



Recovering Voices – Community Research Program BUDGET SUPPLEMENT SHEET

Lodging

Below is the FY2026 GSA Lodging Rate for Washington, DC. The proposal budget should not assume higher rates for lodging as RV cannot pay higher than the GSA rate. For the purposes of this proposal, use the below rates. If you are looking beyond the timeframe detailed below, please refer to the link below the chart.

FY 2025 GSA Lodging Rate for Washington, DC											
Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep
\$275	\$196	\$196	\$196	\$196	\$276	\$276	\$276	\$276	\$183	\$183	\$275

Source for Lodging and Per Diem Rates: <http://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>

Per Diem

On a full day in Washington, DC the FY2025 GSA M&IE is \$92 per person. The first and last day of travel is calculated at 75% of the full day per diem, \$69 per person.

Timing/Season

Washington, DC is a tourist destination. When considering preferred dates for the research visit, also consider the time of year and if any significant holidays fall near the preferred dates. Recovering Voices will make every attempt to accommodate the preferred first or second choice research dates for awardees. Some dates may be restricted due to staff or collections availability.

- Springtime is very busy in Washington, DC around Easter and around the Cherry Blossom Festival. This makes flights more expensive and hotels harder to book. The specific dates of these events change yearly, but RV can still support visits during this time.
- Early summertime is very busy for tourists in Washington, DC, and much of the local population leaves on vacation in July and August. Summers in DC are very hot and humid which accounts for the lowered lodging rates in July and August. Many Smithsonian researchers and staff leave to conduct field research during the summer. Please consult with any SI researcher or staff you wish to work with prior to choosing preferred dates.
- Fall is slightly less busy for tourists as school is in session, but the weather is good and still attracts many tourists.
- Winter is the season with the fewest tourists in Washington, DC, but there is a spike in the weeks between Thanksgiving and the New Year.

Holidays and Weekends

The Smithsonian Institution's collections facilities are closed on all weekends and federal holidays. You can find a list of holidays here: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/snow-dismissal-procedures/federal-holidays/#url=2020>

Rest Days/Research Breaks

Research in collections can be physically and emotionally exhausting, especially if there is also a large time change. Consider the makeup of your research group and whether or not you will need time to adjust to the eastern time zone and if you will need shorter research days or extra breaks during the day when planning your research, travel, and lodging.