§ 515.561 Persons visiting close relatives in Cuba.

(a) General license. (1) Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and persons traveling with them who share a common dwelling as a family with them are authorized to engage in the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and additional transactions directly incident to visiting a close relative, as defined in § 515.339 of this part, who is a national of Cuba, as defined in § 515.302 of this part.

(2) Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and persons traveling with them who share a common dwelling as a family with them are authorized to engage in the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and additional transactions directly incident to visiting a close relative, as defined in § 515.339 of this part, who is a U.S. Government employee assigned to the U.S. Interests Section in Havana.

(b) Specific licenses. Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and persons traveling with them who share a common dwelling as a family with

(i) The total of all remittances authorized by § 515.570(a) through (d) does not exceed $3,000; and

(ii) No emigration remittances authorized by § 515.570(e) are carried to Cuba unless a U.S. immigration visa has been issued for each payee and the licensed traveler can produce the visa recipients’ full names, dates of birth, visa numbers, and visa dates of issuance.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (c)(4): This paragraph does not authorize a traveler to carry remittances on behalf of other remitters.

(5) Processing certain financial instruments. All transactions incident to the processing and payment of checks, drafts, travelers’ checks, and similar instruments negotiated in Cuba by any person authorized pursuant to this part to engage in financial transactions in Cuba. For purposes of this section, the authorized transactions may be conducted using currency, which is defined as money, cash, drafts, notes, travelers’ checks, negotiable instruments, or scrip having a specified or readily determinable face value or worth, but which does not include gold or other precious metals in any form.

(d) A blocked Cuban national permanently resident outside the United States who is departing the United States may carry currency, as that term is defined in paragraph (c)(5) of this section, as follows:

(1) The amount of any currency brought into the United States by the Cuban national and registered with U.S. Customs and Border Protection upon entry;

(2) Up to $3,000 in funds received as remittances by the Cuban national during his or her stay in the United States; and

(3) Compensation earned by a Cuban national from a U.S. academic institution up to any amount that can be substantiated through payment receipts from such institution as authorized pursuant to § 515.565(a)(5).

(e) The following transactions by persons generally or specifically licensed to engage in travel-related transactions to, from, and within Cuba are prohibited by § 515.201 unless specifically authorized:

(1) All transactions by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction related to the utilization of charge cards, including but not limited to debit or credit cards, for expenditures in Cuba.

(2) All transactions related to the processing and payment by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction, such as charge card issuers or intermediary banks, of charge card instruments (e.g., vouchers, drafts, or sales receipts) for expenditures in Cuba. The issuer of a charge card, or a foreign charge card firm owned or controlled by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction, is not authorized to deal with a Cuban enterprise, a Cuban national, or a third-country person, such as a franchisee, in connection with the extension of charge card services to any person in Cuba.

(f) Nothing in this section authorizes transactions in connection with tourist travel to Cuba.


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them to engage in the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and additional transactions directly incident to visiting a close relative, as defined in §515.339 of this part, who is neither a national of Cuba, as defined in §515.302 of this part, nor a U.S. Government employee assigned to the U.S. Interests Section in Havana.

[74 FR 46006, Sept. 8, 2009]

§ 515.562 Officials of the U.S. government, foreign governments, and certain intergovernmental organizations traveling to, from, and within Cuba on official business.

The travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to activities in their official capacities by persons who are officials of the United States Government, any foreign government, or any intergovernmental organization of which the United States is a member and who are traveling on the official business of their government or international organization are authorized.


§ 515.563 Journalistic activities in Cuba.

(a) General license. The travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to journalistic activities in Cuba by persons regularly employed as journalists by a news reporting organization or by persons regularly employed as supporting broadcast or technical personnel are authorized.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a): See §§501.601 and 501.802 of this chapter for applicable record-keeping and reporting requirements. The exportation of equipment and other items to be used in journalistic activities may require separate licensing by the Department of Commerce.

(b) Specific licenses. (1) Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and other transactions that are directly incident to journalistic activities in Cuba for a free-lance journalistic project upon submission of an adequate written application including the following documentation:

(i) A detailed itinerary and a detailed description of the proposed journalistic activities; and
(ii) A resume or similar document showing a record of journalism.

(2) To qualify for a specific license pursuant to this section, the itinerary in Cuba for a free-lance journalistic project must demonstrate that the journalistic activities constitute a full work schedule that could not be accomplished in a shorter period of time.

(3) Specific licenses may be issued pursuant to this section authorizing transactions for multiple trips to Cuba over an extended period of time by applicants demonstrating a significant record of journalism.


§ 515.564 Professional research and professional meetings in Cuba.

(a) General license—(1) Professional research. The travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such additional transactions that are directly incident to professional research by full-time professionals who travel to Cuba to conduct professional research in their professional areas are authorized, provided that:

(i) The research is of a noncommercial, academic nature;
(ii) The research comprises a full work schedule in Cuba;
(iii) The research has a substantial likelihood of public dissemination; and
(iv) The research does not fall within the categories of activities described in paragraph (c), (d), or (e) of this section.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a)(1): This general license does not authorize as professional research any travel-related transactions incident to attendance at professional meetings or conferences. Such transactions must either qualify under the general license set forth in paragraph (a)(2) of this section or be the subject of a request for a specific license under paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) Specific licenses. (2) Professional meetings organized by an international professional organization. The travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to travel to Cuba by full-time professionals to attend professional meetings or conferences in Cuba organized