

Federal Property Management Regulations

§ 101-41.604-2

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(31 U.S.C. 952, 31 U.S.C. 1801; 31 U.S.C. 3726, 31 U.S.C. 1801, 40 U.S.C. 486(c))

[46 FR 42667, Aug. 24, 1981, as amended at 48 FR 27726, June 17, 1983; 48 FR 35650, Aug. 5, 1983]

§ 101-41.604 Payment of transportation claims.

§ 101-41.604-1 Transportation claims payable by agencies.

Unless GSA's Office of Transportation Audits determines that a prepayment audit is necessary under 41 CFR 101-41.103(i), each agency or department shall pay any properly documented bill (claim) for freight or passenger transportation charges that is not excepted by the provisions of § 101-41.604-2 provided the following guidelines are observed:

(a) The agency shall annotate each paid claim, other than a bill for air excess baggage charges, with the payment record on the related procuring Government bill of lading (GBL) or Government transportation request (GTR) including Disbursing Office (DO) voucher number, bureau voucher number, date of payment, and DO symbol number.

(b) The agency shall make an administrative examination of each claim to ensure that it is not a duplicate billing of a previous payment and that it is properly supported, presented in the name of the carrier to which the original charges were paid, and in agreement with agency records concerning the amount previously paid.

(c) Claims paid in accordance with this § 101-41.604-1 shall be transmitted to GSA (BWAA/C) separately from other paid transportation documents submitted for audit.

(31 U.S.C. 952, 31 U.S.C. 3726; 40 U.S.C. 486(c))

[47 FR 33960, Aug. 5, 1982, as amended at 48 FR 27726, June 17, 1983; 53 FR 25166, July 5, 1988]

§ 101-41.604-2 Transportation claims not payable by agencies.

(a) Agencies shall not pay supplemental claims for amounts which have been administratively deducted from transportation payment vouchers in connection with loss and/or damage to

property but shall forward such claims to: Claims Group, Accounting and Financial Management Division, U.S. General Accounting Office, Washington, DC 20548.

(b) Agencies shall not pay the following types of transportation claims:

(1) Any claim that is "time barred" by a statute of limitations as indicated in § 101-41.602 or any claim on which there is doubt as to whether it is "time barred."

(2) Any claim that refers to a GSA file number or to a previously paid amount which is not in agreement with the agency's record of prior payment.

(3) Any claim that is doubtful. A claim is doubtful when in the exercise of fair judgment of the person responsible for deciding appropriate administrative action or the person who, in accordance with applicable statutes, will be held accountable if the claim were paid and then found to be incorrect, illegal, or improper, is unable to decide with reasonable certainty that the claim is valid and correct. The accuracy of rates, fares, routes, and related technical data shall not be a factor in determining the correctness of the claim.

(4) Any pricing adjustment claims for services previously billed and paid, except single-factor ocean rate adjustments (SFORA) on international household goods shipments. Each SFORA claim shall be billed on a separate Public Voucher for Transportation Charges, SF 1113, and the annotation "SFORA claim" shown on the SF 1113.

(5) Claims described in paragraph (b) of this section are subject to GSA prepayment audit. Any claims so submitted to GSA will be considered 'disputed claims' under Section 4(b) of the Prompt Payment Act.

(6) Interest penalties under the Prompt Payment Act are not required when payment is delayed because of a disagreement between a Federal agency and a carrier or forwarder over the amount of the payment or other issues.