Fly America Act Exceptions

Use of U.S. flag carriers is required for all international travel chargeable to a federal award unless one of the following exceptions is met or the foreign carrier has a code-sharing agreement with a U.S. carrier.

Travel between the United States and another country:

- If a U.S. carrier offers non-stop or direct service from your origin to destination, you must use the U.S. carrier unless such use would extend your travel time, including delay at origin, by 24 hours or more.
- Increase the number of aircraft changes outside of the U.S. by 2 or more.
- Extend your travel time by at least 6 hours or more.
- Require a connecting time of 4 hours or more at an overseas interchange point.

Travel solely outside the United States:

- You must always use a U.S. carrier unless, when compared to using a foreign air carrier, such use would:
  - Increase the number of aircraft changes you make by 2 or more.
  - Extend your travel time by 6 hours or more.
  - Require a connecting time of 4 hours or more at an overseas interchange point.

A foreign air carrier is deemed a necessity when service by a U.S. carrier is available, but:

- Cannot provide the air transportation needed.
- Will not accomplish the agency’s mission.

Use of a foreign air carrier is deemed a necessity, which includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Is necessary for medical reasons.
- Is necessary to avoid an unreasonable risk to your safety and is approved by your agency.
- Is necessary when you cannot purchase a ticket in your authorized class of service on a U.S. carrier but one is available with a foreign carrier.

Documentation is required when a foreign air carrier is used for federally funded travel. See the Fly America Act Exemption Certification at: [http://atc.caltech.edu/finance/PPS/payment/travel policy.htm](http://atc.caltech.edu/finance/PPS/payment/travel policy.htm)