



Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy

(adopted 2014; updated Aug 9, 2022)

Purpose

The Board of Directors of the North American Maritime Ministry Association (NAMMA) recognizes that board members, officers, and employees (“Personnel”) of NAMMA may be required to travel or incur other expenses from time to time to conduct association business and to further the mission of this nonprofit organization. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that (a) adequate cost controls are in place, (b) travel and other expenditures are appropriate, and (c) to provide a uniform and consistent approach for the timely reimbursement of authorized expenses incurred by Personnel. It is the policy of NAMMA to reimburse only reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred by authorized representatives of the organization.

When incurring business expenses, NAMMA expects Board Members and Personnel to:

- Exercise discretion and good business judgment with respect to those expenses.
- Be cost conscious and spend the association’s money as carefully and judiciously as the individual would spend his or her own funds.
- Report expenses, supported by required documentation, as they were actually spent.

Expense Report

Expenses will not be reimbursed unless the individual requesting reimbursement submits a written Expense Report. The Expense Report, which shall be submitted at least monthly or within two weeks of the completion of travel if travel expense reimbursement is requested must include:

- The individual’s name
- If reimbursement for travel is requested, the date, origin, destination and purpose of the trip, including a description of each organization-related activity during the trip.
- The name and affiliation of all people for whom expenses are claimed (i.e., people on whom money is spent (e.g., meals) in order to conduct NAMMA’s business).
- An itemized list of all expenses for which reimbursement is requested.

Receipts

Receipts are required for all expenditures billed directly to NAMMA, such as airfare and hotel charges. No expense in excess of \$10.00 will be reimbursed to Personnel unless the individual requesting reimbursement submits with the Expense Report written receipts from each vendor showing the vendor's name, a description of the services provided (if not otherwise obvious), the date, and the total expenses, including tips (if applicable). A credit card receipt or statement may be used to document the vendor and date of an expense, provided other required details of the expenditure are fully documented.

Organization Credit Cards

If a corporate credit card is issued to personnel for travel (and other) organization-related expenses, the requirements for regular expense reports, explaining charges, as described above under "Expenses Reports" must still be met, and charges may not be made for "Non-Reimbursable Expenditures" as described below. Failure to meet the Expense Report requirements, or making of inappropriate charges will result in loss of the credit card.

General Travel Requirements

Necessity of Travel. In determining the reasonableness and necessity of travel expenses, Personnel and the person authorizing the travel shall consider the ways in which NAMMA will benefit from the travel and weigh those benefits against the anticipated costs of the travel. The same considerations shall be taken into account in deciding whether the benefits to NAMMA outweigh the costs, less expensive alternatives, such as participation by telephone or video conferencing, or the availability of local programs or training opportunities, shall be considered.

Personal and Spousal Travel Expenses. With advance approval from NAMMA's President, individuals traveling on behalf of NAMMA may incorporate personal travel or business with their association-related trips; however, Personnel shall not arrange association travel at a time that is less advantageous to NAMMA or involving greater expenses to NAMMA in order to accommodate personal travel plans. Any additional expenses incurred as a result of personal travel, including but not limited to extra hotel nights, additional stopovers, meals or transportation, are the sole responsibility of the individual and will not be reimbursed by NAMMA. Expenses associated with travel of an individual's spouse, family or friends will not be reimbursed by NAMMA.

Air Travel

Air travel reservations should be made as far in advance as possible in order to take advantage of reduced fares. NAMMA will reimburse or pay only the cost of the lowest available airfare that reasonably meets travel needs from the airport nearest the person's home or office to the airport nearest the destination.

Frequent Flyer Miles and Compensation for Denied Boarding. Personnel traveling on behalf of NAMMA may accept and retain frequent flyer miles and compensation for denied boarding for their personal use. Individuals may not deliberately patronize a single airline to accumulate frequent flyer miles if less expensive comparable tickets are available on another airline.

NAMMA will not reimburse the cost of airfare if the flight was purchased with airline or credit card reward points.

Lodging

Personnel traveling on behalf of NAMMA may be reimbursed at the single room rate for the reasonable cost of hotel accommodations. Convenience, the cost of staying in the city in which the hotel is located, and proximity to other venues on the individual's itinerary shall be considered in determining reasonableness. Personnel shall make use of available corporate and discount rates for hotels.

For amounts in excess of \$200.00 US per night, approval by the President is required. When possible, concerted effort should be made to seek reasonable lodging among NAMMA member agencies or individuals.

Out-Of-Town Meals

Personnel traveling on behalf of NAMMA are reimbursed on a per meal basis at the following rates when they actually incur the cost of a meal. They will not be reimbursed for meals paid for or provided by others.

Breakfast:	\$ 20.00
Lunch:	\$ 25.00
Dinner:	\$ 35.00
All meals for a day:	\$ 80.00

Exceptions to the above limits may be made where available meal options require higher expenditures. Exceptions will require a receipt, and must be approved by the NAMMA president.

Ground Transportation

Employees are expected to use the most economical ground transportation appropriate under the circumstances and should generally use the following, in this order of desirability:

Courtesy Cars. Many hotels have courtesy cars, which will take you to and from the airport at no charge. Employees should take advantage of this free service whenever possible. Another alternative may be a shuttle or bus.

Taxis or Ride shares. When courtesy cars and airport shuttles are not available, a taxi or ride sharing service (i.e. Uber; Lyft) is often the next most economical and convenient form of transportation when the trip is for a limited time and minimal mileage is involved.

Rental Cars. Car rentals are expensive so other forms of transportation should be considered when practical. Employees will be allowed to rent a car while out of town provided that the cost is less than alternative methods of transportation.

Personal Cars

Personnel are compensated for use of their personal cars when used for NAMMA business. When individuals use their personal car for such travel, mileage will be allowed at the currently approved IRS rate per mile.

In the case of individuals using their personal cars to take a trip that would normally be made by air, mileage will be allowed at the currently approved rate; however, the total mileage reimbursement will not exceed the sum of the lowest available round trip coach airfare.

Parking/Tolls

Parking and toll expenses, including charges for hotel parking, incurred by Personnel traveling on organization business will be reimbursed. The costs of parking tickets, fines, car washes, valet service, etc., are the responsibility of the employee and will not be reimbursed.

On-airport parking is permitted for short business trips. For extended trips, Personnel should use off-airport facilities or make other travel arrangements to the airport.

Entertainment and Business Meetings

Reasonable expenses incurred for business meetings or other types of business-related entertainment will be reimbursed only if the expenditures are approved in advance by the president of NAMMA. Detailed documentation for any such expense must be provided, including:

- Date and place of entertainment
- Nature of expense
- Name, titles, and corporate affiliation of those entertained
- A complete description of the business purpose for the activity including the specific business matter discussed

- Vendor receipts (not credit card receipts or statements) showing the vendor's name, a description of the services provided, the date, and the total expenses, including tips (if applicable).

Other Expenses

Reasonable association-related telephone and fax charges due to absence of Personnel from the individual's place of business are reimbursable. In addition, reasonable and necessary gratuities that are not covered under meals may be reimbursed.

NAMMA Board Meetings

The following expenses will be paid for NAMMA board members attending official board meetings.

Board members attending the winter, or a special called, board meeting will be reimbursed the cost of hotel accommodations at the selected hotel for up to three nights in order to appropriately accommodate travel connections. Travel costs will be reimbursed per the staff policy above. The cost of meals during travel will be reimbursed per the per diem limits for staff travel, unless meals are otherwise provided.

There will be no reimbursements for the cost of attending the board meeting that is held in conjunction with the annual conference.

Non-reimbursable Expenditures

NAMMA maintains a strict policy that expenses in any category that could be perceived as lavish or excessive will not be reimbursed, as such expenses are inappropriate for reimbursement by a professional association. Expenses that are not reimbursable include, but are not limited to:

- First class tickets or upgrades.
- When lodging accommodations have been arranged by NAMMA and the individual elects to stay elsewhere, reimbursement is made at the amount no higher than the rate negotiated by NAMMA. Reimbursement shall not be made for transportation between the alternate lodging and the meeting site.
- Limousine travel, valet service, or car washes.
- In room movies, alcohol, or bar costs.
- Membership dues private club or recreational facilities.
- Spa or exercise charges.
- Clothing or toiletry articles.
- Business conferences and entertainment which are not approved by the President of NAMMA.
- Parking, speeding and other traffic fines.
- Excess airline baggage fees.
- Items lost or stolen in transit.
- Expenses for spouses, friends, or relatives. If a spouse, friend or relative accompanies Personnel on a trip, it is the responsibility of the Personnel to determine any added cost for double occupancy and related expenses and to make the appropriate adjustment in the reimbursement request.