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Meals and Incidental Travel Expenses (M&IE)

Introduction Generally, meals and certain incidental travel expenses are reimbursable on a per diem basis (not actual expenses) for **overnight** official business travel outside the traveler’s official station. (See exceptions for business, overtime and law enforcement meals later in this topic.) **For exceptions, refer to the *Approval and Exceptions* section.**

M&IE Per Diem Allowance

Standard meal and incidental reimbursement guidelines (including all related taxes and tips) are provided in the **Lodging / M&IE Guideline Tables**. Regardless of destination, a flat **\$5** per diem amount is paid for each day of overnight travel for incidental expenses such as bellhop/waiter/taxi/limousine tips, personal telephone calls, laundry, and transportation between lodging or business and places where meals may be taken. The Incidentals amount is not prorated on a travel departure or return date. The flat **\$5** per diem is paid on all travel days.

The M&IE per diem shall be paid directly to the traveler even where it can be shown that one traveler incurred the expenses on behalf of another. The applicable M&IE per diem, or fraction thereof, is payable to the traveler without itemization of expense or receipts. Reimbursement for actual expense incurred during overnight travel for these expense categories is not permitted. Agencies may be more restrictive and pay the actual expenses up to the appropriate M&IE in place of maximum per diem.

M&IE Rate Table

The M&IE Rate Table below provides individual meal reimbursement amounts, which are breakdowns of the M&IE per diem rates shown in the **Lodging/M&IE Guideline** tables. These rates should be used to determine the maximum meal reimbursement amounts for official business meals and/or the M&IE reduction. The M&IE must be reduced for the applicable meal when meals are provided at no cost during an overnight travel period. Refer to the **Prorations and Reductions** section for additional guidance. The M&IE Rate table below reflects rounded amounts for the 75% travel days. This is intentional and intended to be more convenient for the agency and the traveler. This M&IE Rate table should be used unless a traveler needs to make an adjustment for provided meals. In the instance that an adjustment is needed, rounding is optional.

TOTAL	\$41	\$46	\$51	\$56	\$61	\$66	\$71
Breakfast	\$7	\$7	\$8	\$9	\$10	\$11	\$12
Lunch	11	11	12	13	15	16	18
Dinner	18	23	26	29	31	34	36
Incidentals	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
75% Travel Days	\$32	\$36	\$40	\$44	\$47	\$51	\$55

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