

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

Meetings

FREQUENCY & LOCATION. The Commission meets four times a year to conduct business related to its fisheries management program. Every attempt is made to schedule all necessary species management boards during these weeks, but there may be some boards or sections that need to meet outside of these weeks. Three of these meetings are held in the Washington D.C. area (currently Arlington, Virginia) during the last week of January or first week of February (Winter), the first week of May (Spring) and the first week of August (Summer). The fourth meeting is the Commission's Annual Meeting, held in the fall, which rotates among the fifteen member states. (Board meetings are available via livestream webinar to allow for the remote participation of Commissioners and proxies and other meeting attendees. Registration information can be found on the relevant quarterly meeting page, which can be found here (<https://asmfc.org/events/>))

The Commission can meet at other times at the call of the Chair or upon written request of five or more states. The Commission shall also conduct meetings of committees, advisory panels, or other groups such as are established to assist in carrying out the Commission's responsibilities. Such meetings shall be called by the Executive Director with the approval of the Commission Chair.

NOTICE. The Executive Director notifies the Commissioners of all meetings six weeks in advance and requests that members from all states attend so far as possible. Any Commissioner may designate a proxy with power to vote by notifying the Executive Director or his designee in writing prior to a meeting. (See "Roles and Responsibilities" earlier in this document on guidance for designating a proxy).

ATTENDANCE. Commissioners or their proxies are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Commission (either in-person or via webinar). Failure to attend two consecutive meetings, except in the event of illness, may result in a letter of warning by the Chair. Continued absence by a Commissioner, if unexplained, may result in a request by the Chair to the Administrative Commissioner for the appointment of a new Commissioner. (See Article II of the Compact, Rules and Regulations).

AGENDAS. Agendas for all Commission meetings are drawn up, in draft, by the Executive Director in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair. The preliminary meeting schedule, including information on hotel accommodation and travel authorization, is circulated, via email, six weeks prior to the scheduled meeting week as the First Meeting Notice. The final agenda and meeting materials are posted to the Commission's website (<https://asmfc.org/events/>) two weeks prior to the meeting. The board/committee chairs work with the relevant staff to develop final agendas for each board or committee that will be meeting.

For meetings where a state delegation cannot attend a meeting in person for reasons beyond their control, the delegation may request the Executive Director, Commission Chair, and board chair a postponement of a particular action for consideration at the next scheduled regular meeting or out of cycle meeting.

TRANSCRIPTS. Verbatim minutes of management boards, ISFMP Policy Board, Executive Committee, and full Commission meetings are electronically filed with the Commission and are provided to each Board or Committee member prior to the next meeting. Transcripts for management boards, ISFMP Policy Board, and the full Commission are also available on the Commission website. Recordings of all board meetings are also available on the Commission's YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/ASMFCvideos>.

AUTHORITY OF THE CHAIR. All formal meetings are conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. The public may speak on any issue at a regularly scheduled Commission meeting, except that proper administrative procedures shall be followed during the conduct of any formal administrative hearings held by the Commission.

CLOSED MEETINGS. All Commission meetings are open to the public. If it is necessary to conduct a closed meeting, proper notification must be made in advance of the called meeting. The meeting may not be closed once it has begun.

MEMBERSHIP ON OTHER COMMITTEES. When an advisory panel (AP) member becomes a Commissioner, ongoing proxy or board-specific proxy, he/she must step down as an AP member and the state may appoint a new AP member.

Commissioner Travel

AUTHORIZATION. Commissioners and proxies are eligible to travel to any Commission-sponsored meeting relating to a species for which the state has declared an interest. Eligible attendees will receive a travel authorization several weeks prior to the meeting (see sample travel authorization later in this section).

The Commission staff handles reservations for all Commissioners and proxies attending the Commission's Winter, Spring, Summer, and Annual Meetings. They will contact each attendee regarding the details of their accommodation. It is your responsibility to notify the staff of any changes to your travel plans that will impact on your hotel reservations otherwise you may incur no-show penalties.

For meetings that fall outside the Commission's four Quarterly Meetings, Commissioners and proxies are responsible for making their own hotel and travel reservations.

EXPENSES. The reimbursement voucher (see sample later in this section) must be completed and submitted to the Commission's Finance and Administration Department within 30 days of the last day of travel. Original receipts (with copies) must be attached for transportation fares, hotel, taxi, rental car, parking and any other miscellaneous expenses. Receipts for meals or public transportation are not required, although travelers must stay within the authorized meal per diem which varies based on meeting location.

To avoid unnecessary delays in the processing and payment of travel claims, additional explanation should be provided on the reimbursement voucher for those items that might appear improper or excessive to the voucher auditor. Periods of time that are not related to official business should be clearly explained.

Travel may be performed by common carriers (bus, train, airplane), privately owned vehicle (POV) or other means. When traveling by airplane, only coach fares will be allowed. When traveling by POV, mileage will be paid from the point of departure to the meeting location and return. Transportation expenses over \$500 must be pre-approved by the Executive Director, Director of Finance and Administration, or the Fisheries Policy Director. Mileage for use of POV will be reimbursed at the prevailing federal rate. The Commission will not reimburse expenditures for dry cleaning, auto repairs on private vehicles or other miscellaneous expenses not directly related to the conduct of business.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES

The following are guidelines for use when traveling on Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission business. If, after reading these guidelines, you have questions that remain unanswered, please call Laura Leach at the Commission 703.842.0740.

When you receive a travel authorization from the Commission, it will list your name as eligible for reimbursement. It is your responsibility to make your travel arrangements, based on meetings that you are required to attend. For example, if the Commission is meeting in Maine, you live in Georgia, and your meeting begins at 10:00 a.m., you will need to arrive the day before. You will probably need to stay over the night of your meeting, if it ends at 5:00 p.m. or later. If, however, you have a meeting that lasts 4 hours on one day, but you stay at the meeting all week, you will not be reimbursed for expenses that are incurred outside of your meeting.

To ensure that travel arrangements are both cost-effective and efficient, please compare the costs of different modes of transportation and various travel routes. If you opt to use an alternative route or mode of transportation, you must submit a Travel Cost Comparison Form for approval prior to your trip.

The basic guidelines for travel are outlined on the travel voucher. Additional details:

- *“Per Diem”* varies by location of the meeting and will be listed on each travel authorization.
- *“Transportation Fares”* covers airfare, train, bus, rental car and Uber utilized for getting to the meeting. *Please try to find reasonable airfare by researching different airports and airlines.*
- *Rental cars* used at a meeting must be specifically authorized by ASMFC.
- *“Mileage”* is based on the current federal rate listed on the travel authorization and voucher forms. You may claim mileage when using your privately owned vehicle as transportation to and from the meeting, as well as to and from your departure terminal.
- *“Incidentals”* of \$5.00/day cover maid, shuttle or bellman tips; however, taxi tips are part of the taxi expense.
- *“Other Expenses”* covers expenses not specifically listed (i.e., the registration fee for the annual meeting).

Please note that all expenses must be itemized separately on the travel voucher form. Original receipts must be provided for all expenses claimed, except for meals. Your airline itinerary is not an acceptable receipt; you must submit the “passenger receipt” from the actual ticket. For electronic tickets (e-tickets), we will accept a copy of your confirmation; or simply your boarding pass if you only have a confirmation number. Receipts for all tolls, cabs, and parking must be submitted to receive reimbursement for those charges. Any toll, cab, or parking charges lacking a receipt will be disallowed. EZ Pass statements will be accepted as a valid receipt for tolls. **If you received pre-approval for using a rental car, an alternative mode of transportation, or alternative route, that correspondence or the Travel Cost Comparison Form must be submitted with your travel voucher.**

If you make your hotel reservation after the cutoff date and cannot get our negotiated rate, the Commission cannot pay the higher rate that the hotel will charge, unless there are mitigating circumstances such as a request issued by ASMFC, after the cut-off date, to attend the meeting.

If you attend a meeting that is within 35 miles of your office, you will not be reimbursed for mileage or meals; however, you will be reimbursed for parking, tolls, or other expenses that you would not normally incur on a regular workday.

Your voucher must be submitted within thirty days of the last day of the meeting. Please attach original receipts when submitting by US mail; if forwarding electronically, please scan receipts and include as an attachment to the electronic voucher, to accounting@asmfc.org.



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, VA 22201-2196 • Phone (703) 842-0740 • Fax (703) 842-0741
Submit travel vouchers and receipts to accounting@asmfc.org

TRAVEL VOUCHER

Traveler's Name _____
Traveler's Address _____
Meeting Attended _____
Meeting Location _____ Date(s) _____

Travel Authorization # Check if address change

Date	First Day Depart Time	Last Day Return Time	Meals/Incidentals	Hotel	Day Total
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00

Subtotal \$0.00

OFFICE USE			
Variance	Transportation Fares		
Amount paid	Odometer Miles: <u>0.700</u> (rate eff. 1/1/25)		<u>\$0.00</u>
Date paid	Parking Fees & Tolls		
Check/Voucher Number	Taxi & Shuttle Fares		
Charge to	Rental Car & Fuel		
Authorized by	Other Expenses (explain below)		
	Total Claimed		\$0.00

Explanations: _____

If submitting form electronically, typed name serves as certification. I hereby certify that I attended this meeting and the above itemized expenses were incurred only in the execution of official business authorized by the Commission and that these expenses are not reimbursable by any other source.

Signature of Traveler: _____ Date: _____

- Instructions:**
- Please do your best to find the most reasonable airfare; in consideration of the Commission's budget. If you would like staff to help, please give us a call
 - Rental cars must be specifically authorized
 - Receipts must be submitted for all expenses (except meals); incidentals cover maid and shuttle tips
 - Any toll, cab, or parking charges lacking a receipt will be disallowed. EZ Pass statements will be accepted as a valid receipt for tolls
 - Per Diem varies by location and will be listed for each meeting on the Travel Authorization
 - Hotel claims in excess of negotiated rate will not be reimbursed without prior approval
 - Meal claims in excess of the amount authorized will not be reimbursed
 - Vouchers must be submitted within 30 days from last day of travel via fax, US mail or email to accounting@asmfc.org

Updated 1/1/25

This travel voucher is available in an electronic fill-in format:

<https://asmfc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/ASMFCElectronicTravelVoucher.xlsx>



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

1050 N. Highland Street • Suite 200A-N • Arlington, VA 22201

703.842.0740 • 703.842.0741 (fax) • www.asmf.org

Vision: Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

TA No. 25-051 **Charge To :** 0396000ESPR **Approved by:** Laura Leach *Laura Leach*
Mar 19, 2025

Meeting Name: 2025 ASMFC Spring Meeting

Meeting Date: 05-MAY-2025 - 08-MAY-2025

Meeting Location: Arlington, VA

Hotel Details: Meeting and Accommodations: The Westin Crystal City, 1800 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. Reserve your room online: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1734105677618&key=GRP&guestreslink2=true&app=resvlink> Or call 1.888.236.2427 and identify the meeting name to receive the discounted rate.

Cutoff Date: 07-APR-2025

Per Diem: Room: \$276 plus tax (sgl/dbl); Meals: \$113 (\$30/\$34/\$49)

Mileage Rate: \$0.70/mile, eff. January 1, 2025. Rental cars must be specifically authorized.

Airport Transportation: The Westin Crystal City provides a complimentary shuttle (white van) which operates Monday - Sunday and stops at Reagan National Airport (DCA) at Terminal A, Terminal B (Door 5) & Terminal C (Door 9) and runs every 15 minutes (4:30-8:00 AM) and every 30 minutes (8:00 AM-10:30 PM).

Local Transportation: By Metro from DCA: Yellow Line toward MOUNT VERNON SQUARE or Blue Line toward LARGO TOWN CENTER. Exit at Crystal City Metro Station. Travel Time: 5 minutes. The hotel is located across from Crystal City Metro Station and its underground shops and restaurants. Additional restaurants are within walking distance.

Basic Guidelines: In consideration of the Commission's budget please attempt to select the most reasonable airfare. You are responsible for determining your arrival and departure times. Commissioners (or their proxies) are eligible to attend all meetings; all others are eligible for reimbursement to attend board/committee meetings of which they are a member. If the distance from your office to the meeting site is under 35 miles, ASMFC will not reimburse hotel, mileage or per diem but may reimburse any miscellaneous expenses that would not normally occur during a work day (i.e., parking, tolls). ASMFC reserves the right to disallow travel expenses it deems excessive or unnecessary to conduct ASMFC business.

- Parking:** Self-Parking on-site (underground) is discounted to \$35/day. See the front desk when checking out to request a rate adjustment.
- Reimbursement:** You must submit an ASMFC travel voucher with receipts within 30 days of the final day of travel. Electronic travel vouchers and scanned receipts are preferred and should be sent to accounting@asmfc.org. Vouchers and receipts will also be accepted via snail mail if emailing is not an option.
- General Notes:** Complete ASMFC Travel Reimbursement Guidelines can be found at <https://asmfc.org/resources/travel-reimbursement-guidelines/> and the Electronic Travel Voucher: <https://asmfc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/ASMFCElectronicTravelVoucher.xlsx>. Please contact the ASMFC office if you have questions or would like staff assistance.

Authorized Travelers:

Abbott, Dennis	Armini, Jennifer	Bailey, David
Ballenger, Joey	Batsavage, Chris	Bauer, Tracey
Beal, Rob	Beal, Robert	Belcher, Carolyn
Bell, Mel	Berger, Tina	Blanchard, Kurt
Borden, David	Bouffard, Colleen	Boyle, James
Braun-Ricks, Ingrid	Brown, Delayne	Brown, Robert
Brust, Jeff	Burgess, Erika	Campfield, Patrick
Carson, William	Carty, Lisa	Chapin, Jack
Cimino, Joe	Clark, John	Cloyd, Rese
Colden, Allison	Corbett, Heather	Corbin, Matthew
Couch, Nick	Craig, Caitlin	Cromer, Ronnie
Curatolo-Wagemann, Scott	Daniels, Doug	Davis, Justin
Defilippi Simpson, Julie	Diggs, Danny	Dize, Russell
Drew, Katie	Dyar, Ben	Fegley, Lynn
Ferrara, Sarah	Franke, Emilie	Gadomski, Tom
Gary, Marty	Gates, Matthew	Geer, Patrick
Gopal, Vin	Grabowski, Tyler	Green, Jamie
Gresko, Joseph	Grist, Joseph	Grout, Doug
Hasbrouck, Emerson	Haymans, Doug	Hepler, Allison
Hodge, Chris	Hoffmeister, Brett	Hornstein, Jesse
Hyatt, William	Iverson-Cason, Stephanie	Jacobs, Chris
Jennings, Gary	Kaalstad, Simen	Kaelin, Jeff
Kane, Raymond	Kennedy, Carrie	Kepler, Blaik
Kerns, Toni	Kipp, Jeff	Knowlton, Kathy
Kuhn, Kristopher	Kulik, Anita	Lafrance, Robert
Law, Alexander	Leach, Laura	Lengyel Costa, Nicole
Luisi, Michael	Lustig, Loren	Maniscalco, John
Mannen, Jerry	Mccawley, Jessica	Mckiernan, Dan
Mcnamee, Jason	Mercer, Jeff	Meserve, Nichola
Michael, David	Miller, Roy	Miner, Craig

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 PENNSYLVANIA • MARYLAND • VIRGINIA • NORTH CAROLINA • SOUTH CAROLINA • GEORGIA • FLORIDA