

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS
EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

DEE
(LOCAL)

Employees are encouraged to keep abreast of the latest trends in education, to grow professionally, and to work cooperatively with other professionals both inside and outside the College. To this end, employees may make professional trips from time to time. Reimbursement for such trips will be made within established guidelines and budget constraints.

Employees whose duties require travel within the College will also be entitled to reimbursement consistent with the College's procedures and guidelines for faculty and staff.

**Professional
Trips**

Employees will be allowed to attend professional meetings that pertain to their respective areas of responsibility, subject to the following criteria:

1. The money to be expended falls within the budget amounts previously approved by the Board. Funds will be provided in the budget for the purpose of underwriting the cost of travel and per diem expenses on a departmental basis.
2. The trip is approved by the immediate supervisor, appropriate vice president, provost, or the District President.

Reimbursement

Employees will be reimbursed for reasonable travel expenses in accordance with the College's business procedures.

In-District Travel

For purposes of the in-College travel policy, the following definitions will apply:

1. Employees will be defined as full-time employees of the College.
2. Multiple assignments will be defined as assignments that in any one day require the employee to start the workday at one location and travel to a subsequent location(s) to meet the College's needs. The concept of multiple assignments refers to a full-time assignment only and specifically excludes the part-time overload or extra service assignment that may be worked by full-time employees.
3. Committee and special assignments will be defined as being integral to the operation of the College. These assignments are established by the vice president, provost, or District President; examples are curriculum advisory board, all College council meetings, and search committees.

Employees who serve on College committees or serve on special College assignments will be reimbursed at the standard approved rate per mile in accordance with the College's business procedures.

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Travel for employees for specially funded programs will be governed by the terms of that program contract but will not exceed the approved travel rate for the College.

International Travel

Purpose

International travel will be authorized for the primary purpose of increasing the academic and/or civic experience offered to College students and enhancing the value of the faculty and staff's contribution to the College's strategic goals.

Definition

International travel must have a College benefit. International travel is defined as any approved College-related trip during or outside of usual working hours taking place anywhere outside of North America. College employees may be approved to travel with the College for a variety of reasons provided they are effectively tied to the strategic goals of the College. International travel will be an authorized expenditure under the College's annual operating budget. [See CC(LEGAL)]

Behavior

All employees will adhere to the Employee Standards of Conduct. [See DH(LOCAL)]

Conflicts of Interest

All College employees will adhere to the conflicts of interest provisions found in Board policies. [See DBD]

Eligibility

For the purposes of international travel, only full-time employees will be eligible. An otherwise eligible employee, whose position is funded by an external grant or contract, will be ineligible for international travel unless such travel is required and funded by the grant or contract.

International travel will not be considered as an individual professional development right or deferred compensation.

Frequency

With the exception of travel for performance, competition, or in support of student activities, international travel will be restricted to once every three years for an individual.

Funding

Any employee who voluntarily terminates full-time employment with the College prior to 12 months following the completion of the international travel will have a prorated portion of the travel expenses (including registration fees, hotel, meals, and transportation costs) deducted from his or her final payroll check to the extent permitted by law. If insufficient funds exist to repay the amount due through payroll deduction, the prorated amount due to the College must be repaid through a personal check or equivalent.

Risk Assessments

Country risk assessment reports are required for all countries to be visited regardless of security ratings. A State Department risk assessment must be provided with the application and resubmitted within 30 days of departure.

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Employees or any other individuals authorized to travel, including students, will not be allowed to travel to countries for which a travel advisory has been issued by the State Department of the United States of America. Information regarding current State Department advisories can be found at:

<http://travel.state.gov/travel/warnings.html>.

Release	In consideration of the College authorizing international travel for a College employee and other consideration, the College employee will execute a written release prior to beginning the travel, releasing the College and its trustees, officers, employees, and agents from any liability, claims, causes of action, and damages, known or unknown, in connection with or related to the international travel authorized by the College. The form of the release will be approved by the College.
Limitations	Requests for international travel will be within budget and will reflect a direct benefit to the College's students.
Application	<p>Applications will be submitted a minimum of three months prior to the planned travel dates; exceptions to the application period will require approval from the appropriate leadership team member.</p> <p>All proposals will be submitted to the appropriate dean, director, or immediate supervisor, using the International Travel form. Applications recommended for approval will be submitted by the appropriate dean, director or immediate supervisor to be evaluated by a review committee consisting of one academic dean on each campus and at least two other administrators within the College. Applications recommended for approval by the review committee will be submitted to the appropriate leadership team member.</p>
Approval	Subject to the limitations specified in this policy, and upon the recommendation of the review committee and the appropriate leadership team member, the District President may authorize international travel. The decision of the District President is final.