



CHANGES IN 2012-2013 for GRANTEES AND TECHNICAL EVENTS

New Contractor

Lockheed Martin is the prime contractor supporting the U.S. Antarctic Program and we are known as Antarctic Support Contract, or ASC. Several teammates are joining ASC as partners:

Lockheed Martin	ASC program management; Science planning
Best Recycling	Waste
DAMCO	Cargo; Port Hueneme operations; Punta Arenas operations
Gana-A'Yoo (GSC)	Housing; Food & Beverage; Recreation; Retail; Post Office
GHG Corporation	IT and Comms
PAE	Infrastructure and Operations; Transportation and Logistics
PAE New Zealand	Christchurch operations
SecureInfo	Information Security
University of Texas Medical Branch	Medical, Dental, Psych PQs; Telemedicine

Denver remains the headquarters; phone numbers and emails remain the same for the most part.

Medical

The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) has assumed all medical responsibilities, including Physical Qualifications (PQ). PQ questions can be directed to medical@usap.gov or 1-855-300-9704.

Self-Ticketers

ASC will ticket all deployment travel. Exceptions will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

QANTAS

As of this writing, QANTAS no longer services the Los Angeles – Auckland route. Be prepared to fly through Australia.

Ticketing

Tickets are purchased based on the information submitted on your travel forms. Please contact the ASC Travel Office if your situation changes.

Baggage Allowance for Winterovers

McMurdo and South Pole winterovers were previously allowed three bags on the commercial flight(s) to Christchurch. This season, winterovers are limited to two bags of up to 70 pounds (32kg) each. Anything beyond that is considered excess baggage.

The baggage allowance on commercial flights to Punta Arenas remains 50 lbs (23kg) for all participants.

Travelex

Travelex in New Zealand no longer offers currency exchange discounts to USAP participants. You can of course still exchange money at Travelex, but you will pay the same rates and fill out the same paperwork as other travelers.

Training in Christchurch

There will be trainings in Christchurch on the same day as ECW issue; the details are still being worked out. For this reason, plan on two nights in Christchurch.

South America

- DAMCO is the new agent in Punta Arenas, replacing AGUNSA.
- The Chilean Entrance fee increased from US\$140 to US\$160.

Finance

You can no longer cash personal checks on the Ice, at any station. Palmer Station is now cashless.

Travel to/from the Ice

- Travelocity Business is the Program's new travel agent.
- ASC Travel may be able to accommodate certain requests for personal/leisure travel if the cost does not exceed the cost of Programmatic travel.
- Once a redeployment date is confirmed, ASC Travel will book return travel to your Airport of Departure. If you wish to change dates or routing for personal/leisure travel, it is your responsibility to contact Travelocity or the airline(s) or other carriers directly to implement such changes; you incur any and all additional fees, penalties or fare differences.
- If the scheduled flight from McMurdo to Christchurch, or the vessel's arrival at Punta Arenas, is delayed or cancelled (for weather, mechanical or any other reason), ASC Travel will only assist with rebooking return travel to your Airport of Departure. If such delays impact your personal/leisure travel, it is your responsibility to contact Travelocity or the airline(s) or other carriers directly to reschedule; you incur any and all additional fees, penalties or fare differences.
- For this reason, it is highly recommended you delay planning personal/leisure travel until off the Ice.