I. **REASON FOR THIS POLICY**

Describe the guidelines and rules for obtaining an individual travel advance. A travel advance is available to any University employee required to travel on University business who has received authorization for travel. The employee must be on payroll and scheduled to receive a paycheck for the following payroll period.

II. **STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Individual travel advances are available to all staff, faculty, or graduate assistants who are authorized to travel on University business. All expenses purchased with the advance are subject to state travel regulations.

**MINIMUM ADVANCE**

Travel advances will not be processed for amounts less than $75. The amount of the advance requested cannot exceed the estimated reimbursable expenses or the amount authorized for the trip.

**MAXIMUM ADVANCE – CANNOT EXCEED AMOUNT AUTHORIZED ON TRAVEL REQUEST**

Domestic Travel - estimated out-of-pocket expenses

Foreign Travel - Negotiable, depending on travel funds authorized
**ESTIMATED EXPENSES**

Estimated expenses should include only out-of-pocket expenses. Items charged to the University such as airline fares are not to be included.

**REPAYMENT TERMS**

Advance repayments are due 30 calendar days after the termination of travel. A signed travel advance request will authorize USD to automatically deduct the repayment from the first paycheck issued to the employee after the due date.

If an employee terminates prior to the due date of the advance, repayment must be made by the termination date by personal check, credit card, or deduction from the final paycheck.

For those employees who need to travel continuously over an extended period of time (such as admissions counselors over the academic year, or athletic coaches during recruitment season), a travel advance can be utilized during the travel period and repaid 30 days after travel is completed.

### III. DEFINITIONS

**Travel Advance:** payment made to employees who are authorized to travel on official business.

### IV. PROCEDURES

The advance will be direct deposited into the employee’s personal checking account several days before departure, provided the request is submitted as required. Requests which are not completed in full, not personally signed by the employee, not approved, or not accompanied by the approved travel request form (if applicable) will be returned.

Here is a summary of the procedures for requesting a travel advance:

1. Submit completed Travel Advance Request form to the Accounting Office at least 10 days prior to date of departure
2. Advance deposited into employee’s account several days prior to departure
3. Advance repayments are due 30 calendar days after the termination of travel
4. All travel expenses are reimbursed to the employee through submission of a travel payment detail after the termination of travel

**EXCEPTION FOR FOREIGN TRAVELERS**

For those employees traveling outside of the United States and the individual travel advance amount is too large to be repaid by the usual payroll deduction method (e.g. the individual travel advance is greater than the employee’s monthly earnings), the department is allowed to
process a noncash journal voucher in Banner in place of a direct pay to the traveler. This journal voucher should debit the departmental fund and credit the travel advance fund within Banner (Index #220975, Account #120030) while utilizing the travel payment detail and appropriate documentation.

If the reimbursement for travel is greater than the individual travel advance amount the traveler will be paid the difference on a direct pay document within Banner. If the reimbursement for travel is less than the individual travel advance amount, the traveler must repay the remaining amount due by personal check or credit card at the USD Business Office within 30 calendar days after the termination of travel.

V. RELATED DOCUMENTS, FORMS AND TOOLS

South Dakota Administrative Rule §39-01
South Dakota Codified Law §3-9-13

Individual Travel Advance Request Form - http://link.usd.edu/247