



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

April 8, 2024

Ms. Hilda Banda
National Hispanic Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees
P.O. Box 23276
Washington, DC 20026-3276

Dear Ms. Banda:

My staff has reviewed the attached agenda of the National Hispanic Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NHCFAE) Annual National Training Conference in Las Vegas, NV, on August 20-22, 2024. The conference can be considered a training event because more than half of the schedule consists of training activities. Attendees should use course **ID FAA30200270 – FY 2024 NHCFAE National Training Conference: Version 13, 4/5/2024**, to record the training and eLMS. Please note that any changes to the approved schedule must be reviewed and reevaluated by this office since changes can affect the conference's standing as a training event.

The appropriateness and feasibility of an employee attending this event must be decided on a case-by-case basis by the approving official within the employee's supervisory chain. This determination is based on training needs, operational demands, organizational priorities, and budget considerations. The employee's approving official must approve the use of duty time and excused absence to attend the conference.

If funding is approved and attendance is directly related to the employee's current position, approving officials must allocate funds from their organization's travel/training funds. The time spent in training during the employee's work hours is considered duty time. All policies provided in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Travel Policy must be followed.

If it is determined that attendance is not directly related to the employee's current position, but attendance may enhance the employee's professional development in their current position, approving officials may approve an excused absence for the conference. The approval includes travel time during duty hours and up to 24 hours, provided the following requirements are met:

- FAA does not pay for the conference/training registration or other fees, travel, per diem, or provide the employee with any travel comp time for travel outside of the employee's normal duty hours to and from the conference;
- There are no operational workload requirements; and
- Funding is available for the excused absence.

The FAA must comply with explicit Congressional direction regarding the administration, content, delivery, and evaluation of all agency funded training. Training workshops presented as part of the upcoming conference fall within the scope of these requirements. As the training sponsor, NHCFAE must ensure that attendees are informed regarding training content and methodology, that subject matter (including all handouts) and instructional techniques comply with Congressional restrictions, that end-of-course evaluations are completed, and that summary evaluations are provided to this office.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on your upcoming conference and wish you great success. If you have questions about the Congressional guidelines, please contact Ms. Robin Jallow at (202) 267-4096.

Sincerely,

for

 Anne Marrelli
Executive Director (A)
Career and Leadership Development

Enclosure: NHCFAE 2024 Annual Training Conference Agenda