



January 4, 2017

TO: Business, Payroll, and Personnel Administrators
HRS District Coordinators
Los Angeles County School and Community College Districts
Charter Schools and Other Local Educational Agencies

FROM: April Reynolds, Payroll Systems Coordinator
District Personnel Information Services
Division of School Financial Services

SUBJECT: Year 2017 Federal Mileage Rate – 53.5 Cents

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has announced that effective **January 1, 2017**, the standard business mileage reimbursement rate for 2017 is decreasing to **53.5 cents per mile**. This change was made effective with IR-2016-169, which may be found at the website <https://www.irs.gov/uac/Newsroom/2017-Standard-Mileage-Rates-for-Business-Medical-and-Moving-Announced>, and is attached to this bulletin.

Mileage reimbursements incurred on or after January 1, 2017, are eligible for the new rate. The medical and moving mileage rates are also decreasing from 2015 rates to 17 cents per mile.

If a district mileage rate is not greater than the standard IRS rate and if each payment is substantiated by a written employee mileage claim for business use of a personal automobile, the IRS considers each payment as made under an accountable plan and not reportable as taxable compensation on an employee's W-2 statement. However, if the IRS standard rate is exceeded, the excess is taxable compensation and is subject to W-2 reporting, withholding tax, and Social Security and Medicare taxes, if applicable to the employee.

Automobile Allowance/Mileage Allowance-AAL

An automobile or mileage **allowance** is a fixed amount paid to an employee for business use of a personal automobile. Allowances are **not** based on claims for actual miles driven, are **not** reimbursements and are **not** under an accountable plan. As a result, the entire amount of an automobile or mileage allowance is considered taxable compensation by the IRS and is subject to applicable employment taxes (withholding, Social Security and Medicare) and must be fully reported on employee W-2 statements.

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The Human Resource System (HRS) permits use of earnings type AAL. If paid in HRS, AAL allowances are automatically included in employee W-2 statements and applicable taxes are applied to each payment.

Should you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact me at (562) 922-6424 or through my e-mail at Reynolds_April@laco.edu.

Approved:
Patricia Smith, Executive Director
Business and Finance

AR:sm
Attachment

SFS-A31-2016-2017



2017 Standard Mileage Rates for Business, Medical and Moving Announced

IR-2016-169, Dec.13, 2016

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2017 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2017, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 53.5 cents per mile for business miles driven, down from 54 cents for 2016
- 17 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, down from 19 cents for 2016
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The business mileage rate decreased half a cent per mile and the medical and moving expense rates each dropped 2 cents per mile from 2016. The charitable rate is set by statute and remains unchanged.

The standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs.

Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates.

A taxpayer may not use the business standard mileage rate for a vehicle after using any depreciation method under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) or after claiming a Section 179 deduction for that vehicle. In addition, the business standard mileage rate cannot be used for more than four vehicles used simultaneously.

These and other requirements are described in [Rev. Proc. 2010-51](#). [Notice 2016-79](#), posted today on IRS.gov, contains the standard mileage rates, the amount a taxpayer must use in calculating reductions to basis for depreciation taken under the business standard mileage rate, and the maximum standard automobile cost that a taxpayer may use in computing the allowance under a fixed and variable rate plan.

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