

January 2017



BRC T&E Blast

Restrictions on State-Funded Travel to States with Discriminatory Laws

On September 27, 2016, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Assembly Bill No. 1887 (AB1887). The travel restriction prohibits state-funded travel to states that have passed a law after June 26, 2015, that:

- Has the effect of repealing existing state or local protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; or
- Authorizes or requires such discrimination.

The following states are currently subject to California's ban on state-funded and state-sponsored travel:

- Kansas
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- Tennessee

How are "state-funds" defined?

State funds have been identified by the system-wide Budget Office as encompassing all State General Funds and State Special Fund appropriations to a campus, e.g. 19900. If you are unsure, check with your designated budget coordinator.

What does it mean for travel to be "state funded"?

The statute does not define the term "state funded". The UC Office of General Counsel has interpreted the restriction on the use of state funds to apply to direct expenditures for travel-related costs (e.g. hotel and transportation), but *not* the salaries or time spent by employees who travel to one of the identified states.

If an outside entity is funding (reimbursing UC) the travel to one of the prohibited states, is it permissible to reimburse the traveler using these funds?

Yes. Assuming the outside entity (third party) is not a California state entity, then:

- The third party itself wouldn't have any burden of complying with AB 1887; and
- It wouldn't matter whether the third party pays for the travel directly or gives UC the money for UC's use in reimbursing the employee for travel expenses.

The travel restriction went into effect January 1, 2017. For more information, please refer to the following website: <https://oag.ca.gov/ab1887>

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