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# RECEIVED JUN 2 3 2011 UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON MANUAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION:

**Procurement** 

Number: 04.02.01A

AREA:

Travel

**SUBJECT: Travel Paid from State-Appropriated Funds** 

#### PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Travel by University of Houston faculty and staff, and by prospective employees, is restricted by state of Texas and federal regulations. This document is governed by the state of Texas Travel Regulations Act, the General Appropriations Act, and by official interpretation of the Travel Regulations Act as made by the State Comptroller of Public Accounts. This document highlights the primary points of these regulations and provides additional policies as they apply to the university.

This document is to be used in conjunction with Textravel (state travel laws and rules provided by the Texas State Comptroller to state agencies and institutions of higher education) and the Texas State Travel Directory and other advisories.

For this document, "travel" includes all use of a vehicle between duty points undertaken on behalf of the university - whether outside or within the Houston city limits. These rules apply to all university travel paid or reimbursed from state-appropriated funds. See MAPP 04.02.01B for rules related to travel using local funds.

#### II. POLICY STATEMENT

All travel paid or reimbursed with state-appropriated funds must use state or university contracted travel service vendors, including travel agencies, airlines, hotels and car rental companies, unless otherwise indicated in this document or Textravel. All payments and reimbursements for statefunded travel must comply with the requirements of Textravel. All expenses must be reasonable and necessary for conducting university business during travel, and travel must benefit teaching, research, and/or community service at the university.

#### III. **DEFINITIONS**

- A. City Pair: Cities between which university travel is undertaken.
- Continental United States: The 48 contiguous states of the United States located on the В. North American continent between Canada and Mexico (excludes Hawaii and Alaska).
- C. Contract Travel Agency: Travel agency under contract to the state of Texas or designated by the university to provide travel services to state and/or university employees and others traveling on university business.
- D. Contract Vendor: For this document, an airline, automobile rental agency, charge card, hotel/motel or travel agency with which the state or university has contracted to provide services.
- E. Corporate Travel Card: Charge card contracted by the state of Texas that may be used by qualifying university employees to purchase university business-related travel

- expenses. Corporate travel cards are issued in the name of the employee, who is personally financially responsible for all charges.
- F. <u>Designated Headquarters:</u> The geographic location in which an employee's place of business is located. In most cases, Houston is designated headquarters for university employees.
- G. <u>Duty Point</u>: The location other than the employee's place of employment to which the employee travels to conduct official university business.
- H. Export Controls and Travel Embargo Form: The form that must completed for all employee travel outside the United States, which documents the travel destination and any restricted items or information that the employee intends to take on the trip.
- Foreign Travel: Travel by university employees to/from all countries outside Canada, Mexico, the United States and U.S. possessions.
- Lodging: A commercial lodging establishment such as a motel, hotel, inn, apartment, house or similar establishment that provides lodging to the public for pay. This includes lodging provided by a governmental entity on property controlled by that entity, a religious organization on property controlled by that organization, or a private educational institution on property controlled by that institution (Govt. Code Sec. 660.002).
- UK. Official Business: Business required to properly perform the duties of the university position held, in accordance with the university's legal responsibilities. Official university business must relate to and benefit teaching, research, and/or community service at the university.
- Official Mileage: Mileage based on the shortest practical route between points.

  Employees may calculate the number of miles traveled by using a vehicle odometer reading or a mapping service website (e.g., Mapquest). as listed in the Texas Mileage Guide on the Comptroller's web site. The Internet address is <a href="http://www.window.state.tx.us/comptrol/texastra.html">http://www.window.state.tx.us/comptrol/texastra.html</a>.
- KLM. Official Travel Status: The time period between leaving and returning to designated headquarters for approved official travel.
- LMN. State-Appropriated Funds: Funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature in the General Appropriations Act, whether held inside or outside the State Treasury. Includes general revenue, special line items, Higher Education Assistance Funds, Advanced Research Program/Advanced Technology Program funds, and other funds designated as "state."
- MNO. State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA): The state of Texas agency with authority and responsibility for regulating procurement and related business for all state agencies.
- NOP. <u>Travel Coordinator</u>: Person designated by the university to receive and disseminate information relative to the State Travel Management Program for compliance with state of Texas rules related to contracted travel services.
- <u>CPQ.</u> Travel Exemption Certification Form: The form required to document certain accepted conditions of non-use of state contract <u>servicesvendors</u>. The Travel Exemption Certification Form can be found at the following web address: <a href="http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP">http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP</a> Travel.htm.

- PQR. <u>Travel Request</u>: The form used to request and authorize official university travel in advance of the trip. The Travel Request is an Excel document and may be downloaded at the following web address: <a href="http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP">http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP</a> Travel.htm.
- QRS. Travel Voucher: The form used by employees and prospective employees to document all travel expenses and request reimbursement for any out-of-pocket travel expenses after the trip. Staff must use the Excel form provided at the Comptroller's web site, which is located at: http://www.window.state.tx.us/fm/travel/.

## IV. ADVANCED APPROVAL OF TRAVEL

- A. All travel paid or reimbursed with state-appropriated funds that is related to University business, programs, or activities, whether paid by the University or not, must be approved in advance for the following categories of travelers:
  - Employees.
  - 2. Prospective employees and invited spouse, if applicable.

Note: Student travel may not be paid or reimbursed with state—appropriated funds.

- B. The Travel Request must include the following information:
  - 1. Identifying information for traveler and department contact.
  - 2. Classification of traveler (employee or prospective employee).
  - 3. City of departure and destination.
  - 4. Travel dates (departure and return and dates that reimbursement will be requested, if different).
  - 5. Trip purpose and university benefit.
  - 6. Attach conference announcement or provide link to conference website, if applicable.
  - 67. Estimated amount of travel expenses to be paid or reimbursed by the university, along with the university cost center(s) and account(s) to be charged.
  - 78. If the traveler expects to be reimbursed for travel expenses from someone other than the university (e.g., conference host), this must be indicated on the Travel Request. Supporting documentation (i.e., letter from host) should be attached to the Travel Request, if available.
  - 89. The Travel Request must be approved by the following individuals:
    - a. Traveler's supervisor or unit head paying for the travel expenses.
    - b. Person authorized to approve contract/grant expenditure, if applicable.
    - Certifying signatory for the cost center(s) on the Travel Request.

- Appropriate vice president (or designee) for travel by employees or prospective employees to or from foreign countries other than Canada, Mexico, or Puerto Rico and other US possessions.
- e. The Chancellor or designee, for travel by employees or prospective employees to or from foreign countries other than Canada, Mexico, or Puerto Rico and other US possessions. The traveler is not authorized to begin the foreign trip until the Chancellor or designee has approved the Travel Request.

Note: Travel Requests may be approved by signing and dating the printed document or by <a href="maile-mail">emaile-mail</a>. If approval is <a href="maile-maile-mail">emaile-mail</a>. If approval is <a href="maile-maile-mail">emaile-mail</a>. If approval is <a href="maile-maile-mail">emaile-mail</a>. If approval is <a href="maile-maile-maile-mail">emaile-mail</a>.

C. For foreign travel, the traveler must submit a specific statement for the appropriate vice president's approval prior to the trip, which describes the need for the trip and the benefit or expected benefit for the university. This statement may be included on the Travel Request or as an attachment if more space is needed. Following the trip, the traveler must submit an agenda to the appropriate vice president, as well as a trip report that describes the activities and meetings including those attending, and how the trip was beneficial to the university. Conference programs or other documentation are to be provided in support of the statement. In a similar manner, senior administrators who report directly to the president shall provide a detailed statement and agenda for foreign travel.

# V. NOTIFICATION OF TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

In addition to obtaining advance approval on the Travel Request, the following procedures must be followed for travel to Washington, D.C., on state-appropriated funds:

- A. The Office of State-Federal Relations must be notified of (not approve) travel to Washington, D.C., no later than seven calendar days before travel begins. The responsible unit must complete the Report of State Agency Travel to Washington, D.C., at the following Internet address: <a href="http://www.osfr.state.tx.us">http://www.osfr.state.tx.us</a>.
- B. When the information has been submitted online, a confirmation page will be created, which must be printed and attached to the Travel Request before it is routed for approval.
- C. If notification is not given within seven days of departure, a letter of explanation must be faxed to the Office of State-Federal Relations at (512) 463-1984. This letter must also be attached to the Travel Request before it is routed for approval.

## VI. EXPORT CONTROLS AND EMBARGO RESTRICTIONS

A. All employees who travel to destinations outside the United States must complete the Export Controls and Travel Embargo Form and receive approval from the Office of Contracts and Grants, if required, before leaving on the trip. This requirement applies to all employee business travel outside the United States, regardless of the source of funds used to pay for the trip or whether the University pays for any of the trip expenses. The Export Controls and Travel Embargo Form is located at:

http://www.research.uh.edu/PCC/Export Control/index.html.

- B. The completed Export Controls and Travel Embargo Form must be attached to the Travel Request, as the Travel Request is routed for approval, and must be uploaded as supporting documentation to any University-paid or reimbursed travel expense (e.g., voucher or Travel Card) for employee business travel outside the United States.
- C. Employees are advised to complete the Export Controls and Travel Embargo Form as early as possible to allow adequate time for the Office of Contracts and Grants to request a license from the responsible federal agency, if required. Most travel outside the U.S. will not require a license, but if a license is required it could take up to six months to process by the federal agency.

#### VII. USE OF CONTRACTED TRAVEL VENDORS

# A. Types of Contracted Services

To provide timely and efficient travel services and generate cost savings to state agencies, the state of Texas contracts with travel vendors. Official university travel paid or reimbursed from state-appropriated funds must use state or university contracted vendors, when available, for the following types of services:

- 1. Travel charge cards (used to purchase airfare, may also be used to make other travel-related expenditures; personal credit cards may be used to purchase any travel expenditures other than airfare).
- 2. Travel agencies used to purchase airfare.
- 3. Airfare.
- Lodging.
- Rental cars.

Names and rates of current contracted travel vendors for airfare, lodging and rental cars are available at:

http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/http://cpa.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/.

- B. Documentation of Non-Use of Contracted Travel Vendors
  - 1. When travel arrangements are made through the contracted travel agency, the travel agency will document and report exceptions to using contracted vendors to the state.
  - Other acceptable conditions of non-use of contracted travel vendors will require
    the completion of a Travel Exemption Certification Form available online at
    <a href="http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm">http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm</a>. The form lists acceptable
    conditions of non-use of contracted travel services. The following must be
    completed on the form:
- a. Traveler name.
- b. Travel voucher number.
- Reason for not using a contracted travel vendor (check or circle the appropriate reason).

#### d. Traveler's signature and date.

- 3. State contracted travel services cannot be purchased for independent contractors. Any use of non-contracted vendors not documented by a contracted travel agency or with the Travel Exemption Certificate Form will require all of the following:
- A memo or email explaining and documenting the exception request.
   Exception requests should be submitted before expenses are incurred.
- b. The Travel Coordinator must approve (sign) the memo or indicate approval by email.
- C. The Fly America Act requires that foreign air travel funded by Federal funds, including Federal pass-through funds, be conducted on U.S flag air carriers. There are limited exceptions where the use of a foreign-flag air carrier is permissible.

# VIII. STATE HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAXES FOR LODGING IN TEXAS

# A. Claiming Exemption

University employees are exempt from the state portion of hotel occupancy taxes when traveling on official university business in Texas. The following procedures should be used to claim exemption from those taxes:

- 1. The employee should present a Texas Hotel Occupancy Tax Exemption Certificate to the Texas hotel or motel at the time of check-in. A certificate for university employees is available at the following Internet address: <a href="http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm">http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm</a>.
- 2. The employee should verify that they are not charged for the state portion of hotel occupancy taxes (6 percent) at the time of checkout.

# B. Claiming Reimbursement

If the Texas hotel or motel refuses to honor the Exemption Certificate, the employee may be reimbursed for the state hotel occupancy tax as follows:

- The employee provides the name, address and phone number (if available) of the Texas hotel/motel that refused the certificate.
- 2. The employee faxes or <a href="maile-mail">emaile-mail</a> the above information and the following or similar statement to the Travel Coordinator: "[name of hotel] refused to honor Texas Hotel Occupancy Tax Exemption Certificate on [date]."
- 3. The Travel Coordinator signs the statement and faxes it back to the employee or returns the <a href="maileo-mail">emaileo-mail</a> indicating approval.
- 4. The Travel Coordinator notifies the Comptroller's Office that the Texas hotel or motel refused to honor the Exemption Certificate.

Employees may not be reimbursed for state hotel occupancy tax with state funds if they did not properly present the Exemption Certificate to the hotel. Non-employees are not

exempt from the state hotel occupancy tax and should be reimbursed for this expense without explanation.

#### WIIIX. TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

#### A. Airfare

Airfare may be purchased with state-appropriated funds in one of the following ways:

1. Airfare charged directly to the Department State Travel Card.

The person making the travel arrangements must verify that state-contracted airfare is purchased, if available. A list of contracted airfares may be found at: <a href="http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/http://cpa.state.tx.us/procurement/procurement/procurement/procurement/

If the trip is later cancelled or not approved by a higher administrative authority (e.g., supervisor, Chancellor), the airfare should be refunded to the Department Travel Card. If non-refundable airfare is cancelled, the original charge should be moved to a local, non-state, cost center.

- 2. Airfare charged to an employee's Corporate Travel Card either by (a) using the contracted travel agency or (b) purchasing contracted airfare directly from the airline. If non-contracted airfarestate-contracted airfare is purchased directly from the airline, the Travel Exemption Certification Form is required. The form is available at the following website: http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP\_Travel.htm.
- 3. Airfare charged to an employee's personal credit card because the insurance provided by the personal credit card is greater than the insurance offered by the Corporate Travel Card (\$500,000). State contracted airfare is not available to employees who use their personal credit card. The Travel Exemption Certification Form, available at <a href="http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP\_Travel.htm">http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP\_Travel.htm</a>, is required.
- 4. Airfare purchased by a non-employee. State-contracted airfare is not available to non-employees who purchase their own airfare.
- Airfare purchased from a non-contracted travel agency, if the purchase meets acceptable condition(s) of non-use of contracted travel services. The Travel Exemption Certification Form (http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm) is required. Requires exception approval from the Travel Coordinator.
- All airfare must be purchased at the lowest price available (i.e., coach class). Nocost upgrades to business class or first class airfare are acceptable, as long as
  the airfare receipt provided by the airline or travel agency clearly indicates that
  there is no additional cost for the upgrade.), unless the appropriate division vice
  president President or designee approves a higher airfare (i.e., business class or
  first class) for one of the reasons below:

First class airfare may be paid or reimbursed only if it is medically necessary or other airfare is not available.

Business class airfare may be paid or reimbursed only if it is medically necessary or a lower airfare is not available.

The necessity for business or first class airfare must be stated on the travel request or attachment to the travel request and approved by the President appropriate division vice president or designee.

#### B. Hotels

Lodging may be purchased in one of the following ways:

- State-contracted hotel room charged to an employee's Corporate Travel Card or personal credit card. Lodging may be arranged by the traveler or through a contracted travel agency. The person making the travel arrangements must verify that a state-contracted hotel room is purchased, if available. A list of contracted hotels is available at: <a href="http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/http://cpa.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/">http://cpa.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/http://cpa.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/</a>.
  - 2. Non-contracted hotel room charged to an employee's Corporate Travel Card or personal credit card, if the purchase meets acceptable condition(s) of non-use of contracted travel services. Requires aThe Travel Exemption Certification Form (http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm) is required., available at <a href="http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm">http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm</a>, for one of the following reasons:
  - a. Travel was part of a group program (conference or convention) with a requirement to obtain hotel reservations through a specified source to obtain a discount or special service.
  - b. Contractor not time efficient (cannot provide service in time period required).
  - c. Contractor not available in particular location.
  - Contractor sold out or does not offer the service required.
  - e. Non-contract vendor offered lower total cost. For hotels, total cost includes room without taxes, travel time to business location, transportation costs (taxi or rental car), and parking fees.
  - f. Disabled traveler or medical emergency requiring special or immediate service.
  - g. Security/safety risk to traveler, such as a hotel located in an unsafe neighborhood or a hotel that does not have a non-smoking room available, if one is required.
- 3. Non-contracted hotel room charged to a prospective employee's personal credit card. Requires a Travel Exemption Certification Form, available at <a href="http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP">http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP</a> Travel.htm, ("not eligible for contract").

#### C. Rental Car

State-contracted rental car costs include liability and loss/damage waiver\_(LDW) insurance in the base rate, while non-contracted rental car costs do not. If a non-

contracted rental car company is used, it is the traveler's responsibility to obtain the proper insurance coverage.

Rental cars may be obtained for university travel in one of the following ways:

- State-contracted rental car charged directly to a university department account through a direct billing arrangement set up in advance by the Travel Coordinator.
- State-contracted rental car charged to an employee's Corporate Travel Card or personal credit card. The Rreservation may be made by the traveler or through a contracted travel agency. The person making the travel arrangements must verify that a state-contracted rate is charged by the contracted rental car company, if available. A list of contracted rental car companies may be found at: http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/http://cpa.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/.
- 3. Non-contracted rental car charged to an employee's Corporate Travel Card or personal credit card, if the purchase meets acceptable condition(s) of non-use of contracted travel services. Requires a The Travel Exemption Certification Form, available at (http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm) is required., for one of the following reasons:
  - a. Contractor not time efficient (cannot provide service in time period required).
  - b. Contractor not available in particular location.
  - c. Contractor sold out or does not offer the service required.
  - d. Non-contract vendor offered lower total cost. For rental cars, total cost includes base rate, loss/damage waiver, mileage charge, surcharges, and cost of liability insurance.
  - e. Disabled traveler or medical emergency requiring special or immediate service.
  - f. Security/safety risk to traveler, such as a rental car company located in an unsafe neighborhood or a company that does not have a non-smoking car available, if one is required.
- 4. Non-contracted rental car charged to a prospective employee's personal credit card. Requires a Travel Exemption Certification Form, available at <a href="http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm">http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/AP Travel.htm</a>, ("not eligible for contract").

# **IX.** TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS

- A. No more than one travel reimbursement voucher should be processed for each business trip.
- B. Form to Request Reimbursement

A State Travel Voucher and the Finance System Voucher are required to reimburse (1) employees and (2) prospective employees for travel expenses.

BC. Deadline for Submission of Travel Voucher

- Employees and prospective employees must submit their request for reimbursement, including required documentation, to the department business office no later than 60 days after travel is completed. Requests submitted after 60 days may not be forwarded to Accounts Payable for reimbursement, unless approved by the appropriate division vice president.
- In accordance with Internal Revenue Service regulations, all reimbursement requests submitted to the department business office after the above deadline will be treated as taxable income to the payee. These vouchers must be routed in workflow through the Tax Department and must include a completed Taxable Payments or Reimbursements to Employees form (Exhibit B, SAM 03.D.06). On the form, "Other Taxable Wage Benefits" (Payroll Earnings Code 443) should be indicated, but the voucher should contain the appropriate accounts that describe the expenses (not account 54814, Other Taxable Wage Benefits).
- The department should make every effort to submit vouchers for employee and prospective employee travel reimbursements to Accounts Payable as soon as possible but no later than 15 days following receipt of all required documentation from the traveler.

# CD. Reimbursement Rules and Documentation

- State-funded travel reimbursement rules and documentation requirements, which are contained in Textravel, are too lengthy to be listed here. However, <u>Textravel</u> may be found at the following web address: <a href="https://fmx.cpa.state.tx.us/fmx/travel/textravel/index.php.">https://fmx.cpa.state.tx.us/fmx/travel/textravel/index.php.</a>
- 2. For overnight travel in Texas and out-of-state travel (i.e., outside Texas but inside the continental US), a traveler must claim the actual meals and lodging expenses not to exceed the federal travel rates indicated for the travel destination in Texas (see U.S. General Services Administration website at http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21287http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?contentType=GSA\_BASIC&contentId=17943). If a rate is not indicated for the city or county in Texas, the maximum payment for lodging (excluding hotel occupancy taxes) is \$85 per night and the maximum payment for meals is \$36 per day. All lodging and meal expenses must be supported by itemized receipts. Itemized receipts are required for lodging.
- 3. For overnight travel outside Texas but inside the continental US (i.e., lower 48 states), a traveler must claim the actual meals and lodging expenses not to exceed the federal travel rates indicated for the travel destination (see U.S. General Services Administration website at <a href="http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21287">http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21287</a>). All lodging and meal expenses must be supported by itemized receipts.
- 4. For overnight travel outside of the continental US (including Alaska, Hawaii, Canada, Mexico, and other countriesi.e., lower 48 states), a traveler will be reimbursed based on the actual meals and lodging expenses not to exceed the greater of \$350 or. If the actual meal expenses exceed the federal travel rates indicated for the travel destination (see U.S. General Services Administration website at http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21287. http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?contentType=GSA\_BASIC&contentId=17943), itemized receipts must be provided. All lodging and meal expenses must be supported by itemized receipts. Meal receipts may not be provided in some remote locations outside the United States. In those instances,

- the traveler must provide an itemized list of actual meal expenses and a written explanation for not providing meal receipts. Itemized receipts are always required for lodging expenses.
- A list of out-of-state meal and lodging per diems (i.e., outside Texas but inside the continental US) may be found at: <a href="http://www.window.state.tx.us/fm/travel/">http://www.window.state.tx.us/fm/travel/</a>. The per diem for overnight travel within Texas may be found at: <a href="http://www.cpa.state.tx.us/comptrol/texastra.html">http://www.cpa.state.tx.us/comptrol/texastra.html</a>.
- 34. Employees may not be reimbursed for a lodging expense incurred at a place that is not a commercial lodging establishment in accordance with Texas Government Code Sec. 660.113.
- 5. Though <u>Textravel</u> permits reimbursement of non-overnight meals under certain circumstances, UH-niversity of Houston travelers will not be reimbursed for non-overnight meals because of an Internal Revenue Service requirement that these reimbursements be considered taxable income. <u>However, meal expenses incurred by prospective employees during non-overnight travel may be reimbursed.</u>
- Travelers are responsible for knowing the state-funded travel rules. Personnel who prepare and approve Travel Vouchers are responsible for knowing and following the documentation requirements listed in <a href="Textravel">Textravel</a>. Questions regarding travel reimbursements should be directed to the Travel Coordinator or other designated individuals in Accounts Payable.

# XI. COMPLETING THE TRAVEL VOUCHER

- A. The following information, if applicable, must be completed on the front of the Travel Voucher:
  - 1. Agency number (i.e., 730 for University of Houston; 783 for University of Houston System Administration).
  - Agency name (i.e., University of Houston or University of Houston System).
  - 3. Traveler (payee) name.
  - Traveler job title.
  - 5. Designated headquarters for traveler (i.e., Houston for most travelers).
  - Travel Request number.
  - 7. Trip dates (departure and return).
  - 8. Destination (city and state or city and country).
  - An itemization of expenses for in-state or out-of-state travel, whether paid by the traveler or directly billed to the university.
  - 10. The following items must be subtracted from total travel expenses:
    - a. Expenses billed centrally to the university.
    - Expenses paid on a local-fund Travel Voucher.

- Other expenses that will not be reimbursed due to departmental discretion.
- 11. The original signature of the traveler and date signed must appear on the Travel Voucher.
- B. The following information, if applicable, must be completed on page two of the Travel Voucher:
  - 1. The date and time of departure and return from travel, if claiming meal or lodging expenses. If flying, the departure time is when a traveler is required to be at the airport to board an airplane. The return time is when the flight actually returns to designated headquarters (i.e., lands in Houston for university employees).
  - 2. The amount of meal and/or lodging expenses claimed each day of travel. In the in-state or out-of-state section, eEach day's expenses must be entered on a separate row in the per diem column for meals or lodging not to exceed the federal travel rates indicated for the travel destination (see U.S. General Services Administration website at http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21287http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?contentType=GSA\_BASIC&contentId=17943).the maximum rate in the in-state or out-of-state section. The sum of meal and lodging expenses for each day must be entered in the total column and that column must be totaled as well.
  - 3. The destination, travel purpose and benefit to the university must be noted.
  - 4. Public transportation (airfare, taxi, bus, train) must be itemized with applicable dates in the left hand column.
  - 5. Personal car mileage must be itemized point-to-point with applicable dates in the left hand column (attach a separate page, if necessary).
  - The total mileage claimed must be entered in the box on the right hand side of the voucher.
- C. Documentation for the Travel Voucher

In addition to the Travel Voucher, the following documentation must be attached to the PeopleSoft Voucher (see <u>Textravel</u> for additional information):

- Original receipts for:
  - a. Traveler-paid airfare (airline ticket stub, unless "ticketless" travel; travel agent's or airline's invoice/itinerary).
  - b. Traveler-paid rental car (itemized receipt).
  - c. Traveler-paid hotel (itemized receipt).
  - d. Traveler-paid meals (itemized receipt). Meal receipts may not be provided in some remote locations outside the United States. In those instances, the traveler must provide an itemized list of actual meal expenses and a written explanation for not providing meal receipts.

- de. Incidental expense transactions that exceed \$75.00 (itemized receipt).
- 2. Receipts in a foreign currency must be converted to U.S. dollars and the exchange rate must be indicated.
- 3. Itinerary from travel agency, if ticketless travel and/or airfare were purchased through a university-contracted travel agency.
- 4. Registration receipt or other proof of payment, if applicable.
- 5. For non-foreign travel, daily itinerary of meetings attended or conference program that support the business purpose of the trip. For foreign travel, copy of agenda and trip report submitted to the appropriate vice president or president, as described in paragraph IV.C.
- 56. Copy of approved Travel Request and any attachments explaining the purpose/benefit of the trip. If approved by emaile-mail, attach a copy of the approving emaile-mails along with the printed Travel Request.
- 67. Copy of Travel Voucher used to pay some of the travel expenses on a local-fund cost center, if applicable.
- For travel to Washington, D.C., copy of the confirmation page for submitting the Report of State Agency Travel to Washington, D.C., to the Office of State-Federal Relations and any related documentation.
- 89. For state hotel occupancy tax charged by a Texas hotel or motel, copy of statement approved by the Travel Coordinator that the hotel/motel refused to honor the Exemption Certificate.
- D. If airfare charged to the Department Travel Card is the only travel expense incurred, the department will note this on the Travel Request and upload the original Travel Request and invoice/itinerary in the Finance System.
- E. Accounting for third-party travel reimbursements to employees
  - If a third-party reimbursement is received before the employee signs the Travel-Voucher, expenses related to the reimbursement should be included in the expenditure detail and the reimbursement should be deducted from the total line on the Travel Voucher.
  - 2. If the third-party reimbursement is received after the employee signs the Travel Voucher, travel expenses covered by the third-party reimbursement should be included in the expenditure detail and paid to the employee. A personal check from the employee for the amount of the third-party reimbursement must be deposited into the appropriate university cost center and account within 10 days of receipt of the third-party reimbursement.

# XII. TRAVEL ADVANCES ON STATE FUNDS

Travel advances are paid and cleared on department local cost centers only. See MAPP 04.02.01B for travel advance instructions for local funds.

### XIII. TRAVEL-RELATED INSURANCE

- A. Travel must be approved in advance to ensure travelers are covered under the university insurance and workers' compensation programs-insurance and to provide legal protection as they perform official duties.
- B. Under the university travel accident policy, full-time employees (defined as having a 30-hour or greater work week) are insured in the amount of five times their annual salary up to \$250,000 against accidental loss of life or dismemberment when traveling on official university business. Coverage applies to students who are employed by the university 30 hours or more per week. (Property damage and liability is not covered.)
- C. In addition, the corporate state travel card vendor provides \$500,000 portal to portal travel insurance when the airfare is charged to the State Department Travel Card or to the traveler's individual Ceorporate Travel Ceard. Also, the contracted travel agencies may provide additional insurance benefits for business travelers.
- D. State-contracted rental cars include liability insurance and the collision damage waiver in the contracted price. However, they are not generally included in the price of noncontracted rental cars. Therefore, travelers should purchase liability insurance, unless covered by their own car insurance, and the collision damage waiver for non-contracted rental cars. Total cost may not exceed the cost of state contracted rental car that includes the liability insurance and the LDW.
- E. A Travel Request is not required for insurance purposes when travel is limited to the Houston area (i.e., for intercity mileage). However, it should be evident that the employee was driving to or from a university-related meeting.

# XIIIXIV. REVIEW AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Party:

Associate Vice President for Finance

Review:

Every three years, on or before June 1

# XIV. APPROVALS

Jim McShan

Interim Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance

Renu Khator

President

Date of President's Approval: April 7, 2008

XVI. REFERENCES

State of Texas Travel Rules and Regulations UH System Administrative Memoranda 01.C.05 and 03.A.03 MAPP 04.02.01B and 04.02.01C

MAPP 05.02.01

Index Terms: Air travel

Charge cards

Foreign travel
State travel service vendors
Travel
Travel request

# **REVISION LOG**

Revision Number	Approved Date	Description of Changes	
1	12/22/1992	Initial version (04.02.01 – Travel)	
2	06/07/2000	Applied revised MAPP template. MAPP number changed to 04.02.01A, title change to Travel Paid from State-Appropriated Funds. All sections rewritten to emphasize state-appropriated funding. Added Addendums A, B, C, D, and E	
<u>3</u>	08/12/2002	Texas Building and Procurement Commission (TBPC) replaced General Services Commission (GSC) throughout document. Added web addresses for various forms referenced in document. Removed information on Governor's Approval of Foreign Travel information throughout document. Inserted PeopleSoft Voucher information as applicable. Added information to Reimbursement rules for out-of-state meals and lodging. Removed Section XIV, Addendum D, and Addendum E	
4	10/25/2004	Added University Central Bill Account (CBA) to Section III. Travel requests approved by signing/printing document or e-mail message. Updated web sites throughout document. Updated documentation in Section IX and XII. Removed Addendum C	
<u>5</u>	07/28/2005	Applied revised MAPP template. Updated web sites throughout document. Rewrote Section XII	
<u>6</u>	02/28/2006	Applied revised MAPP template	
7	04/07/2008	Replaced TBPC with State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA) throughout document. Added websites for forms cited in Section III and throughout text. Removed University Central Bill Account (CBA) from Section III and replaced with Department Travel Card throughout documentation. Removed Section IX. Updated deadline information for submission of travel vouchers. Removed Addendum B and Addendum label for Travel Voucher example	
8	01/13/2010	Interim publication. Added information to Section IV.C. on foreign travel and specific prior approval. Updated information in Sections VI, VII and IX. Removed Travel Voucher example and Index terms	
9	TBD	Applied revised MAPP template and revision log. All changes from Interim publication (Revision 8) included, plus addition of Lodging in Section III and additional documentation for Official Mileage. Updated web site	

Travel Paid from State-Appropriated Funds		MAPP 04.02.01A
		t of meal expenses for remote as added to include a link to a ching a conference brochure blicable. The dates to be the travel dates, must be