

OP 15: Air Travel

Rationale

This credit recognizes institutions that are reducing and mitigating their business air travel. An institution can help shift the culture around academic flying, in particular, by normalizing decentralized forms of collaboration and treating air travel as exceptional.

Applicability

Applicable to institutions with annual expenditures on directly financed air travel of \$50,000 US Dollars or more.

Points available

A maximum of 2 points are available for this credit.

Criteria

15.1. Air travel reduction and mitigation

An institution earns 2 points when it meets at least two of the three criteria listed below. Partial points are available and earned as outlined in Table I.

Table I. Points earned for indicator 15.1

Criterion	Points available	Points earned
A. Institution provides incentives designed to encourage employees to reduce their air travel.	1	
B. Institution has adopted restrictive measures designed to reduce the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with its directly financed air travel.	1	
C. Institution has a program designed to mitigate the GHG emissions associated with its directly financed air travel.	1	
Total points earned →		Up to 2

Measurement

Report on current policies and practices and the most recent annual data available from within the previous three years.

Documentation

Report the following information in the online Reporting Tool.

- Does the institution provide incentives designed to encourage employees to reduce their air travel? (required). For example, funding that compensates for the time and financial costs incurred while traveling by land or sea, support for extended stays over more frequent and shorter research trips (e.g., for field work), and/or allowing unutilized travel funds to be transferred into funding for other priorities such as research expenses or virtual work.

If Yes, the following field is also required:

- Narrative and/or website URL providing an overview of the institution's incentives designed to encourage employees to reduce their air travel
- Has the institution adopted restrictive measures designed to reduce the GHG emissions associated with its directly financed air travel? (required). For example, departmental carbon travel budgets or a ban on short haul flights.

If Yes, the following field is also required:

- Narrative and/or website URL providing an overview of the institution's restrictive measures designed to reduce its air travel emissions
- Does the institution have a program designed to mitigate the GHG emissions associated with its directly financed air travel? (required). For example an air travel mitigation fund or offset program.

If Yes, the following field is also required:

- Narrative and/or website URL providing an overview of the institution's air travel mitigation program