










Checklist for Student/Postdoc Travel

Last Updated: October 2025

-  Contact your research supervisor for PRIOR approval of travel and support.
-  Plan as far ahead as possible to take advantage of early registration fees, better airfare prices, etc.
-  Check with your PI's LIDS Admin prior to booking flights as to whether US Carriers are required for flights (see "Travel Introduction" for more information).
-  The Economy guideline for airline ticket purchase means Basic "Economy" (not a lower than basic and not Premium or other higher level of Economy). If you purchase a higher level than Basic Economy the ticket will need to be dealt with as if it was Business or First-class, i.e. you may not end up being reimbursed for the total cost, since MIT will only pay for Basic Economy.
-  If other than round-trip, economy, airfare from Boston to Destination, create and print estimate of direct flights (at same time as purchase) and keep for reimbursement purposes.
-  Your Admin has a MIT/LIDS Travel Credit Card which can be used for large purchases prior to travel (Airfare, Pay-in-advance Hotel via travel internet site, Conference Fee).
-  Regardless of payment method (i.e. MIT Travel Card, personal credit card or cash), **itemized** receipts must **always** be presented for Flights, Hotel, Conference Fee, and Car Rental for reimbursement purposes.
-  To be reimbursed for Taxis or Meals over \$75 each, itemized and paid receipts must be presented for reimbursement purposes.

We are now recommending keeping all receipts even for small items. This is because different academic departments have STRICTER rules than LIDS – Best to save and not need!!.

-  To begin reimbursement process, you will need to complete a LIDS Travel Reporting Form and provide all itemized/paid receipts as detailed in the "Travel Introduction" handout. Look for Travel Reimbursement information under the LIDS Portal on the LIDS Website.