

## AMTRAK - Unaccompanied Minors Policy

### Booking Tickets for Unaccompanied Minors

To make reservations for unaccompanied minors you must call us at 1-800-USA-RAIL (1-800-872-7245). You may not book reservations for unaccompanied minors on Amtrak.com.

**Children age 12 and under** may not travel unaccompanied. They must travel with another person who is at least 18 years old (see \*exception below).

**Children 13, 14 and 15 years old** may travel unaccompanied in accordance with the Amtrak Unaccompanied Minor Policy, which includes the following conditions:

- Travel is permitted only on Amtrak trains. Travel is not permitted on Thruway motor coach service, or on any other connecting services.
- Both boarding and arrival stations must be staffed. (Please note that even certain staffed stations do not allow for unaccompanied minors.)
- All travel must take place on the **same day** with the scheduled departure time no earlier than 5:30 am and the scheduled arrival time no later than 9:30 pm. Overnight travel is not allowed.
- No transfers of any kind are permitted.
- All travel must be within the United States. Unaccompanied minors may not cross the US-Canadian border.
- For each unaccompanied minor traveling alone, the adult (at least 18 years old) bringing the child to the departure station must complete and sign a release form. Both the adult and the minor must be at the boarding station at least 1 hour before the train's departure time.
- The child must be interviewed by station personnel to determine if the child is capable of traveling alone.
- The child must wear an Amtrak issued wristband for the duration of travel.
- The adult must remain at the station until the train has departed.
- Upon arrival, an adult (at least 18 years old) must be present to pick up the child. The adult must display valid current identification meeting the [Amtrak ID policies](#).
- Children traveling alone are not entitled to a children's discount; full adult fares are charged and no additional discounts are permitted.
- Tickets for unaccompanied children may not be purchased online.
- Because there are not at least two staffed stations along several routes, unaccompanied minors may not travel between any stations on the Downeaster (Boston, MA - Portland, ME), Heartland Flyer (Oklahoma City, OK - Fort Worth, TX) and Pere Marquette (Chicago, IL - Grand Rapids, MI).

**Children 16 and over** may travel without restriction.

\*Exception: A minor who is 16 or 17, who is a parent to children of any age, may bring those children without restriction. The 16- or 17-year-old must bring proof that he or she is the parent of the children.

**If a group of children are traveling**, and some are 16-17, some are 13-15, and some are under 13:

- The 16-17 year olds may travel without restriction.
- The 13-15 year olds must travel as unaccompanied minors because no one is 18 or over. The Unaccompanied Minor Policy applies.
- The children under 13 may not travel because no one is 18 or over. The Unaccompanied Minor Policy applies.

### Take Precautions for Allergies

Because Amtrak is unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, we strongly encourage unaccompanied minor passengers to take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Parents/guardians must ensure that the unaccompanied minor travel with all necessary medications for food allergies (including epinephrine auto-injectors) and is properly trained to self-administer these medications.

### What else should I do before buying tickets for unaccompanied minors?

It is extremely important to make sure that every segment of the unaccompanied child's trip can be accommodated before completing travel plans, purchasing a ticket, and arriving at the station. Additional restrictions may apply. Please call 1-800-USA-RAIL (1-800-872-7245) for further details.

<https://www.amtrak.com/unaccompanied-minors-policy>