

Travel & Subsistence (T & S) Policy for Domestic and Foreign Travel

Each officer/employee using their vehicle in the furtherance of official ETB duties should ensure that they comply with the following;

- Legal requirements in respect of driving licence, vehicle licence and motor insurance. Evidence of same must be made available upon request;
- A claimant who is authorised to use his/her own transport will be paid within the appropriate motor mileage rate approved by the Minister and these rates will be fixed by reference to the horse-power as reckoned for registration purposes;
- The motor insurance policy provides an indemnity to DDLETB for all business related travel incurred. It is incumbent upon the claimant to ensure that their insurance provider is made aware of the nature and extent of travel undertaken on behalf of DDLETB. There is an in-built mechanism on the on-line T & S module whereby a claim will not be processed unless a completed copy of the Indemnity Declaration form which is available on the dashboard of the T & S system has been submitted to Head Office;
- The shortest and most economical route should be used;
- Economies are maximised i.e. where more than one person is travelling to and from a particular location, only one vehicle should be used where practical;
- Where possible public transport should be used. In the case of travel outside of the greater Dublin area, public transport should be used, unless it is otherwise impossible or impractical;
- Where practical, a weekly travel itinerary is submitted to the line manager outlining planned and anticipated travel for the week;
- Travel and subsistence expenses are claimed online, on a monthly basis, using the Travel & Subsistence system. Travel expenses are only paid for mileage actually incurred;
- Travel cost incurred is calculated by using Google Maps which is available through the T & S application;

Policy No:	PL/019	Version No:	v1/2019
Previous versions:	N/A	Effective Date:	11/02/2019
Board App/Noting	19/03/2019	Review Date:	11/02/2021

- All receipts including parking, Luas etc, must be submitted to the line manager and filed accordingly;
- Travelling expenses will not be paid in respect of any portion of a journey which covers all or part of a claimant’s usual route between home and their workplace;
- All T & S claims must be submitted within 6 weeks of the end of the month in which the cost was incurred;
- Any claims submitted for payment after 6 weeks must continue to be approved by the line manager but will also be co-signed by the CEO, and;
- Head Office will not process claims in excess of 3 months old. An appeals procedure is in place where claimants can pursue the reimbursement for cost incurred underlying the T & S claim. Under this, the claimant will be required to prove that each journey, and each leg of each journey, was undertaken on that date claimed. Documentary evidence will be required for the entire claim in each instance, which will be evaluated by two persons independent of the claim. If the evidence is not sufficiently persuasive, the claim will be disallowed. In effect, the entirety of the burden of proof will fall to the claimant to verify and substantiate their claim;
- **Day Subsistence Allowance:** A day allowance is not payable for an absence on official business that is within 8 km of a claimant’s place of work or home, whichever is the lesser. The subsistence allowance payable is not intended to meet the whole cost of subsistence when absent from home and place of work and is not intended to be a source of emolument or profit. There are two Subsistence Rates – (i) 5 hours but less than 10 hours and (ii) 10 hours or more.
- **Overnight Subsistence Allowance:** An overnight allowance covers a period up to 24 hours from the time of departure as well as any further period not exceeding 5 hours. An overnight allowance will not generally be payable in respect of a necessary absence on official business that is within 100 km of the claimant’s home or place of work (whichever is the lesser). However, in exceptional circumstances and where the Chief Executive is satisfied that an operational need exists, an overnight allowance may be paid for an absence on official business at any location within the above distance limits but in excess of 50 km of home or place of work (whichever is the lesser).

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Foreign Travel

- Employees and students of DDLETB must seek prior approval from the Chief Executive before embarking on a business related foreign trip;
- To seek permission please log into the T & S module and click on the link; [Foreign Travel Request](#)
- When travelling abroad on business or when arranging travel abroad for a group, you are required to arrange travel insurance. Please note that there is no automatic cover in place for travel insurance, travel insurance is not included in the standard DDLETB insurance cover. Arrangements must be made to put in travel insurance in place with (a) your tour operator/travel agent, (documentary evidence to be provided) or (b) with Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances, via DDLETB insurances, Corporate Services Dept., Head Office, Insurances@ddletb.ie, please note cover is not in place until you receive a letter from Head Office confirming same.
- All claimants must comply with the current rates of foreign travel as laid down by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform;
- A licensed tour operator or travel agent must be used for foreign trips. The full list of current licence holders is available on the Commission for Aviation Regulation website; www.aviationreg.ie.
- All monies must be paid directly to the chosen tour operator or travel agent and not to the school, staff or event co-ordinator.

This policy is in line with the Department of Education & Skills/DPER's Travel & Subsistence Circulars.

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