Financial Reports and Payment

Investigators receive a daily consultant rate for full days that they have worked, a per diem (food and accommodation payment) for travel days, and reimbursement for site investigation expenses. It is very important for investigators to keep detailed records of the amount of time they work, their travel, and receipts for all related expenses. Investigators will submit a detailed financial report at the end of each month.

Investigator Daily Consultant Rate

Your daily consultant rate is stated in your contract. The daily rate is payment for a <u>full day</u> of work (8 hours). If you work for half a day on Monday and half a day on Tuesday, that counts as <u>one day</u> on your financial report. Each month you will create a new financial report and enter your daily rate and the number of full and half days you worked during that month.

Per Diem for Travel Days

Blacksmith will pay a per diem to cover the cost of hotel and food for travel days that require an overnight stay in a hotel. A per diem is not paid for day trips, or days when you are traveling back to your home, only days that end at a hotel. Transportation costs are covered by the per diem. Transportation costs are reported on your monthly financial report and reimbursed at the end of the month. The per diem amount is fixed, and does not change based on the cost of your hotel and meals. If your hotel costs more than your per diem payment, Blacksmith will not pay the extra charge. If your hotel costs less than the per diem payment, you can keep the remaining per diem amount. If you have food expenses from a day that does not end at a hotel, please report that expense on your monthly financial report and include the receipt, just like other travel expenses.

Reimbursing Expenses

Blacksmith will reimburse most expenses related to site screenings as long as the investigator provides receipts for each expense. <u>Blacksmith will not reimburse expenses without a proper receipt attached to the financial report.</u> Reimbursable expenses may include:

 Travel costs. Blacksmith will reimburse purchases of bus or train tickets, taxi from a train station to the site. If you are going to use your own car,

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please contact your Regional Director in New York to discuss reimbursement for fuel. If you require an airplane ticket to visit a site, you must ask your New York Regional Director for approval before buying the ticket. Blacksmith will not reimburse the cost of an airplane ticket if the Regional Director in New York did not authorize the purchase.

- Equipment. If you think you need a piece of equipment for a site screening, please discuss this with your Regional Director in New York. Blacksmith may be able to send you equipment, and may authorize you to purchase equipment. Review the Sampling Guidelines section to see if you will require sampling equipment for a site screening. All sampling equipment purchases require authorization from your New York Regional Director.
- Food costs during a site screening that does not require a per diem payment (for example, lunch on a day trip that will end at your home).
- Laboratory analysis of samples. Before sending samples to a lab, ask the lab for a price quote for the number of samples that you want analyzed. Review the price quote with you Regional Director in New York. If the Regional Director approves, send the samples for analysis.
- Internet café, photocopying, shipping, etc. Blacksmith will reimburse you
 for limited administrative costs associated with site screenings. This does
 not include payment for internet in your home.

Blacksmith will **not** reimburse investigators for:

- Bribes, payment to government employees (except per diems), or payments to individuals for information
- Hotels. Hotel expenses are covered by your per diem
- Food on a day when a per diem is paid.
- Expenses that do not have a proper receipt attached to the financial report
- Purchases over \$100 that did not receive prior approval from a Regional Director in New York

Monthly Financial Report

Investigators must submit a financial report for each month that they conduct site screenings. Investigators can download a blank Investigator Monthly Financial

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Report at <u>www.blacksmithinstitute.org/coordinator-resources.html</u>. It is important to fill in all of the white sections of the report.

To receive reimbursement for expenses, Investigators must list each expense individually and record:

- the date of the expense
- the cost in local currency
- the receipt number (you will write the same number on the actual receipt)
- and a description of the expense (for example: bus ticket from City A to City B)

Example of Scanned Receipts

