GUIDELINES FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

SIAM has limited funding for conferences and, in some instances, no funding. SIAM does not normally reimburse speakers from industry or Government, but is willing to reimburse expenses for an invited speaker if their employer permits reimbursement for travel and if the speaker has no other source of travel support. We ask that other Invited Speakers attempt to obtain full or partial funding for their conference related expenses from their employers or from grants. Invited speakers do not have to pay the conference registration.

Expense Report

A SIAM Expense report with receipts *MUST* be completed and received by SIAM within two (2) months of the meeting end date in order to receive reimbursement. Expense reports received after the deadline will not be reimbursed. Expense forms will be included in the registration material distributed at the registration desk and are available from the SIAM site providing conference guidelines.

Co-chairs

As outlined at Guidelines on Funds Available to Conference Organizers CF-08, Conference Co-chairs are provided with a discretionary fund to help cover their travel expenses. They should consult the meeting manager assigned to their conference to determine the amount of funding available to the co-chairs for travel reimbursement. Co-chairs also receive complimentary conference registration.

Minisymposium Organizers and Speakers

SIAM does not reimburse Minisymposium Organizers or Speakers, and organizers and speakers are asked to pay the appropriate conference registration fee.

Invited Speakers

Reimbursement of expenses to Invited Speakers are subject to the following terms and conditions:

Where appropriate, SIAM will reimburse expenses up to $1,500 per speaker traveling within the continent where the meeting is being held, or $2,500 for speakers traveling from outside the continent where the meeting is held, subject to these guidelines. If the Invited Speakers expenses are expected to exceed these allotted amounts, the Invited Speaker must submit an Additional Reimbursement Request Form to the SIAM Conference Director for approval no later than six
(6) weeks before the conference. Reimbursement is intended to support conference related expenses including travel, housing, food and incidentals.

**Minitutorial Speakers**

SIAM will provide up to $500 per speaker of a minitutorial for travel expenses, not to exceed $1500 per minitutorial (in the case of three (3) speakers, that’s $500 per speaker), plus free conference registration for up to three (3) the speakers.

**Travel**

The most efficient and economical mode of transportation should be utilized. Reimbursement for travel will only be made for the most direct and convenient route from the principal place of residence to and from the meeting *(as long as expenses are within the reimbursement cap).*

**Air**

SIAM will reimburse coach fares only. For the best fares, make a flight reservation at least six (6) weeks in advance.

When traveling to the US from abroad, a USA Flagship airline carrier must be used in order to get reimbursed (in some circumstances the use of a foreign-flag carrier is permitted, see [Fly America Act](#)). In cases where it is less expensive or a hardship would occur from using a domestic US airline, you can be reimbursed for using another airline but the reason that the domestic US carrier was not chosen must be explained. Please review the [Fly America Act](#) for additional information.

**Train**

SIAM will reimburse coach fares only.

**Automobile**

When an individual uses his/her own automobile to travel to and from the meeting site, SIAM will reimburse in accordance with the allowable IRS mileage rate. If it is more economical or efficient to travel by air or railroad, the reimbursement for automobile costs will not exceed the air or railroad costs. Rental costs for an automobile will not be reimbursed except in cases in which it is less expensive than local transportation between the airport/train station and the meeting site. Reasonable parking fees at the meeting site will be reimbursed.

**Ground Transportation**

SIAM will reimburse reasonable ground transportation expenses (limousine, taxi, bus) between the airport/train station and the meeting site. Specially chartered luxury limousine service is not reimbursable.

**Hotels**
Individuals are required to provide payment upon check-in and may be reimbursed in accordance with the guidelines. The number of reimbursable hotel nights should not exceed the length of the meeting plus one night (*as long as expenses are within the reimbursement cap*).

**Meals**

Individuals will be reimbursed for reasonable costs incurred for meals in traveling to and from the meeting as well as during the meeting (*as long as expenses are within the reimbursement cap*). Excessive food and beverage charges will not be reimbursed.

There are two options for meal reimbursement. You must select an option and use it for the entire trip. Please indicate on the expense report which option you are using. The options are:

- **Full Reimbursement**
  
  For full reimbursement, detailed receipts are required whether the meals are paid for in cash or a credit card.

  Detailed receipts for meals showing the food and beverages ordered are required. If the meals are included on the hotel bill as room service, a detailed receipt is still required. SIAM receives funding from government agencies, and it is mandatory we receive the detailed receipts so unallowable costs can be segregated for government funding purposes.

  If a detailed receipt/receipts are not provided to support a meal item on the expense report, the meal/s will be deducted from the expense report and not reimbursed.

- **Per Diem**
  
  Costs vary according to the area of the country; there are no fixed per-diem rates. GSA (U.S. General Services Administration) updates the per diem by city periodically. If using per diem, the rate for the city traveling to should be used. Current per diem rates are available at

  Outside United States:  [https://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per_diem.asp](https://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per_diem.asp)

**Telephone**

SIAM will reimburse individuals for one phone call to home from the site of the meeting. In cases of emergency, this rule will be waived.

**Receipts**

Receipts for all expenditures over $25.00 are required. All meals require detailed receipts showing items purchased if full reimbursement option is selected. **Meals without detailed receipts cannot be reimbursed.**
Reporting of Reimbursable Expenses

An expense report will be included in the registration material distributed at the registration desk. The expense report must be turned in within thirty (30) days of the meeting end date in order to be reimbursed. Expense reports received after the deadline will not be reimbursed.

Expense reports received prior to the deadline will be reimbursed within four (4) – six (6) weeks of receipt.

A reminder to turn in expense reports will be sent by the Conference Department.

Expense reports received after the deadline will be given to Accounting. The Controller will, at his/her discretion, approve the expense report for payment.

For expense reports denied payment, a letter will be sent by Accounting, signed by the Controller, stating that payment has been denied.

Domestic Invited Speakers

If no expense report is received:

1. After 5 weeks from end date of the meeting, the Invited Speaker will be e-mailed and reminded to turn in their expense report.
2. After 8 weeks from end date of the meeting, the Invited Speaker will be again be reminded that they have only one week left to get their expense report in or they will not be reimbursed. If called, document date, time and who was spoken to.

Foreign Invited Speakers

If no expense report is received:

1. After 5 weeks from the end date of the meeting, an e-mail message with a request receipt will be sent to the Invited Speaker reminding them to turn in their expense report.
2. After 7 weeks from the end date of the meeting, a final e-mail message with a request receipt will be sent to the Invited Speaker reminding them they have only one week left to get their expense report in or they will not be reimbursed.

After two and one half (2 1/2) months, all documentation of e-mails and/or telephone calls for Invited Speakers who have not turned in their expense reports will be turned over to Accounting to keep with the meeting paperwork.

Expense reports received after the deadline will be given to Accounting. Documentation of emails and calls will be attached and given to the Controller to review and sign off that payment will not be made. If there are extenuating circumstances, the Controller will, at his/her discretion, approve the expense report for payment.

For expense reports denied payment, a letter will be send by Accounting, signed by the Controller, stating that payment has been denied.