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Approved by Board - 08 August 2019 Next review date - August 2021

# **Travel Policy**

- 1. As a not-for-profit organization, the OI Society (the Society) recognises the need to be fiscally prudent with its funds, while covering the value of travel expenses for conducting face-to-face meetings, provide training, represent the Society and inviting key individuals to participate at events.
- 2. The Society will administer a fair and equitable travel policy that enables it to conduct business while setting reasonable controls on expenses.
- This policy applies to all travellers using the Society's funds, including but not limited to the Board of Directors, approved speakers and trainers, Fellowship participants and contractors.
   Policy
- 1. Travel for business may be funded by the Society, but must be authorised by the Board prior to travel authorisation.
- 2. Individuals with authorisation for travel may:
  - Make travel arrangements, using whatever personal or business discounts are reasonably available at the time, using their personal funds;
  - Request reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred prior to travel, such as airfare (as described below).
  - If personal/business charges are incurred, all such charges will be submitted within 45 days after travel has taken place, for reimbursement. Exceptions may be approved by the Board

### 3. Class of service

- The Society will reimburse Coach/Economy Class service (or equivalent) for all modes of transport;
- Individuals are allowed to use their own travel-class upgrade opportunities;
- Exceptions to Class of Service are authorised by the Board for hardship cases, extreme health reasons, etc., on a case-by-case basis, prior to travel arrangements.
- Bookings should be made as far in advance as possible, so that the lowest available rates can be utilised.
- Travellers may choose their own airline and flight itinerary to optimise travel time, fewest connections, etc., towards the goal of overall cost reduction.

## 4. Expenses

- Reasonable reimbursable expenses include travel, ground transportation, hotel accommodations, network connectivity, and incidentals. The Board must explicitly approve all travel in advance and the President will approve all expenses.
- Meal reimbursements will be handled on a per item basis. All meals and incidentals should be reasonable and necessary.
- When attended events include meal service at no extra cost to the traveller, the traveller is encouraged to participate.
- All other authorised travel expenses are reimbursed on an actual cost basis.

#### 5. Reimbursement

- All expense claim forms must be submitted to the Treasurer and the President for approval.
- The President verifies all expenses for conformance with the travel policy (this document) and recommends their approval for payment to the Treasurer (or returns to traveller for modification and re-submittal until acceptable).
- Travellers are reimbursed for approved expenses on a timely basis (approximately 14 days) after approval.
- Expenses and reimbursements will generally be conducted in AUS Dollars, but other arrangements can be made at the discretion of the President.

## 6. Expense Claim Forms

- All expenses are to be tracked and documented in the Society's expense claim form template.
- Each expense must be noted and adequately described. When expenses are shared among travellers (e.g., sharing a taxi to an airport), the expense should be thus noted, and only one person can claim the expense.
- All expenses require a receipt in order to be reimbursed. If no receipt is
  possible, the traveller must provide a thorough explanation and justification
  in the expense report with a missing receipt form.
- Receipts will be scanned and submitted (electronically) with all expense claim forms.
- 7. The Board, on a case-by-case basis, may grant exceptions to this policy.