

AI-03836 Auto Transport TX to FL

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Best option to ship my 2009 Chevy Colorado from Tx 78865 to fl 34442. List the possible businesses who handles auto shipping with good reviews. List the requirements on my end and a step by step guide and estimated cost.

For a **2009 Chevy Colorado** shipping from **TX 78865 (Uvalde County area)** to **FL 34442 (Citrus County / Inverness area)**, the best balance of **price, reliability, insurance, and fewer headaches** is usually **open carrier, door-to-door transport**. Since this is a common Texas → Florida route, carriers are available regularly. Expect roughly **2–5 pickup days** and **2–6 transit days** once loaded.

You generally have **4 good options**:

1. **Broker (most common / easiest)** → They find a carrier for you. Better route flexibility and pricing.
2. **Direct carrier** → One company owns trucks; sometimes more predictable but less flexible.
3. **Marketplace bidding (uShip)** → Compare bids yourself.
4. **Expedited shipping** → Faster pickup, higher cost.

Best businesses with good reputation & nationwide coverage

1. Montway Auto Transport

A strong "safe default" choice for long-distance shipping with good customer support and large carrier network. Frequently recommended for cross-country

and long-distance moves.

Contact

- Phone: **(888) 666-8929**
- Website quote tool available

Why it fits your route

- Strong TX ↔ FL carrier availability
- Door-to-door service
- No upfront payment until carrier assignment (commonly)

Estimated cost for your truck

- **\$850–\$1,150** (open carrier)

2.AmeriFreight Auto Transport

Known for customer service and discounts (military, seniors, first responders). Frequently ranks highly in independent reviews.

Contact

- Phone: **(678) 821-2420**

Good if

- You want more hand-holding
- You prefer a dedicated agent

Estimated cost

- **\$850–\$1,100**

3.Sherpa Auto Transport

Known for pricing transparency and “Price Lock Promise,” which can reduce surprise price jumps after booking.

Contact

- Phone: **(877) 850-1231**

Good if

- You hate surprise fees
- You prefer predictable pricing

Estimated cost

- **\$900–\$1,200**

4.RoadRunner Auto Transport

Large national network and often competitive pricing on long interstate routes.

Contact

- Phone: **(888) 777-2123**

Estimated cost

- **\$800–\$1,100**

5.uShip

Marketplace where multiple carriers bid on your shipment. Useful if you want to compare offers yourself.

Good if

- You want price competition
- You can spend time vetting drivers

Estimated cost

- **\$700–\$1,050**
- More variability in service quality

Cost estimate for YOUR shipment (2009 Chevy Colorado)

Shipping Type	Estimated Cost	Best For
Open carrier (recommended)	\$800–\$1,150	Best value
Enclosed carrier	\$1,250–\$1,700	Collector or pristine vehicle
Expedited pickup	+\$150–\$350	Urgent move

Terminal-to-terminal	Sometimes \$50–\$150 cheaper	If flexible
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For a **2009 Colorado**, **open transport** is usually the rational choice unless the truck is restored, mint, or sentimental. Rural pickup (78865) and rural drop-off (34442) may add a little cost because carriers sometimes meet in a larger nearby parking lot.

Requirements on your end

Vehicle requirements

1. Vehicle should **start, steer, brake, and roll** (tell them if non-running).
2. Fuel tank: **¼ tank only**.
3. Remove valuables (tools, electronics, firearms, paperwork).
4. Remove loose accessories:
 - Toll tags
 - Phone mounts
 - Loose subwoofers/tools
5. Fix or disclose:
 - Fluid leaks
 - Weak battery
 - Tire problems
6. Alarm system disabled.

Documents typically needed

1. Driver's license
2. Pickup and delivery address
3. Vehicle info:
 - Year: **2009**
 - Make: **Chevrolet**

- Model: **Colorado**
4. Emergency contact number
 5. Lienholder info (sometimes, if financed)

Insurance

The carrier generally carries cargo insurance, but:

- Ask for the **COI (Certificate of Insurance)**.
- Verify deductible.
- Take timestamped photos before pickup.
This is one of the biggest protections if damage occurs.

Step-by-step guide (least stress method)

Phase 1 — Get quotes (Day 1)

1. Contact **3 companies minimum**.
2. Ask for:
 - **Open carrier**
 - **Door-to-door**
 - Pickup near **78865**
 - Delivery near **34442**
3. Ask:
 - "Is this a broker or direct carrier?"
 - "What is the final guaranteed range?"
 - "Any hidden fuel or dispatch fees?"

Phase 2 — Vet the company (Day 1-2)

1. Check:
 - FMCSA registration
 - BBB complaints

- Google reviews
- Reddit experiences (mixed reviews are normal)

Reddit users repeatedly warn against choosing the **lowest quote**, because ultra-cheap listings often sit waiting for a driver or jump in price later.

Phase 3 — Book (Day 2–5)

1. Lock your pickup window.
2. Read cancellation policy.
3. Confirm:
 - insurance
 - pickup contact
 - delivery contact

Phase 4 — Pickup day

1. Wash the truck (important for spotting damage).
2. Photograph:
 - all sides
 - wheels
 - windshield
 - odometer
3. Sign the **Bill of Lading (BOL)** after inspection.

Phase 5 — Delivery in Florida

1. Inspect before signing final paperwork.
2. Compare to your photos.
3. Note any damage **before signing**.

My practical recommendation for your case

- **Best overall / lowest hassle: Montway**

- **Best transparency: Sherpa**
- **Best if price matters but still reputable: AmeriFreight**
- **Best for comparing bids: uShip**

If you want, I can also estimate a **much tighter price range specifically for 78865**
→ **34442 based on current lane mileage and whether your Colorado is**
2WD/4WD and running or non-running.

For Amerifreight, TX to FL auto shipping, I'm the owner of the vehicle but my daughter will be the one shipping the car. Is this okay? Is the insurance and registration needed in the car? TX to FL shipping, 78665 to 34442, sometime in August 2026, I will be there to receive it.

Yes — **this is generally okay with AmeriFreight.**

You can be the **legal owner/booker**, while **your daughter acts as the pickup representative in Texas**, and **you receive the vehicle in Florida**. Auto shippers commonly allow an authorized representative over 18 to hand off or receive the vehicle. AmeriFreight specifically says a representative can be present for pickup or delivery if the owner is unavailable. ([AmeriFreight Auto Transport](#))

For your case:

Your scenario (works fine)

1. **You (owner)** book the shipment.
2. **Your daughter in Texas (78665)** handles pickup:
 - meets driver
 - hands over keys
 - signs pickup inspection / Bill of Lading
3. **You in Florida (34442)** receive:
 - inspect truck before signing
 - compare condition to photos
 - sign final paperwork

When booking, tell AmeriFreight:

“I’m the registered owner, but my daughter will be the pickup contact in Texas and I will be the delivery contact in Florida.”

That avoids confusion on pickup day.

Insurance & registration — do they need to stay inside the truck?

Registration

You **do not need registration papers to ship the vehicle**, and AmeriFreight says title/registration are not required for transport itself. ([AmeriFreight Auto Transport](#))

However, for a practical TX → FL move:

I recommend leaving a copy of the registration in the glovebox (or your daughter keeps a photo on her phone), because:

1. It proves ownership if questions arise.
2. Helpful if the truck must be moved by authorities during an emergency.
3. Useful if stopped after delivery before Florida paperwork changes.

Insurance card

I strongly recommend **keeping proof of insurance in the truck** (paper or digital copy).

Reason:

- Carrier cargo insurance covers **transport damage**, but it does **not replace your auto insurance**.
- Your own insurance may matter if there is theft, vandalism, or an issue after delivery.

Before shipping, call your insurer and ask:

“Will my policy remain active while my vehicle is being transported on a commercial carrier from Texas to Florida?”

Most policies remain active, but confirm.

Important practical tip for August 2026 shipping

Because **August is peak moving season**, book **2–4 weeks early** if possible. A Texas → Florida route is common, but summer demand can raise prices or delay pickup windows. Recent reports from auto transport users suggest flexibility on pickup date helps avoid price jumps. ([Reddit](#))

Estimated August 2026 cost (78665 → 34442)

For a **2009 Chevy Colorado**:

1. **Open carrier (recommended):** about **\$850–\$1,150**
2. **Likely realistic summer price:** **\$950–\$1,200**
3. **Rush pickup:** add **\$150–\$300**
4. **Door-to-door:** usually worth it unless your roads are too narrow for a transport truck.

Step-by-step for your exact setup

1. **Late July 2026:** request quote.
2. Tell them:
 - Pickup ZIP: **78665**
 - Delivery ZIP: **34442**
 - Vehicle: **2009 Chevy Colorado**
 - **Operable or non-running**
 - **Daughter = pickup contact**
 - **You = delivery contact**
3. Your daughter prepares truck:
 - ~¼ tank fuel
 - remove valuables/tools
 - photos of every side + odometer

4. Pickup day:

- daughter walks around truck with driver
- notes dents/scratches on Bill of Lading
- signs paperwork

5. Florida delivery:

- inspect before signing
- compare against pre-shipping photos
- if damage exists, note it **before signing** (important for claims).
(AmeriFreight Auto Transport)

One correction: earlier you mentioned **78865**, but now you wrote **78665**. **78665 is Round Rock, TX**, while **78865 is Rio Frio, TX area**. The pickup ZIP matters for price by a few hundred dollars sometimes — which one is correct?