



Winter Working Connections December 15 – 17, 2014

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES (NISGTC)

Pre-approved National Information, Security, Geospatial Technologies Consortium (NISGTC) and affiliate college individuals may be eligible for **up to \$1300** in travel reimbursement. Please review the following information prior to making travel arrangements. You are personally responsible for following the guidelines below.

Questions and concerns should be directed to Christina Titus at 972.377.1786 or ctitus@collin.edu.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this level of reimbursement, you must meet the following criteria:

- ★ Work as an IT/convergence faculty member or IT/convergence academic dean or director at a non-profit community college or four-year university
- ★ Be a member of the DOL NISGTC or an affiliate college (If you're unsure of your school's NISGTC status, please contact Christina Titus at 972.377.1786 or ctitus@collin.edu.)
- ★ Live one or more hours away from Collin College's Preston Ridge Campus in Frisco, TX as determined by GoogleMaps
- ★ Attend all three days of the conference - Monday morning, December 15, 2014 through Wednesday afternoon, December 17, 2014
- ★ Complete two end-of-course online surveys

Covered Expenses

The \$1300 in travel reimbursement can cover the following seven categories. All are listed on the "Request for Travel Reimbursement" form.

<i>Travel Category</i>	<i>What You Submit</i>
Car	GoogleMaps printout showing mileage
Airfare (and one checked bag each directions)	Receipt with passenger name, total amount paid, form of payment, and itinerary
Shuttle/taxi	Original receipts
Parking (at your home airport)	Original receipts





Winter Working Connections December 15 – 17, 2014

Lodging	Itemized paid invoice showing payee, method of payment, and zero balance
Meals (for any not provided by the event)	Completed Excel "Per Diem Worksheet"
Baggage check	Original receipts

Expenses Not Covered

The following expenses are NOT reimbursable. Please see detailed travel categories below for more information.

- ★ Car rentals
- ★ Shuttle/taxi services between hotel and campus will not be covered as they are provided free by suggested hotels
- ★ Toll fees and gasoline purchases
- ★ Travel agent fees/commissions or flight/travel insurance (includes fees charged by on-line travel sites)
- ★ Airline upgrades and extra fees
- ★ Hotel room upgrades, valet parking, and personal expenses
- ★ Tips and gratuities

Please note also that Collin College **will not reimburse for airline and hotel bundles** purchased through online travel sites (e.g. Travelocity Orbitz, Priceline, Hotwire, etc.) if an itemized airfare or hotel receipt cannot be obtained by the traveler. Many of these sites charge one rate for both airfare and hotel and often the hotel cannot provide the sort of itemized paid invoice that Collin requires for reimbursement. In general, Collin College urges you to **avoid these on-line travel websites** even if you're not buying a bundled package. If the travel website or the vendor (hotel, airline) cannot provide you an itemized receipt of payment, your expenses will not be reimbursed.





Winter Working Connections December 15 – 17, 2014

Driving Instead of Flying

Pre-approval is required from the NISGTC if you plan to drive and not fly. If you do not get this approved in advance by **Friday, November 21, 2014**, expenses *will not* be reimbursed. See more information about driving vs. flying at the bottom of this document.

Important Info

- ★ The NISGTC will reimburse on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. Your travel reimbursement eligibility will be confirmed via e-mail within 48 hours of your registration for the event.
- ★ Reimbursement requests will not be processed until after the event ends and after you have provided all required paperwork and original receipts as described above.
- ★ That paperwork is due no later than **Friday, January 16, 2015**. If you are not able to provide all required documentation by this date you waive your right to reimbursement
- ★ The NISGTC follows Collin College's policy on travel reimbursements. All decisions of the Collin College Business Office regarding travel reimbursements will be final.
- ★ All reimbursement submissions are subject to review and approval and may not be guaranteed.
- ★ **An important rule of thumb:** always select the mode of travel that provides the lowest total cost to Collin College. To do otherwise risks the denial of your reimbursement request.

Checklist

- ★ Complete and sign the "Request for Travel Reimbursement" form – a paper copy with an ink signature is required. (Please note that at the top, "Travel START Date & Time" refers to the day and time that you left your house and "Travel END Date & Time" refers to the day and time that you returned home.)
- ★ Complete the Excel "Per Diem Worksheet" spreadsheet. (Please note that at the top, "Time Left" refers to the day and time that you left your house and "Time Returned" refers to the day and time that you returned home.)
- ★ Provide original receipts and invoices – no copies, no faxes. Please tape all receipts to 8 ½ x 11 paper. **DO NOT** use staples. These will be attached to the "Request for Travel Reimbursement" form.
- ★ If you are requesting mileage, provide a Google Maps print-out documenting miles traveled.





Winter Working Connections December 15 – 17, 2014

Completed travel reimbursement forms along with backup documentation should be mailed by **Friday, January 16, 2015** to:

NISGTC
Collin College
attn Christina Titus
9700 Wade Blvd. #J130
Frisco, TX 75035

Questions?

All questions regarding NISGTC Participant travel should be directed to:
Christina Titus
972.377.1786

Reimbursable Expenditure Details

Car: You must submit a print-out of your route documenting miles traveled, using Google Maps.

The allowable mileage between two points is the **shortest route** between those two points. Mileage is currently reimbursed at 56c/mile and paid to the driver only.

Driving instead of flying must be pre-approved by Friday, November 21. In the event you choose to drive rather than fly to North Texas and are approved to do so, you will only be reimbursed the cost of the less expensive mode of travel. For instance, if it costs \$150 to fly round trip to North Texas and \$250 for mileage, you would only be reimbursed the \$150. More information about driving vs. flying can be found at the bottom of this document.

Toll fees will not be reimbursed. Gasoline purchases will not be reimbursed.

Local mileage, including mileage between the Collin College's Preston Ridge campus (PRC) and your Frisco hotel, will not be reimbursed. It is expected that you will pick a hotel that is either within walking distance to PRC or offers complimentary transportation to the event venue. All hotels suggested on the Winter Working Connections website (<http://winterworkingconnections.mobilectc.wikispaces.net/Home/>) have made assurances that free shuttle service is available.

Airfare: You must submit a receipt with passenger name, total amount paid, form of payment, and itinerary. A "confirmation" or "reservation" email is not enough.

The NISGTC will pay for a basic coach seat. A 21-day advance purchase is required for all airline tickets. Specifically, if you buy a ticket after **Monday, November 24**, you will only be reimbursed for the amount





Winter Working Connections December 15 – 17, 2014

the ticket would have been had it been purchased November 24. For instance, if you buy a ticket on November 25 for \$200 and Collin College determines that the ticket would have cost \$175 on November 24, you will only be reimbursed the \$175.

Flight insurance, seat upgrades, early check-in or early boarding, preferred seating (unless there is proof no other seating category is available), or extra-leg room (unless a medical necessity as described by a doctor), and similar fees will not be reimbursed.

If you're forced to buy a more expensive seat because there was no other seats available on your flight, to be reimbursed for that extra cost, please submit a screen shot or printout proving that no other seats were available to you at the time of purchase.

Again, if you want to drive rather than fly to a destination, you must be pre-approved by NISGTC by **Friday, November 21**. You will only be reimbursed for the less expensive mode of travel. More information about driving vs. flying can be found below.

Shuttle/taxi: You must submit original receipts of expenditures. Blank taxi receipts will not be accepted – the receipt must include taxi company name, service date, and pick-up/drop-off locations.

Mode of transportation from DFW airport to your Frisco hotel (via taxi or shuttle) should be the mode most economical to Collin College.

Tips and gratuity will not be reimbursed.

Local transportation (via taxi or shuttle) from your Frisco hotel to PRC will not be reimbursed. It is expected that you will pick a hotel that is either within walking distance to the event venue or offers complimentary transportation to the event venue. All hotels suggested on this [wiki website](#) have made assurances that free shuttle service is available.

If you are renting a car in Dallas, which is not a reimbursable expense, you may be reimbursed the reasonable, economical cost of a shuttle or taxi round trip from DFW to your Frisco hotel.

Parking: You must submit original receipts of expenditures at your home city airport. Only reasonable, economical parking fees will be reimbursed. No valet parking accepted.

Lodging: You must submit an itemized paid invoice showing payee, check-in/check-out times, method of payment, and zero balance. A "confirmation" or "reservation" email is not enough.

It is up to the individual to book a hotel room.

Collin College will not reimburse a room costing more than \$140/night including taxes.





Winter Working Connections December 15 – 17, 2014

Valet parking, room upgrades, movies, alcohol, or any other similar personal expenses will not be reimbursed.

Texas educators are encouraged to complete and submit the Texas Hotel Occupancy Tax Exemption Certificate to their hotel to be exempt from state taxes. Collin College will not reimburse state occupancy taxes for Texas educators.

Meals: You must submit a completed Excel “Per Diem Worksheet” spreadsheet.

Meals are reimbursed on a per diem basis and **do not require receipts**.

For this event, the rates are set at \$10 for breakfast, \$15 for lunch, and \$21 for dinner.

Per diem for meals will be paid based on Collin College’s standard workday of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm:

- ★ Breakfast will be reimbursed if you leave home for the trip prior to 7:00am or return home after 1:00pm.
- ★ Lunch will be reimbursed if you are away from home anytime between 11:00am and 1:00pm.
- ★ Dinner will be reimbursed if you leave home for the trip after 5:00pm or return home after 6:00pm.

You are not eligible for per diem reimbursement for any meals provided as a part of the NISGTC event you’re attending. If you elect not to eat event-provided meals, you will not be reimbursed for your meal expense unless you provide documentation that shows you were not medically allowed to eat the food provided at the event.

If your hotel provides a complimentary “hot breakfast” in the morning, you cannot request a breakfast per diem. Continental breakfasts of fruits and breads do not count as a “hot breakfast.”

Baggage Check: You must submit an original receipt. Only one bag fee per trip leg will be reimbursed. Tips and gratuity will not be reimbursed.

Driving vs. Flying

Driving instead of flying **must be pre-approved by Friday, November 21**. Should you choose to drive rather than fly, you will only be eligible for reimbursement of the less expensive mode of travel: either mileage from your home to the Dallas hotel or the cost of a round-trip airline ticket purchased on Monday, November 24.





Winter Working Connections December 15 – 17, 2014

<i>Reimbursements if you fly</i>	<i>Reimbursements if you drive</i>
No mileage	The <u>cheaper</u> of: airfare purchased Mon November 24 vs. mileage round-trip home to Dallas/Frisco hotel
Airfare	
Hotel	Hotel
Per Diem (for meals not provided at event)	Per Diem (for meals not provided at event)

For those who drive instead of fly, we are no longer reimbursing comparable “flying charges” like home airport parking, home-to-home-airport mileage, or airline baggage fees. The chart above lists the only reimbursements we provide those who choose to drive rather than fly.

