds and one domestic shorthair cat. Seventeen of the original CATS members are still volunteers in the program.

This week, DEN is searching for pur-fect photos of our CATS in action. Share your photos of the DEN CATS using #DENCATS on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram this week for a chance to win a CATS prize pack. More information about available at: <https://www.flydenver.com/contestrules>

Follow @DENAirport on Twitter to learn when CATS are available at DEN.

About the DEN CATS Program:

All CATS teams work a minimum of 10 hours per quarter. While the dates of visits are flexible, CATS and their handlers average three visits each month and walk the concourses delighting and comforting passengers. Each of the CATS has his or her own trading card that includes interesting facts about them, including their “pet peeves.”

Members of the CATS teams are chosen after an interview and testing process. Each dog/cat is a family pet and must be shown to have a calm, friendly demeanor in public. The animals and their owners are trained, registered, certified and insured by certified therapy organizations, and an annual recertification is required for both dog and owner. Each CATS team must have therapy experience at another facility before service at DEN.

In addition, all CATS volunteers complete DEN customer service training and field evaluations to ensure the airport’s busy environment is a good fit for both human and animal. Human volunteers go through airport security background checks, fingerprinting, and security testing prior to receiving an airport ID badge.

DEN is always looking to add more CATS volunteers to the program. If you’re interested in joining, please contact info@flydenver.com for more information.

To learn more about each of our CATS, please visit www.flydenver.com/cats.

Denver International Airport is the fifth-busiest airport in the United States. With more than 64.5 million passengers traveling through the airport each year, DEN is one of the busiest airline hubs in the world’s largest aviation market. DEN is the primary economic engine for the state of Colorado, generating more than \$26 billion for the region annually. For more information visit, check us out on [YouTube](#), [Pinterest](#), and [Instagram](#), like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).
