

## Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) will reimburse authorized travelers, including staff, Councilors, site visitors, consultants and other CEPH-designees for travel expenses incurred on CEPH business according to this policy. It is the responsibility of all authorized travelers and for applicant and accredited schools and programs to be informed about this policy. Questions about this policy should be directed to [officeadmin@ceph.org](mailto:officeadmin@ceph.org) or 202-789-1050.

### **REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Receipts must be submitted via email ([officeadmin@ceph.org](mailto:officeadmin@ceph.org)) to CEPH immediately after travel but no more than 30 days following a trip.

Travelers may also send documentation to:

Council on Education for Public Health  
1010 Wayne Ave  
Suite 220  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

For site visits and consultation visits, CEPH will directly reimburse all travelers and provide an itemized bill to the school or program to reimburse CEPH. For travel expenses incurred as part of the accreditation process, schools and programs are expected to reimburse CEPH in accordance with the CEPH Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy. CEPH does not provide, nor should any traveler provide, social security numbers to schools and programs. CEPH's tax identification number is 52-1017653.

### **MODE AND COST OF TRAVEL**

Travelers on CEPH business are responsible for making their own travel arrangements. Travelers should book travel through CEPH's online travel service. A CEPH staff member will provide travelers with a link. Booking travel outside of this travel service requires permission from the CEPH staff coordinator.

Travelers are expected to select the mode of transportation which will be least expensive while allowing the traveler to perform his/her duties most expeditiously and without causing personal hardship. This may, at times, require a traveler to use a non-preferred airline, when prices are not comparable, or other non-preferred mode of transportation. When a traveler chooses to use a mode of transportation that is not the least expensive (e.g., driving long distances in a personal automobile), CEPH will reimburse the traveler up to the cost of the least expensive mode of transportation.

### **By Air, Rail or Bus**

Travel by air, rail or bus is reimbursable for coach class ticket costs only. Travel should be booked as far in advance as possible to take advantage of discounted fares. If a restricted fare is booked and a change is required due to meeting time or date changes, a reasonable exchange fee may be claimed.

When traveling for a site visit or consultation visit, CEPH does not cover seat selection, seat upgrades, or premium economy tickets. If a traveler wishes to use their own airline miles or personal funds for these purposes, they are encouraged to call the airline directly.

Any fare in excess of \$800 must be pre-approved by the CEPH Executive Director. If a fare is in excess of \$800 and has not been preapproved, a maximum reimbursement of \$800 will be allowed.

### **By Private Automobile**

Privately owned automobile use reimbursement rate is made at the current government rate based on the actual mileage. The mileage allowance is in lieu of any and all transportation costs incurred en route, except tolls and parking, as required. Travelers are expected to take the most expeditious and direct route.

### **By Rental Car**

Rental cars are sometimes necessary, depending on the local situation and on the traveler's transportation needs. Reimbursement for rental cars will only be made if authorized in advance by the CEPH Executive Director.

### **Other Modes of Travel**

Actual expenses related to taxis, shuttles, subway, and other modes of travel will be reimbursed with receipts.

### **LODGING**

Except in unusual circumstances, individuals traveling on CEPH business will not be responsible for making lodging arrangements. For CEPH meetings, lodging arrangements are made by CEPH staff and for site visits and consultation visits, lodging arrangements are made by the school or program. In most cases, lodging on a site visit or consultation visit should be direct billed to the school or program. If not, actual cost of lodging will be reimbursed to the traveler with a receipt.

### **MEALS**

Actual costs of meals purchased during travel (travel days as well as on-site days) will be reimbursed with receipts. Travelers should use moderately priced establishments whenever possible. Itemized receipts must be provided for travelers on site visits and consultation visits. Alcoholic beverages will not be reimbursed for individuals traveling on site visits or consultation visits. Reimbursement of meals is not authorized where a meal is pre-paid or directly provided as part of a meeting or conference.

### **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES**

CEPH reimburses reasonable miscellaneous costs such as tolls, parking, luggage tips, housekeeping tips, and internet usage. CEPH also reimburses travel costs incurred due to factors out of the traveler's control such as mechanical and weather cancellations of air travel. CEPH does not reimburse personal expenses such as entertainment; laundry; travel insurance; newspapers, magazines, and other reading materials; parking and traffic fines; or charges incurred because of indirect or extended travel for personal reasons.

### **LOCAL TRAVEL**

Reimbursement may be made for 1) incurred meal expenses when a meal is an integral part of a CEPH business meeting. The business purpose of the meeting must be stated on the reimbursement request and receipts are required; 2) meal expenses when the meal is purchased due to a requirement to be away from the place of business to attend an all-day or late meeting or conference; 3) incurred local transportation expenses to meetings including subway, bus, taxi/ride share, and parking. CEPH will not reimburse staff for personal automobile travel to and from their local airport or for local personal automobile travel incurred as part of commuting to the CEPH office.

Council on Education for Public Health  
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