

# Flight Attendant



Are you a flight attendant? You should know what you can claim, as well as what you cannot. Here are all the details you need

In general, you can request a deduction for certain expenses, which meet the following criteria:

- ✓ You spent the money on your own
- ✓ You were not reimbursed
- ✓ The item or service you paid for affects how you earn your income directly
- ✓ You have a record of the transaction

## Grooming Expenses

✓ All things related to your work attire can be claimed. They include repairing, cleaning, buying, or hiring your uniform. A work outfit is defined as clothing that is distinct from other jobs. It can also bear the logo or name of the company you work for.

Deductions that cannot be claimed include:

- ✗ Anything relating to everyday clothing, even when worn at work, such as buying or cleaning
- ✗ Cosmetics, hairdressing, and buying skin and hair products
- ✗ Clothing that your employer allows or tells you to wear for work, such as black shoes

An exception is if the employer has a specific requirement for the shoes, such as the heel height.

- ✓ While skin products are not claimable, you can claim a deduction when you purchase rehydrating products for skin and hair. Flight attendants need these products to prevent drying of the skin and hair while in an aircraft.

## Other Expenses

Some more expenses you can claim are:

- ✓ Buying bags and luggage for work
- ✓ Phone calls and text messages related to the job
- ✓ Association fees
- ✓ Union fees
- ✓ Subscription to professional publications

Flight attendants can also claim visa application fees if required by their job.

## Travel Expenditures

Flight attendants travel for work. However, the deduction you can claim is quite limited. It should be any of the following:

- ✓ You needed to travel overnight for work.
- ✓ You paid for your own accommodation and meals.
- ✓ Your employer did not reimburse you for the costs incurred throughout the whole journey.
- ✓ Travel expenses include fares and other related costs.

"Overnight" travels may involve a mandatory rest break in between duties. They should be of an adequate length so that the flight attendant can sleep for at least seven hours.

- ✗ Note that you cannot claim payments you have made for travelling from home to the destination. An allowance from the employer is not often included in the deductions you can claim. More importantly, the expense was directly related to your income.

## Meal Expenses

Deductions are applicable to the following:

- ✓ You had meals when on the road for overnight work
- ✓ Overtime meal breaks
- ✓ Overtime meal allowance from the employer under an award, agreement, or law

- ✗ Meals during regular working days do not count because they are a private expense.

## Self-Education Expenses

✓ If you take up a course, such as improving your first-aid knowledge or certification, it can be claimed. As long as the course relates to being a flight attendant, you will be entitled to a deduction.

- ✗ However, if the study will help you find a new job, even if it is in the same industry, it is not claimable. Flight attendants can't claim training to turn into an air traffic controller, for instance.

