

Federal Property Management Regulations

§ 101-37.405

(a) For travel that is not required use travel:

(1) Any incidental private activities (personal or political) of an employee undertaken on an employee's own time while on official travel shall not result in any increase in the actual costs to the Government of operating the aircraft, and

(2) The Government shall be reimbursed the appropriate share of the full coach fare for any portion of the time on the trip spent on political activities (except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d) of this section).

(b) For required use travel (except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d) of this section).

(1) For a wholly personal or political trip, the Government shall be reimbursed the full coach fare for the trip.

(2) For an official trip during which the employee engages in political activities, the Government shall be reimbursed the appropriate share of the full coach fare for the entire trip, and

(3) For an official trip during which the employee flies to one or more locations for personal reasons, the Government shall be reimbursed the excess of the full coach fare of all flights taken by the employee on the trip over the full coach fare of the flights that would have been taken by the employee had there been no personal activities on the trip.

(c) For space available travel, whether on mission requirements or other flights, the Government shall be reimbursed at the full coach fare except:

(1) As authorized under 10 U.S.C. 4744 and regulations implementing that statute, and

(2) By civilian personnel and their dependents in remote locations not reasonably accessible to regularly scheduled commercial airline service.

(d) In any case of political travel, reimbursement shall be made in the amount required by law or regulation (e.g., 11 CFR 106.3) if greater than the amount otherwise required under paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section.

§ 101-37.404 Approving the use of Government aircraft for transportation of passengers.

(a) Use of Government aircraft for official travel may be approved only by

the agency head or official(s) designated by the agency head.

(b) Whenever a Government aircraft used to fulfill a mission requirement is used also to transport senior Federal officials, members of their families or other non-Federal travelers on a space available basis (except as authorized under 10 U.S.C. 4744 and regulations implementing that statute), the agency that is conducting the mission shall certify in writing prior to the flight that the aircraft is scheduled to perform a bona fide mission activity, and that the minimum mission requirements have not been exceeded in order to transport such space available travelers. In emergency situations, an after-the-fact written certification by the agency is permitted.

[60 FR 3552, Jan. 18, 1995]

§ 101-37.405 Approving travel on Government aircraft.

Policy and practices under which travel on Government aircraft may be approved by the agency are specified in paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section.

(a) All travel on Government aircraft must have advance authorization by the sponsoring agency in accordance with its travel policies, OMB Circular A-126 and, when applicable, documented on an official travel authorization. Where possible, such travel authorization must be approved by at least one organizational level above that of the person(s) traveling. If review by a higher organizational level is not possible, another appropriate approval is required.

(b) All required use travel must have written approval on a trip-by-trip basis from the agency's senior legal official or the principal deputy, unless:

(1) The President has determined that all travel or travel in specified categories by an agency head is qualified as required use travel, or

(2) The agency head has determined that all travel or travel in specified categories by an officer or employee other than the agency head, is qualified as required use travel.

(i) Any determination by an agency head that travel by an officer or employee of that agency qualifies as required use travel must be in writing

§ 101-37.406

41 CFR Ch. 101 (7-1-00 Edition)

and set forth the basis for that determination. In emergency situations an after-the-fact written certification by an agency is permitted.

(ii) An agency head opting to determine that travel by an officer or employee may be required use travel shall establish written standards for determining when required use travel is permitted. Such travel shall not be permitted unless the travel is in conformance with the written standards.

(c) All travel by senior Federal officials, family members of senior Federal officials, and non-Federal travelers that is not to meet mission requirements or required use travel must be authorized in advance and in writing.

(1) Such authorization must be approved on a trip-by-trip basis and must be signed by the agency's senior legal official or the principal deputy, or be in conformance with an agency review and approval system that has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). In emergency situations, an after-the-fact written certification by an agency is permitted.

(2) In addition to the provisions of this subpart, Federal employees on official travel shall be subject to all other applicable travel rules and regulations. Travel by such individuals that is not official travel, for purposes of this subpart, is subject to the reimbursement requirements in §101-37.403(c) of this subpart for space available travel.

§ 101-37.406 Justification of the use of Government aircraft for transportation of passengers.

(a) The cost comparison justifying the use of a Government aircraft for a proposed trip as required by §101-37.402(b)(1)(ii) of this subpart should be made prior to authorizing the use of the aircraft for that trip. Standard trip cost justification schedules developed by agencies may be used for this purpose. Agencies that are not able to use such schedules are required to conduct a cost justification on a case-by-case basis.

(b) When conducting a cost comparison, the agency must compare the actual cost of using a Government aircraft to the cost of using a commercial aircraft (including charter) or airline

service. The actual cost of using a Government aircraft is either:

(1) The amount that the agency will be charged by the organization that provides the aircraft,

(2) The variable cost of using the aircraft, if the agency operates its own aircraft, or

(3) The variable cost of using the aircraft as reported by the owning agency, if the agency is not charged for the use of an aircraft owned by another agency.

(c) The cost of using commercial airline or aircraft services for the purpose of justifying the use of Government aircraft:

(1) Must be the current Government contract fare or price, or the lowest fare or price available for the trip(s) in question,

(2) Must include, as appropriate, any differences in the cost of ground travel, per diem and miscellaneous travel (e.g., taxis, parking, etc.), and lost employees' work time (computed at gross hourly costs to the Government, including benefits), between using Government aircraft and commercial aircraft services, and

(3) Must include only the costs associated with passengers on official business. Costs associated with passengers traveling on a space available basis may not be used in the cost comparison.

§ 101-37.407 Documentation.

All uses of Government aircraft must be documented, and this documentation must be retained for at least 2 years by the aircraft operations manager. The documentation of each use of Government aircraft must include the information specified in paragraphs (a) through (g) of this section:

(a) Aircraft registration number (the registration number assigned by the Federal Aviation Administration or military-designated tail number);

(b) Purpose of the flight (the mission the aircraft was dispatched to perform);

(c) Route(s) flown;

(d) Flight date(s) and times;

(e) Name of each traveler;

(f) Name(s) of the pilot(s) and aircrew;