POLICY:

Some non-exempt positions require travel in the United States/International. Employees in positions classified as non-exempt under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) are eligible for compensation for the time they spend traveling. The compensation an employee receives depends upon the kind of travel and whether the travel time takes place within normal work hours or outside the normal work hours. At all times, Chatham Area Transit will comply with the requirements as provided under the FLSA.

POLICY SPECIFICS:

“Normal work hours,” for the purposes of this policy, is defined as the regularly scheduled work hours/days of the employee in question.

Travel Time Defined

“Travel time” is defined as including the time the employee arrives at the airport to the time the employee reaches his/her destination. If an employee is traveling to a location, then the destination is either the hotel or the work site (if the employee travels directly from the airport to work). If the employee is returning home from a location, the destination is the airport of final arrival.

If an employee is traveling by air and no flights are available from or to the airport nearest the employee’s residence, then travel between the employee’s residence and the airport is considered travel time and is eligible for compensation in accordance with the policy guidelines below. Travel between home and work or between the hotel and worksite is considered normal commuting time and is not eligible for compensation.

If an employee requests a specific travel itinerary or mode of transportation that is different from the one authorized by the Company, only the estimated travel time associated with the itinerary and mode of transportation that has been authorized will be eligible for compensation.

Travel Time within Normal Work Hours

Any portion of authorized travel time that takes place within normal work hours on any day of the week, including Saturday and Sunday, is treated as work hours. Travel time within normal work hours will be paid at the employee’s regular hourly rate and will be factored into overtime calculations. When an employee travels between two or more time zones, the time zone associated with the point of departure should be used to determine whether the travel falls within normal work hours.

Travel Time Outside of Normal Work Hours

Any portion of authorized travel time (with the exception of driving time) that takes place outside of normal work hours is considered to be outside travel hours.

When a non-exempt employee is required to travel as a passenger in an automobile, plane or any other mode of transportation outside of normal work hours, he/she will be compensated at one-half his/her regular hourly rate for that portion of travel time that takes place outside of normal work hours. Unlike work hours, outside travel hours are not factored into overtime calculations.

When an employee travels between two or more time zones, the time zone associated with the point of departure should be used to determine whether the travel falls outside of normal work hours.
Travel Time as the Driver of an Automobile

All authorized travel time spent driving an automobile (as the driver, not as a passenger) is treated as work hours, regardless of whether the travel takes place within normal work hours or outside normal work hours. An employee will receive his/her regular hourly rate for all travel time spent as the driver of an automobile and this time will be factored into overtime calculations.

Travel as a passenger in an automobile is not automatically treated as work hours. Travel as a passenger in an automobile is treated the same as all other forms of travel and compensation depends upon whether the travel time takes place within normal work hours or outside of normal work hours.

If an employee drives a car as a matter of personal preference when an authorized flight or other travel mode is available and the travel time by car would exceed that of the authorized mode, only the estimated travel time associated with the authorized mode will be eligible for compensation.

Calculating and Reporting Travel Time

Employees are responsible for accurately tracking, calculating and reporting travel time on their time sheets in accordance with this policy.

Meal periods should be deducted from all travel time.

If an employee requests a specific travel itinerary or mode that is different from the one authorized, only the estimated travel time associated with the schedule, route and mode of transportation authorized should be reported on the time sheet.

Travel time should be calculated by rounding up to the nearest quarter hour.

APPLIES TO:

All employees of Chatham Area Transit and subsidiaries of Chatham Area Transit.