

Travel Desktop Reference

Office of Contracts and Grants

Federally Funded Travel: Fly America Act

The following pertains to Government funded travel on grants and contracts at CU where the “Fly America Act” is in effect. This handout should be used only as a reference as each award’s terms will provide the final guidance. In accordance with this act, air transportation must be performed by or under a code-sharing arrangement with a U.S. flag air carrier if service provided by such a carrier is available, *regardless* of cost, convenience or destination. Tickets (or documentation for electronic tickets) must identify the U.S. flag air carrier’s designator code and flight number. **For any travel that is not on a U.S. air carrier, the PI/Department must document the unique circumstances and attach it to the project records. The CU Boulder [Fly America Act Waiver form](#) is available for this use.**

The biggest exceptions to the Fly America Act include the following:

U.S.-EU Open Skies Agreement

Since the original U.S.-EU Open Skies Agreement was enacted in 2007, additional agreements were also passed. This expands the right to transport passengers and cargo on scheduled and charter flights on certain non-U.S. carriers for which payment is made by a U.S. Government civilian department, agency, or instrumentality subject to certain restrictions. Through this agreement, federal funds can be used for air travel on a U.S. carrier or, for specific destinations, on a European Union (plus Norway and Iceland), Australian, Japanese, or Swiss airline. *Please note that if the award is funded by the Department of Defense (DOD) or by a department of the U.S. Military, travel must be on a U.S. flag air carrier and the Open Skies Agreement is not in effect.*

Travel to a European Union Country, Norway or Iceland:

- You may fly on an EU airline when:
 - Travel is NOT funded by U.S. DOD or U.S. Military, and
 - Flight touches down in an EU country, Norway or Iceland

Travel to Australia, Japan or Switzerland:

- You may fly on an airline of Australia, Japan or Switzerland when:
 - Travel is NOT funded by U.S. DOD or U.S. Military, and
 - U.S. government does NOT have a published City-Pair Agreement for your travel route. Please note that the City-Pair Agreement is only available to Federal Government employees.
 - The searchable database for these specific routes can be found here: <http://cpsearch.fas.gsa.gov/>

What are other exceptions to the Fly America Act?

- You are involuntarily rerouted
- Medical or safety reasons
- Use of a U.S. carrier will unreasonably delay your travel time, by more than 24 hours
- a U.S. flag air carrier does not offer service on a particular leg of your trip

Additional Resources:

- University of Colorado’s FAQs: <http://www.colorado.edu/vcr/ocg>
 - University of Colorado Boulder’s [Fly America Act Waiver form](#)
 - If you have any questions, please email ocgtravel@colorado.edu
- Fly America Act: <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/103191>
- Open Skies Agreement: <http://www.gsa.gov/graphics/ogp/FTRBulletin11-02USEUOpenSkies.PDF>