

Federal Property Management Regulations

§ 101-37.403

necessary to meet the agency's mission requirements.

(b) Agencies must comply with OMB Circular A-76 before purchasing, leasing, or otherwise acquiring aircraft and related services to assure that these services cannot be obtained from and operated by the private sector more cost effectively.

(c) Agencies shall review on a 5-year cycle the continuing need for all of their aircraft and the cost effectiveness of their aircraft operations in accordance with OMB approved cost justification methodologies. A copy of each agency review shall be submitted to GSA when completed and to OMB with the agency's next budget submission. Agencies shall report any excess aircraft and release all aircraft that are not fully justified by these reviews.

(d) Agencies shall use their aircraft in the most cost effective way to meet their requirements.

Subpart 101-37.4—Use of Government-Owned and -Operated Aircraft

SOURCE: 58 FR 53660, Oct. 18, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

§ 101-37.400 General.

The provisions of this subpart prescribe policies and procedures for the use of Government aircraft. This subpart incorporates certain provisions of OMB Circular A-126 and OMB Bulletin Number 93-11.

§ 101-37.401 [Reserved]

§ 101-37.402 Policy.

Government aircraft shall be used for official purposes only in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including this subpart.

(a) Use of Government aircraft. Agencies shall operate Government aircraft only for official purposes. Official purposes include the operation of Government aircraft for:

- (1) Mission requirements, and
- (2) Other official travel.

(b) Use of Government aircraft for official travel or on space available travel is subject to paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) of this section.

(1) Use of a Government aircraft for official travel other than required use travel or mission requirement travel; i.e., for the conduct of agency business, shall be authorized only when:

(i) No commercial airline or aircraft service (including charter) is reasonably available to fulfill effectively the agency's requirement; or

(ii) The actual cost of using a Government aircraft is not more than the cost of commercial airline or aircraft service (including charter). When a flight is made for mission requirements or required use travel (and is certified as such in writing by the agency which is conducting the mission), it is presumed that secondary use of the aircraft for other travel for the conduct of agency business will result in cost savings.

(2) Use of a Government aircraft on a space available basis is authorized only when:

(i) The aircraft is already scheduled for use for an official purpose;

(ii) Space available travel does not require a larger aircraft than needed for the already scheduled official purpose;

(iii) Space available use results in no, or only minor, additional cost to the Government; and

(iv) Reimbursement is provided as set forth in § 101-37.403 of this subpart.

(c) The Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, Attorney General, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of Central Intelligence may use Government aircraft for travel other than:

(1) To meet mission requirements, or

(2) For the conduct of agency business, but only upon reimbursement at full coach fare and with authorization by the President or his designated representative on the grounds that a threat exists which could endanger lives or when continuous 24-hour secure communication is required.

§ 101-37.403 Reimbursement for the use of Government aircraft.

A passenger transported by Government aircraft is required to reimburse the Government under the circumstances specified, and in the amount indicated, in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section.

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(a) For travel that is not required use travel:

(1) Any incidental private activities (personal or political) of an employee undertaken on an employee's own time while on official travel shall not result in any increase in the actual costs to the Government of operating the aircraft, and

(2) The Government shall be reimbursed the appropriate share of the full coach fare for any portion of the time on the trip spent on political activities (except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d) of this section).

(b) For required use travel (except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d) of this section).

(1) For a wholly personal or political trip, the Government shall be reimbursed the full coach fare for the trip.

(2) For an official trip during which the employee engages in political activities, the Government shall be reimbursed the appropriate share of the full coach fare for the entire trip, and

(3) For an official trip during which the employee flies to one or more locations for personal reasons, the Government shall be reimbursed the excess of the full coach fare of all flights taken by the employee on the trip over the full coach fare of the flights that would have been taken by the employee had there been no personal activities on the trip.

(c) For space available travel, whether on mission requirements or other flights, the Government shall be reimbursed at the full coach fare except:

(1) As authorized under 10 U.S.C. 4744 and regulations implementing that statute, and

(2) By civilian personnel and their dependents in remote locations not reasonably accessible to regularly scheduled commercial airline service.

(d) In any case of political travel, reimbursement shall be made in the amount required by law or regulation (e.g., 11 CFR 106.3) if greater than the amount otherwise required under paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section.

§ 101-37.404 Approving the use of Government aircraft for transportation of passengers.

(a) Use of Government aircraft for official travel may be approved only by

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the agency head or official(s) designated by the agency head.

(b) Whenever a Government aircraft used to fulfill a mission requirement is used also to transport senior Federal officials, members of their families or other non-Federal travelers on a space available basis (except as authorized under 10 U.S.C. 4744 and regulations implementing that statute), the agency that is conducting the mission shall certify in writing prior to the flight that the aircraft is scheduled to perform a bona fide mission activity, and that the minimum mission requirements have not been exceeded in order to transport such space available travelers. In emergency situations, an after-the-fact written certification by the agency is permitted.

[60 FR 3552, Jan. 18, 1995]

§ 101-37.405 Approving travel on Government aircraft.

Policy and practices under which travel on Government aircraft may be approved by the agency are specified in paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section.

(a) All travel on Government aircraft must have advance authorization by the sponsoring agency in accordance with its travel policies, OMB Circular A-126 and, when applicable, documented on an official travel authorization. Where possible, such travel authorization must be approved by at least one organizational level above that of the person(s) traveling. If review by a higher organizational level is not possible, another appropriate approval is required.

(b) All required use travel must have written approval on a trip-by-trip basis from the agency's senior legal official or the principal deputy, unless:

(1) The President has determined that all travel or travel in specified categories by an agency head is qualified as required use travel, or

(2) The agency head has determined that all travel or travel in specified categories by an officer or employee other than the agency head, is qualified as required use travel.

(i) Any determination by an agency head that travel by an officer or employee of that agency qualifies as required use travel must be in writing