

August 14, 2018

FEDERAL TRAVEL REGULATION
GSA Per Diem Bulletin FTR 19-01

TO: Heads of Federal Agencies

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2019 Continental United States (CONUS) Per Diem Reimbursement Rates

1. What is the purpose of this bulletin? The General Services Administration's (GSA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 per diem reimbursement rates review has resulted in lodging and meal allowance changes for certain locations within CONUS to provide for reimbursement of Federal employees' subsistence expenses while on official travel.

This Per Diem Bulletin updates the maximum lodging allowance rates in existing per diem localities. One new non-standard area (NSA) location was added for FY 2019 for Cobb County, Georgia. Hancock and Knox Counties in Maine were combined into one NSA. The standard CONUS lodging rate will increase from \$93 to \$94.

The meals and incidental expenses (M&IE) reimbursement rate tiers were also revised for FY 2019. They were last revised in FY 2016. The standard CONUS M&IE rate will be \$55 and the M&IE NSA rate tiers were revised from \$54-\$74 to \$56-\$76.

2. What is the background of this bulletin? This bulletin, once published on the GSA website, effects a revision of the per diem reimbursement rates prescribed by GSA's Office of Government-wide Policy (OGP) for CONUS. Notices published periodically in the *Federal Register* now constitute the only notification of revisions to CONUS per diem reimbursement rates to agencies other than the changes posted on the GSA website. Per diem reimbursement rates are published at www.gsa.gov/perdiem as a Federal Travel Regulation (FTR) GSA Per Diem Bulletin.

3. Can agencies authorize actual expense reimbursement if their travelers cannot find rooms at the per diem reimbursement rates? If per diem reimbursement rates are insufficient to meet expenses, the FTR permits actual expense reimbursement up to 300% of the applicable maximum per diem rate, pursuant to FTR §§ 301-11.300 through 301-11.306.

4. What is the effective date of this bulletin? This bulletin is effective upon the date of publication, and applies to travel performed on or after October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019.

5. Whom should I contact for further information? For clarification of content, contact Ms. Jill Denning, OGP, Office of Asset and Transportation Management, at (202) 208-7642 or by e-mail at travelpolicy@gsa.gov. Please cite GSA Per Diem Bulletin FTR 19-01.

By delegation of the Administrator of General Services,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Salmoiraghi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jessica Salmoiraghi
Associate Administrator
Office of Government-wide Policy