

## **Fly America Act and Open Skies Agreement**

Consistent with the <u>Fly America Act</u>, Scripps College requires individuals paying for travel through federal funds to only use a U.S. flag air carrier service. U.S. flag air carriers must be used even if foreign carriers offer tickets at a lower price, offer preferred routing, are more convenient, or are part of a frequent-flyer arrangement such as the Star Alliance. Limited exceptions to the Fly America Act are outlined below:

- 1. When a U.S. flag air carrier is not available.
- 2. When the use of a U.S. flag air carrier service would extend the travel time by 24 hours or more.
- 3. When a U.S. flag air carrier does not offer nonstop or direct service between origin and destination; and
  - Increases the number of aircraft changes outside the United States by two or more.
  - Extends travel time by at least six hours or more.
  - Requires a connecting time of four hours or more at an overseas interchange point.
- 4. Short Distance Travel when the flight time from origin to destination is less than 3 hours and the use of a U.S. flag air carrier doubles the time en-route.
- 5. When there is an applicable <u>Open Skies agreement</u> in effect which the Department of Transportation says meets the requirements of the FAA. Does not apply for Department of Defense awards.

When one or more of the above circumstances apply, a written explanation indicating the appropriate exception along with appropriate documentation must be provided to the Post Award Grant Specialist at <u>Postaward@scrippscollege.edu</u> and approved before any expense is incurred.

Occasionally, two or more airlines will "codeshare" a flight by publishing and marketing the same flight under their own airline designators and flight numbers, and one can purchase a seat on each airline's designator and flight number, but the flight is only operated by one of the cooperating airlines. To comply with Fly America regulations, you must purchase the flight via the U.S. airline's designator and flight number if the flight is shared between a U.S. and a foreign airline.

Questions regarding the Fly America Act should be directed to the Post Award Grant Specialist at <u>Postaward@scrippscollege.edu</u>.