

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENTAL
FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES MANUAL

TITLE: Use of Rental Vehicles

Proc #: 6-713

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to provide guidelines on the use of rental vehicles for ODU employees on official University business. It is strongly encouraged that travelers use the University's Enterprise Rental Car contract when renting vehicles for out-of-town University-related business.

B. DESIGNATED STAFF & RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT(S)

Individual travelers
Budget Unit Directors
Office of Finance

C. PROCESSING CYCLE

Daily or upon need arising for business travel

D. REQUIRED RESOURCE MATERIALS

Pre-Approval Request – online in Chrome River
Expense Report – online in Chrome River
Misc. Receipts

E. GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CAPP Section 20335 – “Travel Regulations” - most recent effective date
University Policies #1051 – Business Travel Policy
Internal Revenue Code Sections Governing Business Expenses
Office of Finance Policies and Procedures
Enterprise Contract – located on Procurement Services' Website

F. CROSS REFERENCE TO OTHER PROCEDURES

CAPP Topic # 20310, “Expenditures”
CAPP Topic # 20315, “Prompt Payment”
CAPP Topic # 20336, “Agency Travel Processing”
U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) CONUS and OCONUS Rates
ODU Training Materials
Chrome River Training Guide
Office of Finance Procedure 6-712, Use of Personal Vehicles

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G. OTHER ODU OFFICES IMPACTED

Office of Finance – Accounts Payable
Procurement Services
Facilities Management
University Departments

H. INVOLVEMENT EXTERNAL TO ODU

Vendors providing travel related goods or services to ODU employees on official University business.

I. PROCEDURE:

1. It is strongly recommended that travelers use the University's Enterprise Rental Car contract when renting vehicles for out-of-town University-related business.
(Information about this contract can be obtained from Procurement Services at 683-3105 or on the Procurement Services' web site.)
2. You may pay for these services using (a) Corporate Travel Card; (b) an eVA purchase order; (c) an Authorization for Purchase; or (d) PCard.
3. If utilizing the Enterprise Rental Car Contract – always reference the University's account number (see contract on Procurement Services website) when making reservations and verify that you are receiving the appropriate rates cited in the contract.
4. If you are using an eVA purchase order when utilizing the Enterprise contract or any other vendor, be sure to provide Enterprise (or any other vendor) with the purchase order number and budget code. **Do not claim this as a reimbursable expense on your Expense Report, if paying via purchase order.** You must attach a copy of the *Pre-Approval Request* with the Accounts Payable copy of the purchase order if the trip involves international travel.

NOTE: When using an eVA purchase order for these services, invoices received by Accounts Payable that fail to reference the eVA purchase order number will be returned unpaid to the vendor, with the resulting responsibility for payment placed on the individual traveler(s).

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5. If you are using your Corporate Travel Card to pay for these services, **reimbursement cannot be made until after travel is completed.**
6. **If you wish to use your Small Purchase Charge Card (PCard) contact the PCard Administrator in Procurement Services for instructions on completing a “Request for Car Rental Exception Form.”**
7. Reimbursement for car rental expenses is limited to official business use only. Car rentals may be made through commercial rental agencies. The traveler must select the most economical contractor and type of vehicle available and acquire any commercial rate or government discount available when the vehicle is rented.
8. **In most cases, rental vehicles are to be used only after reaching the travel destination.** However, for travel initiated from the traveler’s base point, the traveler may complete a cost/benefit analysis to determine if it is beneficial for the State if they use a rental car in lieu of a personal vehicle for the planned trip. **The cost/benefit analysis should consider the cost of the rental car, any surcharges, and the cost of fuel for operating the rental vehicle. If this analysis demonstrates that it is cost beneficial to obtain the rental vehicle, a rental car may be used.** Be sure to attach the analysis to the Expense Report.
9. **LOCAL TRAVEL** - When University-related travel is expected to be 200 miles or more per day, departments should use the Enterprise Rent-A-Car contract. Employees may choose to use personal vehicles if daily mileage is expected to be 200 miles or more per day, ***but reimbursement will be at a lower rate unless a cost analysis is provided that indicates personal vehicle use is cheaper.***
10. Rental vehicles should be refueled before returning the vehicle to the rental contractor unless an exception is noted. **Reimbursement will be based on the fuel used and receipts provided.** Refueling *fees are not allowed.*
11. In no instance should the traveler enter in a “Fuel Agreement” or pay for fuel at the time of rental or before the vehicle is used.
12. The type of car rented (Economy, Compact, Two-Door, Full Size, etc.) must be listed on the Expense Report in the Comments section.
13. Travelers will be reimbursed for **actual expenses (gas, oil, etc.)** rather than mileage rates.

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14. No add-on GPS charges are allowed.

15. *Original* receipts for the car rental, gasoline purchases and supporting documentation must be centrally maintained in a department file and attached to the Expense Report. (***receipts required***). Ensure the gasoline or car rental expense type is selected when inputting expenses in Chrome River.

16. Attach a copy of the rental contract to the Expense Report.

17. Insurance Coverage - State Employees - Insurance coverage offered by rental car contractors should be **declined**. Costs associated with optional coverage will not be reimbursed. (The Department of Treasury, Division of Risk Management, provides a Statewide Self-Insured Automobile plan for State Employees).

18. Insurance Coverage - Non-State Employees (and Consultants) - Non-State employees (and Consultants) are not covered under the state's insurance coverage and are required to purchase Liability Damage Waiver (LDW) and Collision Damage Waiver (CDW) insurance. These individuals will be reimbursed for LDW and CDW coverage. Limits may apply. Discuss reimbursement for insurance coverage for these individuals with the Accounts Payable Manager at 3-4813.

19. Insurance Coverage - Outside Virginia – a traveler may encounter a situation when renting a car outside of Virginia and the car rental company requires the traveler to obtain coverage from the car rental company or show some evidence of insurance coverage. **The traveler should determine if this requirement is in effect for their travel destination PRIOR to travel if possible and if so, obtain a “Proof of Insurance” certificate from the Division of Risk Management.**

<http://www.trsvirginia.gov/Risk-Management/Claims>

20. Insurance Coverage - Travel Outside the Country – State Employees and Non-State Employees - Individuals traveling outside the territorial U.S. (including Canada and Puerto Rico) **are required to purchase**, and will be reimbursed for, **LDW and CDW insurance only**. Other types of insurance offered, such as trip cancellation, personal, health or life insurance are *not reimbursable*.

21. Reporting Accidents - Employees are responsible for operating rental cars in a safe and responsible manner. If a traveler on official business is

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involved in a vehicle accident while operating a rental car, the following steps should be taken:

- a. Contact the state or local police of the jurisdiction where the accident occurred.
- b. Notify the car rental contractor by calling the telephone number contained in the car rental agreement. Also, complete a contractor Vehicle Accident Report, which should be included in the rental information packet.
- c. Contact Facilities Management and notify them of the accident.
- d. Facilities Management will notify ODU's Office of Risk Management.

Records Retention:

All original travel documentation for reimbursements processed in Chrome River must be centrally maintained in a department file for a minimum of three (3) years and/or until audited by the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) and/or Department of Accounts (DOA) per CAPP Topic 20310. After three years, all records may be disposed of in accordance with the University's Records Management Program.

Contacts:

For questions regarding this procedure and/or practice contact the Accounts Payable Manager at 683-4813 or the Accounts Payable Travel Supervisor at 683-5020.