



UC San Diego Student Certification for Business-Related Travel

Please complete this form and attach it to the MyTravel trip for any student travel reimbursement that is certified to be business-related travel. This certification must be completed by the student and certified by a UC San Diego faculty member, a Principal Investigator (PI), or administrator.

Reimbursement for UC San Diego Business-Related Travel To be completed by UC San Diego Faculty Member, Principal Investigator (PI), or Administrator	
I certify that this student expense relates to the following:	
<p>Directly supports the faculty/PI's project or research program (Faculty/PI to sign form). (This includes when a student obtains his or her own external funding (including external fellowships) to support his/her research, which funding is provided to the University to administer either under a PI or as the student being the PI.)</p> <p>Please provide brief description of the project/research program:</p> <p>Faculty Member/PI Signature:</p>	
Presenting at a conference.	
<p>Is an integral (required) part of the student's degree work (choose one and attach supporting documentation)</p> <p>Activity is <i>required</i> of all students for degree completion (this does not mean that all students are required to complete dissertation work but that all students in a degree program are required to conduct research at a specific location)</p> <p>Degree:</p> <p>Activity is required of all students and impacts the student's grade in a required course.</p> <p>Course:</p>	
<p>The student is actively participating in a competition or student group activity on behalf of UC San Diego.</p> <p>Name of Competition/Activity:</p>	
Faculty Member/PI/Administrator Signature:	Date:
To be completed by UC San Diego Student	
Student/Fellow Name:	
Student ID/PID Number:	Destination:
Undergraduate Student	Graduate Student
Travel Dates:	
Purpose:	
Student/Fellow Signature	Date:

Any payment for travel to an undergraduate, graduate student, or post-doctoral fellow, which does not meet the above criteria for UC San Diego business-related travel, is considered to be a scholarship/fellowship for a nonqualified expense according to IRS regulations and should be processed through the Financial Aid Office. Any reimbursement for travel as a UC San Diego business expense (and paid through MyTravel) cannot also be claimed by the student as an additional cost of education for financial aid purposes.



Processing UC San Diego Student Travel Reimbursement Payments

Student travel reimbursements are of a complex nature and the below explanations are not inclusive and determinations may need to be made on a case-by-case basis. The purpose of this form is to document the circumstance in which the student is eligible for Travel Reimbursement.

The student travel payment is generally considered a reimbursement (nontaxable, nonreportable) if:

- The primary purpose and original intent is for UC San Diego to obtain useful results from the project/research
- Results or research will be used by UC San Diego
- Research is performed to fulfill UC San Diego's obligations to outside funding entity
- Activity is required of *all students* in a degree or course; that is, activity impacts the student's grade in a required course for the student's degree or is a requirement to graduating. The requirement to travel due to a dissertation topic alone does not qualify as business travel. The degree program must set out that all students are required to travel to conduct their dissertation research.
- Student is presenting in a conference or competition on behalf of UC San Diego.

NOTE: When student travel is for UC San Diego business, it is generally expected that 100% of the travel will be reimbursed as opposed to the student absorbing a majority of the expense.

Examples of reimbursement:

- Student travels to Hawaii to represent UC San Diego in a scholastic or athletic competition.
- Student travels to Chicago to present at a conference, where the student's name and UC San Diego is published (poster, website, brochure) as a presenter at the conference.
- Student travels to Istanbul to perform research, which happens to be the topic of her dissertation. This would qualify *if* UC San Diego would otherwise perform research on this topic, regardless of the student's research – as such, UC San Diego is considered the primary beneficiary.
- Student travels to conduct dissertation research and has obtained his or her own external funding (including external fellowships) to support his/her research, which funding is provided to the University to administer either under a faculty PI or as the student being the PI.

If the student does not meet one of these qualifications, then the student travel is generally considered to be scholarship for non-qualified expenses (taxable, self-reportable by the student) and typically is processed through the Financial Aid Office.