

Connexus

The University of California Travel Program

What is Connexus? It's an exciting new travel program designed to reduce the University of California's approximately \$250 million in annual travel costs.

By leveraging UC's size and buying power, **Connexus** secures for UC travelers favorable negotiated rates for airline travel, hotel accommodations and car rentals. It provides additional ease of use through a convenient and secure new web-based portal that provides quick and easy access to traditional and on-line reservation systems.

An initiative of the University's Strategic Sourcing program, **Connexus** was created and developed by the UC Travel Management Council made up of representatives from all campuses, medical centers and national laboratories.

How did Connexus come about? In its ongoing effort to achieve cost efficiencies throughout the University of California system, UC realized the potential of its capability to create one of the largest managed travel programs in the industry. The new program is under the guidance of the systemwide UC Travel Council and coordinated by the new UC Travel Management Office at the Office of the President.

How does Connexus work? By leveraging the size of the University of California system - its campuses, medical centers and national laboratories - UC has negotiated extremely favorable contracts with a number of airlines, hotels and car rental companies. For example:

- Rental car rates have been reduced by up to 15% by consolidating contracts with Hertz and Enterprise/National, with full insurance coverage and lowered surcharges.
- Hotel discounts ranging from 12% to 25% have been achieved through agreements with Marriott, Starwood and Wyndham groups.
- Still in negotiation: Air travel discounts with United Airlines, American Airlines and Southwest Airlines and associated international carriers.

Contracts have also been executed with BCD Travel, Orbitz for Business, and the UCLA travel group.

When will Connexus be implemented? By the end of 2008, all UC employees will have full access to the Connexus program. In the

meantime, UC travelers will be able to take advantage of travel discounts by accessing a central web site that will provide information to allow travelers to make arrangements directly with the suppliers.

How will I use Connexus on my campus/medical center/national laboratory? TO BE PROVIDED