

# CARBON NEUTRAL AIR TRAVEL INITIATIVE

Implementation Plan Summary

# APPLICABILITY

This initiative applies to the greenhouse gas emissions associated with **all forms of university air travel** including business, research, athletic, and study abroad travel.

Research travel includes sponsored and unsponsored flights.

Emissions associated with **business, research, and athletics air travel will be offset for flights departing on or after Jan 1, 2018.**

Emissions associated with **student study abroad air travel will be offset for flights departing on or after May 1, 2018.**

# CARBON SURCHARGE RATE

A carbon surcharge of **\$0.0027/mile** will be assessed on all university air travel.

The rate is calculated using the following assumptions:

- Offset price of \$4.20<sup>1</sup>
- 1,749 air miles per MTCO<sub>2</sub>e (or 0.000572 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e/air mile)
- Estimated 60,000 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e to be offset annually in 2018-2020<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Based on the 2016 global average price

<sup>2</sup> Based on 2016 actual air miles traveled

# SAMPLE CARBON SURCHARGE COSTS FOR ROUNDTRIP FLIGHTS

Destination	Roundtrip Flight	Roundtrip Miles	Carbon Surcharge
Boston	BWI > BOS	736	\$ 1.99
Orlando	IAD > ORL	1,504	\$ 4.06
Denver	BWI > DEN	2,900	\$ 7.83
San Francisco	BWI > SFO	4,900	\$ 13.23
London, UK	IAD > LHR	7,340	\$ 19.82
Paris, France	IAD > CDG	7,700	\$ 20.79
Sao Paulo, Brazil	IAD > GRU	9,500	\$ 25.65
Honolulu	IAD > HNL	9,620	\$ 25.97
Tel Aviv, Israel	IAD > TLV	11,780	\$ 31.81
Beijing, China	IAD > PEK	13,840	\$ 37.37
Dubai, UAE	IAD > DXB	14,100	\$ 38.07
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	IAD > ADD	14,360	\$ 38.77
Delhi, India	IAD > DEL	14,980	\$ 40.45
Sydney, Australia	IAD > SYD	19,480	\$ 52.60

~80% of trips are domestic

Avg. international trip is ~9,000 miles

# IMPLEMENTATION

Office of Sustainability will calculate the total annual carbon surcharge for the units listed below (due April 1).

Office of the Comptroller will annually collect the total carbon surcharge (completed during April billing period).

**Sponsored Research Trips** – The total annual carbon surcharge on sponsored research air travel will be collected from the Designated Research Initiative Funds (DRIF).

**Non-Sponsored Trips** – The total annual carbon surcharge on all university air travel by faculty, staff, and students with the exception of sponsored research travel and student travel for study abroad, will be collected from each Division including the Division of Academic Affairs, Division of Student Affairs, Division of Administration & Finance, Division of Information Technology, Division of Research, Division of University Relations, and the Office of the President.

**Office of International Affairs (OIA)** – The total annual carbon surcharge on all student study abroad air travel will be collected from OIA. Education Abroad may incorporate the carbon surcharge rate into its program fees as it deems appropriate.

**Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA)** – The total annual carbon surcharge on all athletic air travel will be collected from ICA. The surcharge will be based on all flights recorded by TAR and chartered flights not recorded by TAR.

# ESTIMATED TOTAL CARBON SURCHARGE COSTS BASED ON CY 2016 TRAVEL

Sponsored Travel (paid from DRIF)	\$66,000
Division of Academic Affairs	\$66,000
Student Education Abroad	\$61,000
Intercollegiate Athletics	\$33,000
Division of Student Affairs	\$2,000
Division of Research	\$1,200
Division of Information Technology	\$1,200
Division of University Relations	\$1,100
Office of the President (excluding ICA)	\$900
Division of Administration & Finance	\$600
Total	\$233,000

# CARBON OFFSET SELECTION AND PURCHASING

- The Office of Sustainability will establish and manage a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. All carbon surcharge funds will transfer into this Fund and will be used to purchase verified carbon offsets.
- The University Sustainability Council will establish a Carbon Offset Committee to establish procurement criteria and select carbon offset projects for university investment.
- The university, with oversight by the University Sustainability Council and the Vice President for Administration & Finance, will purchase third-party verified carbon offsets to neutralize emissions associated with university air travel.
- An annual report of purchasing activities including details about carbon offset projects supported by this initiative will be prepared by the Office of Sustainability and made available to the campus community.