

Subpart B—Common Carrier Transportation

§ 301-10.100 What types of common carrier transportation may I be authorized to use?

You may be authorized to use airline, train, ship, bus, or other transit system.

[FTR Amdt. 70, 63 FR 15955, Apr. 1, 1998, as amended by FTR Amdt. 2010-02, 75 FR 24435, May 5, 2010]

§ 301-10.101 What classes of common carrier accommodations are available?

Common carriers frequently update their levels of service and use various terminologies to distinguish those levels of service. For the purposes of this regulation, the classes of common carrier transportation are categorized as coach class, premium economy class, business class, and first class.

NOTE 1 TO § 301-10.101: If an airline flight has only two classes of accommodations available, *i.e.*, two distinctly different seating types (such as girth and pitch) and the front of the aircraft is termed “premium economy class” or higher by the airline and the tickets are fare coded as premium economy class or higher, then the front of the aircraft is deemed to be other than coach class. Alternatively, if an airline flight has only two seating sections available but equips both with one type of seating, (*i.e.*, seating girth and pitch are the same in both sections of the aircraft), and the seats in the front of the aircraft are fare coded as full fare economy class, and only restricted economy fares are available in the back of the aircraft, then the entire aircraft is to be classified as coach class. In this second situation, qualifying for other than coach class travel is not required to purchase an unrestricted full fare economy seat in the front of the aircraft as the entire aircraft is considered “coach class.”

[FTR Case 2020-300-1, 87 FR 55702, Sept. 12, 2022]

§ 301-10.102 What class of common carrier accommodations must I use?

For all official travel you must use coach class accommodations, unless your agency authorizes or approves the use of other than coach class accommodations as provided under § 301-10.103.

[FTR Case 2020-300-1, 87 FR 55702, Sept. 12, 2022]

§ 301-10.103 When may I use other than coach class accommodations?

You are required to exercise the same care in incurring expenses that a prudent person would exercise if traveling on personal business when making official travel arrangements. Therefore, you are required to use the least expensive class of accommodations necessary to meet your needs and accomplish the agency’s mission. You may use the lowest other than coach class accommodations only when your agency specifically authorizes or approves such use as specified in paragraph (a), (b), or (c) of this section.

(a) Your agency may authorize or approve premium economy class accommodations when:

(1) Required to accommodate a medical disability or other special need;

(i) A medical disability must be certified annually in a written statement by a competent medical authority. However, if the disability is a lifelong condition, then a one-time certification statement is required. Certification statements must include at a minimum:

(A) A written statement by a competent medical authority stating that special accommodation is necessary;

(B) An approximate duration of the special accommodation; and

(C) A recommendation as to the suitable class of transportation accommodations based on the medical disability.

(ii) A special need must be certified annually in writing according to your agency’s procedures. However, if the special need is a lifelong condition, then a one-time certification statement is required;

(iii) If you are authorized under § 301-13.3(a) of this subchapter to have an attendant accompany you, your agency may also authorize the attendant to use premium economy class accommodations if you require the attendant’s services en route;

(2) Exceptional security circumstances, as determined by your agency, require premium economy class accommodations;

(3) Coach class accommodations on an authorized foreign carrier do not provide adequate sanitation or health standards;

Temp. Duty (TDY) Travel Allowances

§ 301-10.106

(4) Regularly scheduled service between origin and destination points, including connecting points, provide only other than coach class accommodations and you certify such on your voucher;

(5) Your common carrier costs are paid in full through agency acceptance of payment from a non-Federal source in accordance with chapter 304 of this title;

(6) Your origin and/or destination is/are OCONUS and your scheduled flight time, including stopovers and change of planes, is in excess of eight hours;

(7) The use results in an overall cost savings to the Government by avoiding additional subsistence costs, overtime, or lost productive time while awaiting coach class accommodations;

(8) No space is available in coach class accommodations that allows you to arrive in time to accomplish the mission, which is urgent and cannot be postponed; or

(9) Required because of agency mission, consistent with your agency's internal procedures pursuant to §301-70.102(i).

(b) Your agency may authorize or approve business class accommodations under paragraphs (a)(1) through (5) and (7) through (9) of this section, or when:

(1) Your origin and/or destination are OCONUS;

(2) Your scheduled flight time, including stopovers and change of planes, is more than 14 hours;

(3) You are required to report to duty the following day or sooner; and

(4) Your agency has determined business class accommodations are more advantageous than authorizing a rest period en route or at your destination pursuant to §301-11.20.

(c) Your agency may authorize or approve first class accommodations under paragraph (a)(1), (2), or (9) of this section, or when no coach class, premium economy class, or business class accommodations are reasonably available. "Reasonably available" means available on a common carrier that is scheduled to leave within 24 hours of your proposed departure time, or scheduled to arrive within 24 hours of your proposed arrival time.

NOTE 1 TO §301-10.103: Other than coach class accommodations may be obtained at a

traveler's personal expense, including through redemption of program membership benefits such as frequent flyer programs.

NOTE 2 TO §301-10.103: Open authorization (*i.e.*, Unlimited Open or Limited Open) of other than coach class transportation accommodations is prohibited and shall be authorized on an individual trip-by-trip basis, unless the traveler has an up-to-date documented medical disability or special need.

[FTR Case 2020-300-1, 87 FR 55702, Sept. 12, 2022]

§ 301-10.104 What must I do if I change or do not use a common carrier reservation?

If you know you will change or not use your reservation, you must take action to change or cancel it as prescribed by your agency. Also, you must report all changes of your reservation according to your agency's procedures in an effort to prevent losses to the Government. Failure to do so may subject you to liability for any resulting losses.

[FTR Case 2020-300-1, 87 FR 55702, Sept. 12, 2022]

§ 301-10.105 What must I do with unused Government Transportation Request(s) (GTR(s)), ticket(s), or refund application(s)?

You must submit any unused GTR(s), unused ticket coupons, unused e-tickets, unused e-vouchers, or refund applications to your agency in accordance with your agency's procedures.

[FTR Case 2020-300-1, 87 FR 55703, Sept. 12, 2022]

§ 301-10.106 Am I authorized to receive or keep a refund or credit for unused transportation?

No. You are not authorized to receive or keep a refund, credit, or any other negotiable document from a transportation service provider for undelivered services (except as provided in §301-10.123) or any portion of an unused ticket issued in exchange for a GTR or billed to an agency's centrally billed account. However, any charges billed directly to your individually billed Government charge card account should be credited to your account. You must immediately remit to the