

EXPLANATORY NOTES:

1. In order to avoid the possibility of misinterpretation, we are requiring that numbers or notations (for example, "N/A") be entered into all data blocks on all forms even if those numbers are zero. We also note that all amounts are to be reported in whole numbers.
2. The required forecasted amounts should be based on a forecasting and/or budgeting approach or similar accounting system if the air carrier routinely uses that method. For those carriers whose accounting systems or methodologies rely more on actual or short run projections, we ask that they make a "good faith" effort to categorize their revenues and expenses according to the required forms. In this regard, the following may provide additional assistance.
3. As general guidance, we include the following information that has been adapted from 14 CFR Part 298 (Section 298.62) or 14 CFR Part 241. Air transportation for hire includes only commercial services operated under Part 121 or Part 135 operating certificates. Other services operated under Part 91, as well as dry leases and flights operated for the purpose of flight instructions, maintenance testing and aircraft positioning are excluded.
4. Total operating revenues generally include gross revenues accruing from services ordinarily associated with air transportation. It is meant to include revenue derived from scheduled service, on demand and nonscheduled service operations.
5. In general, total operating expenses include expenses of the type usually and ordinarily incurred in the performance of air transportation. It includes expenses incurred: directly in the in-flight operation of aircraft; in the holding of aircraft and aircraft personnel in readiness for assignment to an in-flight status; on the ground, in controlling and protecting the in-flight movement of aircraft; landing and handling aircraft on the ground; selling transportation, servicing and handling passenger and cargo traffic; promoting the development of traffic; and administering operations generally. It shall also include expenses which are specifically identifiable with the repair and upkeep of property and equipment used in the performance of air transportation and all depreciation and amortization expenses applicable to property and equipment used in providing air transportation services.
6. Non-operating income includes such items as interest income and other similar investments. It may also include capital gains (for example, aircraft sales). Non-operating expenses include interest expense and other expenses attributable to financing or other activities that are extraneous to and not an integral part of air transportation or its incidental services. It may also include capital losses (for example, aircraft sales).
7. We note that claims for compensation cannot be based solely on lost revenues, that is, the total revenue that an air taxi operator expected to receive from flights that would have been flown but were cancelled due to the DOT-mandated flight stoppage. While these amounts would provide information on the changes in total operating revenues, it is important to recognize that changes in total operating expenses must also be considered in calculating operating income and net income which is ultimately used to determine compensation. Also, for those carriers with less sophisticated accounting systems, the calculation of forecasted total operating expenses might be based on an analysis of fixed costs (those that stay the same regardless of the number of flights or changes in passenger and cargo traffic) and variable costs (those that change in proportion to the level of operations and traffic volume).
8. All carriers should be able to provide actual financial results for the period of September 11 to September 30, 2001, as required. We will not accept incomplete forms or reports that are submitted in lieu of the required forms and we will not accept the submission of invoices, flight logs, sales records, calendar notations of events or other similar documents in lieu of the required forms. However, supporting documentation must be retained for audit purposes.