Travel - Airfare

Effective: Moved to Policy Library from UPM 8.2(1)
Reviewed and Updated: July 1, 2019
Contact: Controller's Department

Introduction
This policy covers the purchase of air tickets, whether through a university contracted travel agency or other sources.

Policy Statement
University travelers may order air tickets from one of the contracted agencies by using university travel and entertainment (T&E) procurement cards. No comparative quotes between contracted agencies are required.

Travelers are allowed to order air tickets through Internet sites by using their personal credit cards. Although significant savings sometimes can be realized through Internet sites, travelers need to be aware of the site's policies regarding ticket exchanges, refunds and transfers before making a purchase. Travel advances will not be made to facilitate ticket purchases. Reimbursement must wait until the conclusion of the trip.

Payments by Disbursement Voucher can be made directly to non-contracted agencies for "consolidator" tickets. Only agencies whose primary business is "consolidator" tickets may be used. A comparative quote from a contracted agency is not required.

The least expensive class, generally economy or coach, should be used for all air travel. The traveler may not indicate a preferred carrier in order to accumulate frequent flier miles.

Travelers using federal funds also need to use a U.S. flag carrier, as provided in the Fly America Act (see Resources below).

Resources

Links
- Controller's Department Travel Information
- Controller's Air Travel Policies and Procedures
- Fly America Act - Airfare Restrictions - Federal Grants
- FAQ - Air Travel
- Summary of Allowable Expenses
- Travel – Authorization and Funding
- Travel – Foreign
- Travel - Reimbursement