



# Expense Manager Checklist for International Travel Reimbursements

## General

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- Is Budget Status on Expense Report Header Valid?  
*If not, resolve budget error before forwarding to Accounts Payable. If no response beside of Budget Status, hold report until budget checking process runs at the top of the hour.*
- Is the correct travel authorization attached?
- Do dates and location on travel authorization match dates and locations of expenses?
- Has expense report been submitted within 60 days from the completion of the trip?  
*If not, deny expense report and work with traveler to submit expenses via Payroll's Taxable Travel Process.*
- Is the funding source being used appropriate for the expenditures?
- Are included justifications appropriate?
- Do receipts in a foreign language have appropriate English translations/notations?

## Per Diem

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- Have appropriate expense types (I–Meals International Depert/Rtn for first and last day of travel and I–Meals International Full Day for all other days) been used?
- Have meals been deducted that were provided to the traveler (i.e. at a conference)?
- Have meal per diems been increased beyond allowable per diem rates established by the US Department of Defense per diem rates?  
*Note, if rate has been increased, this will show as an exception to the approver under the Exceptions and Risks display in the Summary section on the expense report during the approval process.*
- If reimbursement of per diem is being limited by the department to a daily amount less than the allowable rate, have notes been added to the request to address limiting the rate?

## Mileage

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- Has the correct expense type (D–Mileage Standard or D–Mileage Reduced Rate) been used to calculate the mileage rate?
- If traveler left from or returned directly to residence on a normal workday, have commuter miles been deducted?

## Lodging

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- Is receipt attached and viewable?
- Does receipt show itemized charges, payment method, and \$0.00 due?
- Does lodging receipt include non–allowable charges such as room service, movie charges, or meals charged to room?
- Is rate reasonable compared to the Department of Defense lodging rates?  
*As a rule of thumb, any rate exceeding the Department of Defense rate by more than 50% should be questioned. Rates can be reviewed at [https://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per\\_diem.asp](https://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per_diem.asp).*

## Airfare

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- Is receipt (confirmations are not acceptable) attached and is it viewable?
- Does receipt show payment and \$0.00 due?
- Was airfare direct billed to UGA?
- If direct billed, does employee have expense logged with ticket number referenced and payment type changed to UGA on the expense line referencing airfare?
- Was the proper class (no First Class, no Delta One) purchased?  
*Business Class is only allowable for international flights & flights to Hawaii and Alaska when flight is 12 hours or more.*
- Have non-allowable reserved or priority seating charges been included?
- Have non-allowable charges for upgrades or airline memberships been included?
- Have baggage fees been limited to 1 bag?  
*Anything over 1 requires business explanation on the expense report.*
- If traveling internationally, are federal funds being used?
- If so, was airline a US airline or a US code sharing airline to meet the requirements of the Fly America Act?

## Rental Car

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- Is receipt attached and is it viewable?
- Was the mandatory contract provider (Hertz) used?  
*If no, renting outside the mandatory statewide contract requires an approved waiver from the Department of Administrative Services on form SPD-NI005. Travelers should complete the form (found on the Department of Administrative Services website) and submit to the Chief Procurement Officer for UGA for submission to seek waiver.*
- Were optional fuel offerings (that should have been declined by the traveler) included on the invoice?
- Was the car an allowable size (compact, intermediate or full size)?
- Was rental insurance purchased?  
*When traveling outside the US, with the exception of Canada, the traveler should accept collision insurance when renting cars.*

## Other Ground Transport

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- Are receipts attached for ground transport of \$25 or more?
- Are tips limited to not exceed 20%?

## Miscellaneous Expenses

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- If Visa or Passport fees are included, is the receipt attached and viewable?
- Are receipts attached for self parking (valet not allowed when self service is available) of \$25 or more?
- Are moving citations (non-reimbursable) or parking citations (non-reimbursable) included on expense report?

# Employee Paid for Travel Expenses for Someone Else

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- If employee has paid travel expenses for another employee or non-employee, have proper expense types (*International: I-Group Trav By Emp For Non Em or I-Group Trav Emp Pd For Emp*) been utilized?
- Are participant names and how much of the amount should be reported to each individual in the Group Attendees section of the expense report?

Responsibility for appropriate audit, approval, and reimbursement of travel expense statements is vested in all persons with official approval and/or processing authority. Faculty and staff should maintain the highest ethical standards and should keep in mind their responsibilities as responsible stewards of University funds. The UGA Travel Policy provides guidance on items such as travel authorization, lodging, rental cars, airfare, mileage rates, per diem, submitting receipts, and much more. The policy is available [here](#).