

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM

EBR



Travel **Administrative
Procedures**
GUIDE

Revised 09/19/22

**EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
TRAVEL GUIDE**

Goal: Improve system travel services, provide training and seminars, and ensure integrity with the policies and procedures for audit compliance.

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Approval signatures for any travel expense reimbursements indicate that the expenses have been reviewed prior to submission to the Accounting Department for processing and determined to be in compliance.

In addition to the guidelines stated in this Travel Guide, all persons reviewing any requests for reimbursement, especially the Accounting Office of the Finance Department for the East Baton Rouge Parish School System, have the right to delete or adjust any expenses claimed for which they determine are inappropriate or abusive of the purposes for which employees are representing the District through their travel privileges.

Travel should be viewed as an opportunity to bring professional growth, improvement and enhancement to the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

Policy Manual of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board
As Adopted by the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board
File: DJD Expense Reimbursement
October 16, 2008:

The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall reimburse employees and School Board Members for expenses incurred while on official Board business, within budgetary limitations. Travel expenses shall be limited to those expenses necessarily incurred by employees or Board members in the performance of official responsibilities as may be authorized by the School Board. Unless otherwise provided for, reimbursement of expenses shall be based on submission of a properly completed and approved voucher and such supporting receipts as required and in accordance with approved procedures and reimbursement rates. Such expenses may be approved and incurred in line with budgetary allocations for the specific type of expense and approved procedures and rates.

All employees who use their private vehicles for official Board business shall be required to carry liability insurance. When a private vehicle is used for official School Board duties, mileage shall be reimbursed based on the rate approved by the School Board. In no case shall an employee be allowed mileage or transportation reimbursement when the employee has been gratuitously transported by another person.

Reports on travel expense shall be submitted for payment on or before the last day of the month following the month for which the expenses were incurred. Failure to submit the necessary paperwork and/or documentation in a timely manner may result in non-reimbursement of expenses.

Any employee or Board Member who submits a false or fraudulent travel claim shall be subject to disciplinary action and the Board shall be entitled to restitution in full compliance with statutory provisions.

Rates and categories for reimbursement shall be as approved by the Board and shall be annually reviewed and adopted by the Board.

ACCOUNTING FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES

IN-PARISH TRAVEL *(See Appendix for Form)*

In-parish travel for eligible employees must be submitted to the Payroll Office within thirty (30) days of travel and will be paid at the current Board approved mileage rate.

This includes travel within the District between the schools and administrative sites and offices.

OUT-OF-PARISH TRAVEL *(See Appendix for Form)*

This includes all other travel outside the School District. Travel includes sites within East Baton Rouge Parish ***other than the District*** as well as all other sites outside of East Baton Rouge Parish and beyond.

Out-of-parish travel expenses incurred by employees and Board members on district business, attending approved meetings, or for other district related activities shall be accounted for in writing to the Accounting Office within thirty (30) days and no later than five (5) calendar days after fiscal year end (June 30).

Travel advances for out-of-parish travel not accounted for to the Accounting Office within the above timelines shall result in collection from the employee by a payroll deduction. Failure to submit documentation for both in- and out-of-parish travel expenses timely shall result in non-reimbursement.

Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 17:56, 32:861 et seq., 32:900

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD TRAVEL GUIDE

Pursuant to the authority of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, the following travel regulations have been established. The regulations, allowances, and standard mileage from the Central Office to the various schools and/or selected cities are herein set. These regulations apply to all employees of the Board as well as persons acting on behalf of the EBR School System who are authorized to travel in the performance of official district business.

I. AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL

- A. Prior permission for out-of-parish travel shall be obtained on a **“PROFESSIONAL LEAVE FORM”** (*See Appendix*).

This includes virtual meetings, conferences/events.

- B. Purpose and Conference Location for travel shall be listed on the Professional Leave Form. First and Last Days of Travel must be specifically listed.

- C. Prior permission for Professional Leave shall be obtained by the traveling employee from the employees listed below:

- Immediate Supervisor/Director/Principal
- Associate Superintendent
- Budget Director for funding source
- Superintendent or his/her designee

- D. Professional Leave Form should contain a valid account number (16-digit GEMS account number) from which the expenses will be paid.

If funding for travel is marked *“paid by school,”* expenses will be paid by District and then billed to school for reimbursement to the District through ACH transfer.

- E. Travel expenses of travelers shall be limited to those expenses necessarily incurred by the traveler in the performance of public service authorized by law to be performed by the District and must be within the limitations prescribed herein.
- F. Reimbursement of expenses for travel to be performed by authorized persons (including non-EBR employees) who are called on to contribute time and services as consultants or advisors shall require prior written approval. He/She shall be bound by travel guidelines set forth by the District.
- G. Routine travel shall not cover travel between an employee’s home and workplace.
- H. Travel while on administrative leave is not reimbursable.

II. METHODS OF TRANSPORTATION

A. Motor Vehicle

No vehicle may be operated in violation of state or local laws. No traveler may operate a vehicle without having in his/her possession a valid U.S. driver's license. Safety restraints shall be used by the driver and passengers of vehicles.

1. School Board Vehicles

- a. No person may be authorized to operate or travel in a school board vehicle unless that person is an employee of the EBR School System. **Unauthorized persons should not be transported in EBR School System vehicles.**
- b. No mileage reimbursement for travel utilizing a school board vehicle.

2. Personally Owned Vehicles - NO RECEIPTS REQUIRED

- a. A mileage allowance shall be authorized for travelers approved to use personally owned vehicles while conducting official school board business.
- b. Mileage shall be reimbursed at the current Board approved rate. Rate to be reviewed and adjusted on a periodic basis. Any difference between the current EBR Board approved rate and the IRS approved rate is tax deductible.
- c. When two or more persons travel in the same vehicle, only one person will be reimbursed for the use or expense of the vehicle.
- d. For "in-parish travel", mileage should be calculated from the employee's official assigned school/worksite to the travel destination. **Mileage should not be calculated from the home to the travel destination.**
- e. For "out-of-parish travel," mileage should be calculated from the **Central Office** (1050 South Foster Drive) to the travel destination.
- f. There is no mileage reimbursement from home to destination. (Per IRS Publication 463, January 31, 2012)

Exception: Travel on the weekend shall be reimbursed from home/airport to/from destination.

- g. Mileage shall be computed by one of the following options:
 - (1) Use the mileage chart in the Appendix of this book.
 - (2) Use internet mapping/travel websites (i.e. Mapquest) to obtain mileage. The mileage calculation should be attached to the travel form.

NOTE:

One-way mileage exceeding **350 miles** shall be calculated by the lesser of the actual mileage or the cost of airfare to that destination

- h. Fuel (gas) purchased is not reimbursed for personal use vehicles.
- i. Travel for Board Members:
 - (1) For special events /Board Meetings – mileage is calculated from the home to the site
 - (2) For out-of-parish travel – mileage is calculated from Central Office (1050 S Foster Drive) to destination. If travel occurs on the weekend, mileage is calculated from home to/from destination.

3. **Commercial Lease/Rental Vehicle – RECEIPTS REQUIRED**

- a. Automobile rentals **must be pre-approved** on the Professional Leave Form; otherwise the expense is non-reimbursable.
- b. Only one designated person will be reimbursed for the cost of the automobile rental. Cost will not be split between multiple employees.
- c. Employee must use personal automobile insurance for rental. Purchased insurance (i.e. Collision Damage Waiver - CDW, Supplemental Liability Protection - SLP, Personal Accident Insurance – PAI and Personal Effects Coverage - PEC) will not be reimbursed.
- d. Rentals must be size appropriate for the number of persons traveling. Upgrades will not be reimbursed.
- e. Extra items will not be reimbursed (i.e. GPS, satellite radio, etc)
- f. Itemized receipts indicating proof of payment must be submitted for reimbursement.
- g. Gasoline receipts may be submitted for reimbursement. Only gasoline charges incurred for actual travel mileage to and from travel destination are reimbursable. Gasoline charges incurred during the course of stay will not be reimbursed.

Exceptions: Expenses for travel to/from/between site visits will be reimbursed.

- h. After arrival, employee is to use transportation (i.e. shuttle, vans, etc.) provided by conference, if available.
- i. Parking fees incurred for business travel will be reimbursed. Itemized receipt is required.
- j. Cost of rental car is not reimbursable by federal funds.

B. Common Carrier

A common carrier (train, bus or airplane) should be used for out-of-state travel, unless the number of travelers causes travel by automobile to be more economical.

Transportation costs may be paid in advance.

1. **Prepayment - PAYMENT BY THE EMPLOYEE**
Transportation may be purchased with personal funds by the employee. Cost may be submitted for reimbursement.
2. **Prepayment - DIRECT PAYMENT TO VENDOR**
Requests for pre-payment of travel may be submitted to the Accounting Office on the "PREPAYMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSE FORM" (See Appendix).

In both cases, a quote/proof of payment, copy of an approved Professional Leave Form, and a copy of the conference agenda must be attached.

C. Airfare

Coach rate or economy class will be used for air travel. If space is unavailable for coach rate, the EBR Parish School System will assume the difference in cost only when the claim for reimbursement is accompanied by certification from the carrier that coach accommodation was unavailable.

Note:

If a destination has a large number of miles (i.e. Orlando, FL – one way 695), it is an economical practice to reimburse the lesser cost of airfare versus the actual mileage. **The funding source has the authority to limit the amount of the reimbursement.**

Airline tickets will be issued through an authorized travel agency with the outlined procedure for the issuance of airfare. This service is provided as a courtesy by the District to eliminate the use of personal funds for District travel. With this option, the travel agency bills EBRPSS directly when the ticket is booked. Employees will no longer find it necessary to use individual credit cards to make airline reservation.

If an employee elects to utilize personal funds for the purchase of airline tickets, cost of the airfare will be treated as a normal reimbursement (processed on a first-in, first-out basis)

DISTRICT-WIDE PROCEDURE FOR ISSUANCE OF AIRFARE

1. A copy of an *approved* **Professional Leave, Travel Profile** and a **Conference Agenda** must be submitted to Accounting. A **Request for Airfare** cover sheet (purple) should be attached which indicates who is submitting the request. (See Appendix)
2. The **Professional Leave** must contain the **travel destination**, the **amount authorized for travel** and a **valid 16-digit account number**

Note: If airline ticket is to be billed by Central Office, the box should be marked indicating the funding source on the form

3. For 1st -time travelers, the **Travel Profile** must be completed before an airline ticket can be processed by the travel agency. The name that appears on the Driver's License or Government-issued identification card is the official name by which the ticket will be issued. **The form must be typed.**

The travel profile form should be included in paperwork packet requesting airfare authorization. It **should not** be sent under separate cover or e-mail.

4. An **e-mail** will be sent by Accounting to the travel agency indicating the **amount approved** for **airfare** and the **destination city** for each individual. Each traveler will be copied on the e-mail.
5. Upon receipt of the e-mail, the employee is free to contact the travel agency to make the reservation.
6. Should the travel agency not have prior approval from Accounting via e-mail, the travel agency will make a reservation, but **will not** issue a ticket.

Note:

The District does not pay for airline extras which include but is not limited to: extra-leg room, premium seating, early boarding, etc.

Purchase of these items must be paid for with a personal credit card.

7. Once the reservations are made, the travel agency will **e-mail** the employee to **review the accuracy of the reservations**. An electronic ticket will be issued and e-mailed to the address provided.
8. Once the travel agency has verified the authorized ticket price and the ticket is issued, the employee can make a change **within 24 hours** without additional charges. **After 24 hours**, there is an **additional fee** which is at the **employee's expense**. (unless otherwise specified /subject to approval for reimbursement by funding source)

Note:

All tickets issued by the airline are disbursed in the “*individual*” ticket holder’s name and the **responsibility regarding the utilization of the ticket is assumed by the individual ticket holder and not EBR.**

9. If airfare “*exceeds*” the authorized amount, the travel agency will contact **Accounting**. No ticket will be issued until additional cost is approved.
10. The travel agency will bill EBRPSS on a weekly basis for all tickets issued.
11. Accounting will pay the invoices billed directly by the travel agency.

*If the airline tickets are funded by individual school funds, the District will pay for the ticket through the District account and will be reimbursed through ACH transfer from the individual school bank account.

Note: This airfare amount should not be included on the “yellow” *Request for Travel Advance* form or the “blue” *Out of Parish Travel Settlement* form as this is a pre-paid expense.

12. Cancellations

- a. In the event of an airline ticket cancellation, the Accounting Department and the Travel Agency should be contacted immediately.
- b. Credit for the ticket will be issued to the “individual” and must be utilized within 1 year, or prior to termination or retirement, whichever is sooner.
- c. If the EBRP School System requires the traveler to cancel, the EBRP School System will be responsible for the reimbursement of all penalty costs.
- d. If the employee cancels for personal reasons, or due to errors made in booking the tickets, he/she is responsible for reimbursing the EBRP School System for the cost of the ticket, plus all related cancellation/penalty costs.

Note: The sufficiency of a personal reason for School Board Members shall be determined by the School Board President; the sufficiency of a personal reason for other District employees shall be determined by the employee’s supervisor, department head, or program director.

- e. Penalty costs include, but are not limited to, cancellation fees, re-ticketing fees, and costs of expired travel credits that may have been issued in place of the cancelled tickets.
- f. Failure to utilize airline ticket credits can result in reimbursement to the District by personal funds and/or payroll deduction.

D. Other Expenses – RECEIPTS REQUIRED

The following “other expenses” are reimbursable. Receipts **are required** for all expenses listed below except baggage handling. Any claim for reimbursement which deviates from this itemization must be explained and/or documented to receive the amount claimed. Receipts must be original, not copies. Altered receipts will not be accepted.

1. Taxi, shuttle, and bus fares (limited to transportation to and from an airport; all others must be justified). Must be pre-printed with company logo/information and indicate date and destination to/from.
2. Taxi/shuttle charges for waiting and/or cancellations **will not** be reimbursed. Tips not to exceed 15%.
3. If taxi is shared, only **one** person may be reimbursed for the taxi. Receipt may not be split. **Exceptions:** If the cost of a shared ride is billed to **each** individual, an **original** receipt is required for each individual.
4. Limousine service to and from airport terminals not reimbursable
5. Parking garage fees – Valet parking costs will be reimbursed only if no regular parking is available
6. Parking lot fees – must have pre-printed ticket (address of parking lot must be provided to document location)
7. Uber /Lyft services – only standard size is reimbursable. Premium or larger are not reimbursable. (only one person can claim the cost of a shared ride). Receipt may be printed from e-mail and must include destination (if possible) and cost of trip.
8. Baggage fees (ordinary charge per bag assessed by airline - *limit 2*). Must have an itemized receipt to be reimbursed (departure/return). **Cannot be included in the cost of airfare upgrade.**
9. Tips for baggage handling, **only if actually paid** for arrival and/or departure day (\$3.00 per bag, maximum of 2 bags)
\$5/day driving; \$15/day – airlines
10. Special Transportation Needs – should be pre-approved before departure (i.e. scooters, extra assistance, etc.)

Charges for excess/overweight baggage will not be reimbursed unless caused by EBRP School System business. A letter of justification should be submitted with receipt to Accounting.

E. Reimbursement for Transportation – RECEIPTS REQUIRED

In no case shall an employee be allowed reimbursement of mileage or transportation costs when he/she is gratuitously transported by another person, or when carpooling with another authorized traveler.

If transportation is not prepaid by the EBRP School System, requests for reimbursement should be submitted on a “TRAVEL EXPENSE SETTLEMENT FORM” (*see Appendix*).

III. LODGING

“Lodging” (for EBR purposes) may be defined as a business establishment that provides housing paid on a short-term basis. Housing provided by a friend, relative, etc. is not considered lodging.

The employee is expected to exercise the same care in incurring expenses that a prudent person would exercise if traveling on personal business. To minimize hotel expenses, it may be necessary for employees of the same gender to share rooms.

Lodging is reimbursed for actual expense at the single occupancy rate.

If a group is traveling, each person is responsible for the individual lodging expense. The administrator/principal should not pay for the entire group on a personal credit card.

The expense will not be reimbursed.

Itemized receipt from hotel must be attached to the travel settlement form. Receipt should reflect a zero balance with proof of payment indicated on the receipt.

Lodging purchased through 3rd Party vendors (i.e. Expedia, Hotels.com) must still have an itemization of the daily rate.

Air B-N-B lodging has the same requirements as an ordinary hotel/resort. Facility fee will be reimbursed; however extra charges will not be reimbursed (i.e. cleaning charges, etc.)

Rental of a house and/or condo must be pre-approved and reflected on the professional leave form. Applicable rules will be applied based on the billing site.

Note:

If lodging is shared:

Shared lodging should be indicated on the Professional Leave Form as well as the Travel Settlement Form. (A copy of the hotel bill must be attached to each settlement form).

The hotel bill cannot be split. Only one employee should claim the hotel expense as the other employee will have no such expense. This means that only one employee must request lodging funds on the advance request and the other employee must indicate “shared lodging.”

If a **full-time** employee is unable to pay for lodging costs associated with travel for School Board business, the employee **may** be eligible for an advance. Such funds are to be requested on a “**REQUEST FOR TRAVEL ADVANCE FORM**” (See Appendix).

Total Cost for Lodging, Meals, Mileage, and Other Expenses **must be greater than or equal to \$500.00** in order to submit a “**REQUEST FOR TRAVEL ADVANCE FORM**” (See Appendix).

Note: If the total cost for Lodging, Meals, Mileage and Other Expenses **is not greater than or equal to \$500.00**, the employee must pay for the lodging, etc. “*out-of-pocket*” and submit a “**TRAVEL EXPENSE SETTLEMENT FORM**” (see Appendix) to Accounting within 30 days upon return.

A. Conference/Seminar Rates

When traveling to a conference or seminar and conference room rates are made available, lodging reservations should be made at the hotel where the conference or seminar is being held in order to obtain the **“conference discounted room rates”**. If an employee finds it necessary to stay at another hotel other than the conference hotel, a letter of explanation should be submitted and approved by the immediate supervisor.

1. Prepayment of Lodging

Lodging may be pre-paid if it is a requirement of the conference/seminar. Otherwise, all cost of lodging should be paid on site upon attendance of the convention/seminar.

Exception:

If prepayment of lodging is a requirement of the conference/seminar, direct payment to the hotel vendor may be requested on a **“PRE-PAYMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSE FORM.”** (See Appendix). Form should be submitted to Accounting with the authorized signatures and a copy of the professional leave, conference agenda (containing request for prepayment) and a price quote (if necessary). **A check will be issued directly to the vendor.**

2. Sales Tax Exemption

The employee should always inform the in-state hotel manager that he/she represents a Louisiana school system and is not required to pay state sales tax. A **“Governmental Employees Hotel Lodging Sales/Use Tax Exemption Certificate”** Form (See Appendix) should be submitted at the time of check-in for all in-state lodging reservations. **Reimbursement for lodging expense should not contain sales tax with the exception of the “occupancy tax” which is an allowable expense.**

3. Cancellation

- a. When a room reservation prepaid by the School Board is cancelled by the employee, Accounting must be immediately notified and confirmation of the cancellation from the hotel must be sent to Accounting as soon as it is received.
- b. If the employee cancels room reservations after the hotel deadline or fails to attend the event he/she is registered for due to personal reasons, then the employee is responsible for payment of any room charges billed or not refunded by the hotel to the School Board.
- c. If an employee pre-pays for lodging and fails to attend the conference, it is the responsibility of the employee to request a refund of charges from the hotel establishment. **This is not a reimbursable expense.**

B. Reimbursement

1. If the cost of the hotel accommodation is invoiced directly or paid in advance by the School Board, this expense **must not** be submitted for reimbursement. It has already been expensed.
2. All lodging expenses incurred on an official trip shall be paid by the employee and should be submitted for reimbursement on the **“TRAVEL EXPENSE SETTLEMENT FORM”** (*See Appendix*). An itemized hotel bill should be attached with a zero balance as proof of payment. Expenses should be itemized per day.
3. Room service charges should not be included as a cost of lodging.
4. Housekeeping tips/charges are not reimbursable.
5. Hotel movies and refreshments charged to the room are not reimbursable.
6. If lodging is shared:

The hotel bill cannot be split. Only one employee should claim the hotel expense as the other employee will have no such expense. This means that only one employee should request lodging funds on the advance request and the other employee should indicate “shared lodging.”

Note: It does not matter who actually pays for the room. **An employee may only be reimbursed for his/her individual portion of the hotel bill.** Any payment arrangements must be settled between the employees.

A copy of the hotel bill must be attached to each employee’s settlement form.

7. No claim for reimbursement may be made for spouse/family expense when traveling with his/her spouse and/or family on School Board business.
8. In no case shall an employee be allowed reimbursement of lodging when he/she resides in a personal dwelling or an establishment other than the approved conference/seminar lodging.
9. Reimbursement for lodging is authorized for the time directly related to the conference event. It is limited to the day prior to the start of the conference and the last day of the conference. Any other days outside of the conference timeframe are at the employee’s expense and will not be reimbursed.
10. The EBR Parish School System reserves the right to limit the amount reimbursed.

C. Reimbursement for Other Expenses

The following “other expenses” are reimbursable. Receipts are required for all other expenses listed below. Any other expenses submitted for reimbursement must be accompanied by a letter of justification approved by the immediate supervisor.

1. Internet charges (for District use only).
2. Communication expenses (for District use only).
3. Charges for storage and handling of equipment.

Employees should not charge long distance calls to the room when there is a cell phone or other business phone available.

IV. CONFERENCE/SEMINAR REGISTRATION

“*Conference/Convention*” is defined as a meeting (other than routine) for a specific purpose. Non-routine meetings can be defined as a seminar, conference, convention, or training. Documentation required is a formal agenda, or program, or letter of invitation. Participation as an exhibiting vendor in an exhibit/trade show also qualifies as a conference.

This also includes virtual meeting/conference events.

A. Registration

Registration must be made in a timely manner prior to regular established registration deadlines (early-bird registration is encouraged). **Any late fees incurred are the employee’s responsibility (unless otherwise specified).**

B. Fees

1. Registration fees include any costs associated with the attendance of a meeting.
2. If “**individual**” membership dues are included, EBRPSS will not pay these fees unless it is mandatory for employment. All individual membership dues must be paid by the EBRPSS employee.

C. Prepayment

1. **Conference registrations for EBRPSS employees must be pre-paid by the EBRP School System.**
2. Conference registrations should be paid using the “**REQUEST FOR PREPAYMENT OF EXPENSE FORM**” (*See Appendix*). Requests for pre-payment should be accompanied by a copy of the professional leave and conference registration form (**dates and location of conference should be included on the registration form/conference agenda**).
3. Memos, e-mails, and purchase orders are unacceptable methods of requesting payment of a conference registration.
4. If a registration is not prepaid by the District, registration for EBRPSS employees may be paid for by a school check. In turn, the school may request reimbursement for the expenditure by submitting a requisition through the Purchasing Department. Proper documentation must be attached.
5. If an individual elects to use a personal credit card to prepay for conference registration and submits a request to be reimbursed prior to the event, the reimbursement will be processed on a “first in, first out” basis.

Exceptions:

Registration for **non-EBRPSS employees** (i.e. parochial school teachers) funded through the EBRP School System may be submitted for reimbursement by the individual on a “**TRAVEL EXPENSE SETTLEMENT FORM**” (*See Appendix*).

D. Distribution

1. Registration Checks must be picked up by the employee. When the check is prepared, an e-mail will be sent from Accounting to inform the employee that the check is ready.
2. It is the responsibility of the employee to attach any registration forms/attachments with the check before mailing to identify the employee, sessions/meetings enrolled, and fees assessed for the conference registration.

E. Cancellation

Accounting must be notified immediately when cancellation of a pre-paid conference registration is made. Written documentation confirming the cancellation must be sent to Accounting as soon as it is received. If the employee cancels registration or fails to attend the event that he/she registered for due to personal reasons, then the traveler is responsible for payment of any part of the registration fee that is non-refundable or billed to the EBRP School System.

F. Reimbursement

1. A copy of the approved professional leave and conference agenda must be attached. An e-mail or letter of invitation may be substituted for the conference agenda. Proof of payment must also be attached.
2. Reimbursement of late registration or on-site fees is not permitted unless approved by the immediate supervisor.
3. Admission fees for entertainment events, such as sightseeing trips, sporting events, evening socials, etc. **do not qualify for reimbursement.**
4. When meals or lodging are provided as part of workshops, seminars, then these expenses should not be submitted for reimbursement.
5. The EBR Parish School System reserves the right to limit the amount reimbursed.
6. Failure to submit proof of payment of conference registration (**when registration is not paid directly by the District**) voids reimbursement of all other expenses as proof of attendance is not provided.

V. MEALS – NO RECEIPTS REQUIRED

A. In Parish

Meals will not be reimbursed for in-parish travel. This includes meals at the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport.

B. Out of Parish - PER DIEM

No meals will be reimbursed for same day trips.

An overnight stay is required in order to qualify for meal reimbursement.

Note: A single overnight day of travel will be reimbursed at a maximum rate of 75% for each day.

“Location of actual conference event” as noted on conference agenda determines the category (normal vs high cost) of meal reimbursement. Must state the city, state, and the dates . Does not include surrounding areas (except where indicated)

1. The EBRP School System permits a **normal meal** allowance for meals not to exceed \$40 per day, including tax and tips for out-of-parish travel.

Exceptions:

The EBRP School System permits an allowance for meals not to exceed \$55 per day, including tax and tips for out-of-parish travel in high cost areas.

The approved high cost area location list includes:

Anaheim, CA; Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, MD; Boston, MA (includes Cambridge); Chicago, IL; Dallas/Fort Worth, TX; Denver, CO; Detroit, MI, Houston, TX; Indianapolis, IN; Lake Buena Vista, FL; Las Vegas, NV; Los Angeles, CA; Miami, FL; Memphis, TN; Minneapolis, MN; Nashville, TN; New Orleans, LA; New York, NY (including 5 boroughs – Manhattan, Queens, The Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island); Newark, NJ; Oakland, CA; Orlando, FL (including resort properties); Philadelphia, PA; Phoenix, AZ; Salt Lake City, UT; San Antonio, TX; San Diego, CA; San Francisco, CA; St. Louis, MO; Seattle, WA; Tampa, FL; Washington, DC (including Arlington, VA and National Harbor, MD).

<u>Per Diem Meal Chart</u>	<u>Normal/Day</u>	<u>High Cost/Day</u>
First Day of Travel - 75%	\$ 30.00	\$ 41.25
All Other Days	40.00	55.00
Last Day of Travel - 75%	30.00	41.25

Note:

The above is all-inclusive of meals. **Do not** submit receipts for events/conferences that include meals. There will not be a reimbursement.

2. Reimbursement

Note: The EBR Parish School System reserves the right to limit the amount reimbursed

Meals may not be reimbursed for an overnight stay when:

- a) There is no proof of lodging (no lodging bill attached)
- b) The employee's name is not listed on lodging bill
(i.e. lodging is listed in someone else's name and it is not shared lodging)
- c) The employee stayed with friends and/or relatives
(i.e. not in a business establishment)
- d) If driving, the day that the conference ends should be the return date
(if located in Louisiana)
- e) If airfare, the last day of the conference should be the travel day unless the next (extra) day is approved on the professional leave form. Airfare should not overlap over 2 days.

3. Pre-payment

If a **full-time** employee is unable to pay for meal costs associated with travel for School Board business, the employee **may** be eligible for an advance. Funds may be requested on a "REQUEST FOR TRAVEL ADVANCE FORM" (See Appendix).

Total Cost for Lodging, Meals, Mileage, and Other Expenses **must be greater than or equal to \$500.00** in order to submit a "REQUEST FOR TRAVEL ADVANCE FORM"
(See Appendix).

Note: If the total cost for Lodging, Meals, Mileage and Other Expenses **is not greater than or equal to \$500.00**, the employee must pay for the meals, etc. "out-of-pocket" and submit a "TRAVEL EXPENSE SETTLEMENT FORM" (see Appendix) to Accounting within 30 days upon return.

VI. ADVANCES AND ADVANCE SETTLEMENTS

Persons entitled to advances include Board Members and all full-time EBR Employees.

Part-time employees, substitutes and Non-EBR employees are not eligible to receive advances. However, expenses may be submitted for reimbursement on the Travel Settlement Form upon return from travel.

Persons hired by the District are not eligible to receive advances prior to their actual start day or 1st day of employment.

Total Cost for Lodging, Meals, Mileage, and Other Expenses **must be greater than or equal to \$500.00** in order to submit a **“REQUEST FOR TRAVEL ADVANCE FORM”** (See Appendix).

If the total cost for Lodging, Meals, Mileage and Other Expenses **is not greater than or equal to \$500.00**, the employee must pay for the meals, lodging, etc. *“out-of-pocket”* and submit a **“TRAVEL EXPENSE SETTLEMENT FORM”** (see Appendix) to Accounting within 30 days upon return.

Note:

Certain times of the year, travel advances may not be issued by the district. Options for funding for travel are as follows:

- 1) Employee may pay for expenses out of personal funds with the understanding that the employee will be reimbursed after the event upon submission of proper documented receipts.
- 2) Employee may obtain a check issued from an individual school with the understanding that the employee will be responsible for submitting proper documentation after the event to the Central Office for review. Employee will be responsible for reimbursing the school directly for funds received via school check. Employee will also be responsible for any additional amounts owed to the school.

Funds received through the **“REQUEST FOR TRAVEL ADVANCE FORM”** (See Appendix) are due in Accounting thirty (30) days after the end of the travel.

Reimbursements will be processed 30 days from receipt of complete properly documentation, including payment of unused funds.

Any claim not properly completed will be returned to the employee unpaid with a request for missing information. **Original paperwork (with corrections/check attached) must be returned to the Accounting Department to complete the settlement process.**

Note: The EBR Parish School System reserves the right to limit the amount reimbursed

At the end of thirty (30) days, **the total unsettled travel advance amount will be automatically payroll deducted from the employee/board member as per the statement on the advance/reimbursement forms. No reminder notices will be sent.**

If an advance results in payroll deduction, the employee's privilege to receive a travel advance will be revoked. Once this occurs, all expenses not pre-paid by the School System must be paid by the employee up front and then submitted for reimbursement when he/she returns.

Any person who submits a claim pursuant to these regulations and willfully makes and subscribes to any claim he/she does not believe to be true and correct as to every material matter, or who willfully aids or assists in, procures, counsels, or advises the preparation or presentation of a claim which is fraudulent or false, shall be guilty of official misconduct. Any person who receives an allowance or reimbursement by means of a false claim shall be subject to disciplinary action, as well as being criminally and civilly liable within the provisions of state law.

VII. FIELD TRIPS – RECEIPTS REQUIRED

A. Request for Prepayment of Field Trip Expense

Authorized expenses for field trips include admission fees, transportation fees, lodging, etc.

1. Expenses for field trips should be requested 10 days prior to the trip using the “**REQUEST FOR PREPAYMENT OF EXPENSE FORM**” (*See Appendix*). Requests for pre-payment should be accompanied by a copy of the *approved* **Request for Field Trip Form**, a copy of the *approved* **Professional Leave Form** for all EBRP School System employees attending the field trip, list of students attending and a **price quotation/Pre-K cost summary**.
2. E-mails and purchase orders are unacceptable methods of requesting pre-payment of a field trip admission fee.
3. If the field trip expenses are not prepaid by the EBR School System, the expenses may be paid directly by the school with a school check. In turn, the school may request reimbursement for the expenditure by submitting a memo with proper documentation attached.
4. Reimbursement for field trips may be submitted after the field trip is taken with proper supporting documentation. Any unused funds or monies due must accompany paperwork submitted for settlement.

B. Distribution

1. Checks must be picked up from the Accounting Department. Checks will be ready five (5) days before the trip.
2. Any attachments must be provided by the **school** with the check to identify the group assessed for the fees.

C. Settlement

1. **Submission of the Request for Prepayment Expense form for field trip admission is an acknowledgement of financial responsibility by the school.**

2. Original receipts must be submitted to the Accounting Department as verification of attendance of the field trip. Field Trips should be settled using the “NON-TRAVEL ADVANCE SETTLEMENT FORM.” (See Appendix)
3. Any unused portion of the check should be refunded back to the EBRP School System.
4. Failure to submit settlement receipts will result in the employee/school being liable for the entire cost of the field trip. Funds owed by the employee that are not submitted for settlement will be collected by payroll deduction. Funds owed by the school will be collected through ACH transfer from the school bank account.

D. Cancellation

Accounting must be notified immediately when cancellation of a pre-paid field trip is made. Written documentation confirming the cancellation must be sent to Accounting as soon as it is received. If the school fails to attend the event that it is registered for due to personal reasons, then the school is responsible for payment of any part of the pre-paid field trip expense that is non-refundable or billed to the EBRP School System.

VII. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

International Travel must be approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee prior to departure, unless specific authority for approval has been delegated to a Department Head or Director.

Requests for approval must be accompanied by a detailed account of expected expenditures (such as dates, lodging rates, meals, local transportation, etc.) and an assessment of the funding source to fund such expenditures without creating undue budgetary constraints.

International travelers will be reimbursed the maximum of \$65 per diem rate for meals and lodging as disclosed. **Receipts are required.**

APPENDIX

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

P.O. BOX 2950

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

REQUEST FOR LEAVE FOR PROFESSIONAL REASONS
TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE PARISH OR LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL AT LEAST 20 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF YOUR REQUESTED LEAVE

DATE _____

FROM: _____
(PERSON REQUESTING LEAVE) (SCHOOL ASSIGNED OR DEPARTMENT)

(Employee ID Number) (Phone Number) (Teaching area or Job Title)

TO: _____
(Appropriate Administrator)

TYPE OF LEAVE: Professional _____ Leave Without Pay _____

REQUEST TO ATTEND: _____

(Program/agenda of conference must be attached)

PLACE: _____

DATE OR DATES: _____

PAID *SUBSTITUTE REQUIRED: Yes _____ No _____ *COST CENTER: _____

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE JUSTIFICATION: _____

Expenses requested: *Yes _____ No _____

To be paid by:

Estimate:
Transportation _____
Lodging _____
Meals _____
Registration Fees _____

*School _____
*Central Office _____
*Other _____

Note: Receipts must be attached to
Out-of Parish Travel Expense Form.

*FUND TO BE CHARGED: _____

*EIC Code: _____ (This line must be filled in, if expenses are requested)

(Signature of Person Requesting Leave) Approved: _____
(Principal/Supervisor/ Director)

TO BE FILLED IN BY SUPERINTENDENT OR ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT AS APPROPRIATE

Your request for leave as stated above is () approved () disapproved with the following exception, if any: _____

APPROVED: _____
(Appropriate Superintendent/Deputy or Assistant Superintendent) (Date)

STANDARD ONE-WAY MILEAGE

CITY	MILES	CITY	MILES
Alexandria	124	Marksville	88
Atlanta	525	Minden	252
Bogalusa	98	Monroe	188
Bossier City	248	Morgan City	68
Bunkie	86	Nashville TN	588
Covington	66	Natchitoches	176
Dallas	426	New Iberia	81
Destin FL	305	New Orleans	83
Hammond	52	Orlando FL	695
Houma	91	Ruston	224
Houston, TX	272	St Francisville	33
<i>(Airport)</i> Kenner	71	Shreveport	247
Lafayette	56	Slidell	89
Lake Charles	132	Thibodaux	73
Leesville	169	Winnfield	172

The above maximum one-way mileage is inclusive of local travel while at your destination. This list does not include all possible destinations. For those not listed, use Internet tools such as “Mapquest” to determine mileage. Mileage should be calculated from Central Office (1050 South Foster Drive) to the conference/hotel destination.

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT of REVENUE

**Governmental Employees Travel
Sales/Use Tax Exemption Certificate**

*Louisiana Revised Statute 47:301(8)(c)
Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District
New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority*

This certificate is for use only by employees of the United States government, the State of Louisiana and its political subdivisions.

Employee Name		Government Agency		
Agency Address				
City		State	ZIP	Agency Contact Number
Authorized Dates of Travel (mm/dd/yyyy - mm/dd/yyyy)		Destination		

This certifies that the employee named above is an employee of the above named government agency and that the travel expenses incurred are necessitated by the employee's conduct of the official business of this government agency. These expenses are required to be accounted for to his government agency employer and are reimbursable by the government agency to the employee in the actual amount incurred. The government agency named above claims exemption from the payment of state and local sales taxes. For hotel room rental charges (hotel/lodging costs), this exemption certificate is also valid for an exemption from the payment of Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District and New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority occupancy taxes. This exemption certificate does not exempt the employee from payment of local hotel occupancy taxes in other jurisdictions. For additional information regarding hotel occupancy taxes in other jurisdictions, please contact the jurisdiction directly.

Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have examined this exemption certificate and accompanying documents, and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct, and complete.

Authorization	
Employee Signature	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)
Government Agency Representative (other than employee) <i>Dr. Sita Narcisse</i>	Government Agency Representative Title (other than employee) <i>Superintendent</i>
Government Agency Representative Signature <i>Signature</i> →	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

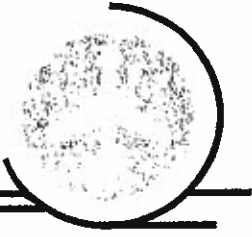
Hotel/Lodging Information <i>(To Be Completed By Hotel)</i>	
Hotel Name	
Dates of Employee's Stay (mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy)	

Vehicle Rental Information <i>(To Be Completed by Vehicle Rental Dealer)</i>	
Vehicle Rental Dealer	Vehicle Rental Reservation Number
Dates of Vehicle Rental	

Vehicle Parking Information <i>(To Be Completed by Vehicle Parking Dealer)</i>	
Vehicle Parking Dealer	Vehicle Parking Reservation Number <i>(if applicable)</i>
Dates of Vehicle Parking	

Notice to Dealer: Report this sale on the appropriate line of the Louisiana Hotel/Motel sales tax return as exempt room rentals.

REQUEST FOR



AIRLINE TICKET

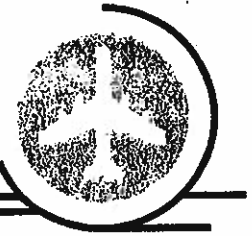
ROUTE TO ACCOUNTING

(A copy of approved professional leave and agenda must be attached)

SUBMITTED BY: _____

SCHOOL/DEPT: _____

REQUEST FOR



AIRLINE TICKET

ROUTE TO ACCOUNTING

(A copy of approved professional leave and agenda must be attached)

SUBMITTED BY: _____

SCHOOL/DEPT: _____

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM REQUEST FOR TRAVEL ADVANCE FORM

Complete this form for advance requests. **Minimum amount for issuance of advance is \$500.00.**
Board Policy and instructions for advances are on the back of this form.

NAME _____ EMPLOYEE ID# _____
(PERSON REQUESTING LEAVE - PRINT) (REQUIRED)

(SCHOOL/DEPARTMENT OF APPLICANT) TITLE: _____

WORK PHONE # (225) _____ - _____ HOME PHONE# (225) _____ - _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ LA ZIP _____

NAME OF EVENT _____ DATE OF EVENT ____/____/____
(Approved Professional Leave form AND Program/Conference agenda must be attached)

ESTIMATED TRAVEL EXPENSES

An advance may be issued in your name to cover these expenses. This form must be received by the Accounting Department at least **10 working days** prior to travel. Board policy requires that all travel advances be settled **within 30 days after the event.** TO SETTLE, YOU MUST SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL RECEIPTS FOR EXPENSES ON THE TRAVEL EXPENSE SETTLEMENT FORM.

Mileage (Miles X .50)	\$	Hotel/Lodging	\$
Other Transportation (Taxi, Shuttle, Parking)	\$	Meals (Max. \$40.00 / \$55.00 if high cost area per day)	\$
		Other Approved Expenses	\$
		Estimated Total	\$

Amount Requested \$ _____ **MUST BE PICKED UP PRIOR TO EVENT**

ACCOUNT TO BE EXPENSED #: _____
(Must be a valid account to issue advance)

EIC Code: _____

Your signature indicates that you have familiarized yourself with the procedures regarding travel advances provided on the back of this form. You agree to fully comply with these procedures. In an event that it is determined that you failed to comply with such procedures, you understand that you may be personally liable for reimbursement of school system funds. Such violation may require that you pay any balance owed with a personal check or a payroll deduction will begin on your next available payroll check.

Any funds obtained through payroll deduction will be "deducted in full as funds are available."

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE PRINCIPAL/SUPERVISOR/ASST SUPERINTENDENT DATE

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM-funding travel DATE CHIEF OFFICERS/SUPERINTENDENT DATE

**EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM
TRAVEL EXPENSE SETTLEMENT FORM (OUT OF PARISH)**

Name _____ Employee ID# _____ (Required) Account # _____
 Location/School _____ EIC Code** _____
 Home Address _____ City _____ LA Zip _____ Home Phone # _____

Please print in black or blue ink only.

Day of the Week	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DATES	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /
Plane Fare							
Taxi							
Parking							
Mileage							
<small>Mileage @ .50¢ per mile.</small>							
Per Diem							
Registration							
Lodging							
Luggage Tips							
Airline Baggage Fees							
Other:							
Daily EXPENSES							
Total Expenses							

CHECK LIST

1. Review instructions on the back of this form.
 2. Only include expenses paid with personal funds or with an advance issued in your name.
 3. Original itemized receipts must be attached.
 4. Must have appropriate persons to sign below.
 5. Daily meals paid at the per diem rate: (\$40/\$55 high cost) \$55 per day. Anaheim, CA; Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, MD; Boston, MA (includes Cambridge); Chicago, IL; Dallas/Fort Worth, TX; Denver, CO; Detroit, MI; Houston, TX; Indianapolis, IN; Lake Buena Vista, FL; Las Vegas, NV; Los Angeles, CA; Memphis, TN; Miami, FL; Minneapolis, MN; Nashville, TN; New Orleans, LA; New York, NY (including 3 boroughs-Manhattan, Queens, The Bronx, Brooklyn & Staten Island); Newark, NJ; Oakland, CA; Orlando, FL (including resort properties); Philadelphia, PA; Phoenix, AZ; San Luis Obispo, CA; San Antonio, TX; San Diego, CA; San Francisco, CA; St. Louis, MO; Seattle, WA; Tampa, FL; Washington, D.C.; (including Arlington, VA and National Harbor, MD)
 6. The approved Professional/Highly Professional Leave Form and Conference Agenda Must be attached.
- Note: Complete and submit to the Accounting Department within 30 days after travel. Call 922-5420 if you have questions.

*Purpose of Travel _____
 *Event Address _____ City/State _____
 Date of Travel: ____/____/____ through ____/____/____
 Was lodging shared? () No or () Yes, check one: If yes, with whom? Name: _____ Employee ID# _____

Advance Check Amt. \$ _____
 Advance Check # _____
 Due EBRPSB \$ _____
 Due Employee \$ _____

SIGNATURE OF EMPLOYEE _____
 SIGNATURE OF PROGRAM -funding travel _____
 SIGNATURE OF SUPERINTENDENT/DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT _____
 SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL/SUPERVISOR/ASST. SUPERINTENDENT _____

MANDATORY - IF BLANK, FORM WILL BE RETURNED TO EMPLOYEE

FIN/A/CCT Revised July 2022

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM NON-TRAVEL ADVANCE SETTLEMENT FORM

Vendor Name _____

Address _____

Please print in black or blue ink only.

DATE	/ /	/ /	
Plane Fare			
Charter Bus			
MEALS			
ENTRANCE FEES			
HOTEL/LODGING			
REGISTRATION FEES			
Other:			
Other:			
TOTAL EXPENSES			

CHECK LIST

1. Review Instructions on the back of this form.
2. Original itemized receipts must be attached.
3. Must have *appropriate* persons to sign below.

NOTE:

Complete and submit to the Accounting Dept. within 30 days after travel.

Call 922-5420 if you have questions.

<i>Less Advance</i>	()
Due EBRPSB	
Due Employee	

RESPONSIBLE PARTY: _____

EIC Code*: _____

SCHOOL/DEPARTMENT: _____

DATE OF TRAVEL: _____ / _____ / _____ THROUGH _____ / _____ / _____

ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____

SIGNATURE OF EMPLOYEE

PRINCIPAL/SUPERVISOR/ ASST. SUPERINTENDENT

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM - funding travel

CHIEF OFFICER/SUPERINTENDENT

* FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY