

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Nora Blalock
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: May 4, 2026 Return: May 8, 2026
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: Boston Return City: Washington, D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Center Forward
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: We spent an incredibly busy 5 days visiting and learning about all facets of the health care system, including academic medicine centers, drug manufacturers, labs, hospitals, insurers, patient groups, and more.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box:*
 - a. a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
 - b. the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all attachments and the Additional Sponsor Form(s)**;
 - c. page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
 - d. the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*
b. If not, explain: _____

I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler:  Date: 5/19/26

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Kathy Castor Date: 5/19/26

Signature of Supervising Member: 

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: Center Forward

2. Travel Destination(s): Boston, MA

3. Date of Departure: Monday, May 4th, 2026 Date of Return: Friday, May 8th, 2026

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Amy Zhou, Lydia Abma, Laila Goharioon, Julia Brunner, Nora Blalock


Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if **all** information is **identical** for each person listed.

5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$459.83	\$1,164.00	\$345.00	\$50 (Fenway Guided Tour)
Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. *Signify statement is true by checking box.*

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: May 13th, 2026

Name: Riley Kilburg Title: Executive Director

Organization: Center Forward

I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.

Address: 1214A Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA 22101

Telephone: 563-542-6821 Email: riley@center-forward.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection.

This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Nora Catherine Blalock

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Representative Kathy Castor

Office Address: 2188 Rayburn House Office Building

Telephone Number: 202-225-3376

Email Address of Contact Person: nora.blalock@mail.house.gov

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM. Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via email: travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Nora Blalock
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Center Forward
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Boston, Massachusetts
4. a. Date of Departure: May 4, 2026 Date of Return: May 8, 2026
b. Yes No Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Yes No Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**
 - (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____
 - (2) Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
 - (3) Yes No Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age?
6. a. Yes No Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?
b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

7. Yes No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**
As Deputy Chief of Staff and health policy lead for Rep. Kathy Castor (an E&C Ranking Member), this trip will allow me to learn more about many facets of the health care system, including clinical trials and drug development, children's health care, US R&D, value-based models, and community-based care.
9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member: Kathy Castor

Date: 3/31/26

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

Center Forward

2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

- a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**
- b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**
- c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): _____

Please see attached supplemental form

5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: Monday, May 4th, 2026 Date of Return: Friday, May 8th, 2026

7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C.

b. Destination(s): Boston, MA

c. City of return: Washington, D.C.

8. **Check only one.** I represent that

- a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**
- b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**
- c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following.**
- a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
 - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
 - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
 - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. _____
-

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. **Check only one of the following.**
- a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box; OR*
 - b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip *and* its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
Please see attached supplemental form
-

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)
 - b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
 - c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

-

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
 - b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:
 - 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \$92 during full programming day(s)
\$69 for travel day(s)
 - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____
Please see attached supplemental form

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Omni Parker House City: Boston Cost Per Night: \$291
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Nearby all of the areas of the city we are visiting

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
 Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
 Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$600.00	\$1,164.00	\$345.00
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A


	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	0.00	N/A
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

19. **Check only one:**

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**

- a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
- b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
- c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature:  Date: March 27, 2026
 Name: Riley Kilburg Title: Executive Director
 Organization: Center Forward
 Address: 1214A Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA 22101
 Email: riley@center-forward.org Telephone: 563-542-6821

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form: Supplemental

First	Last	Title	Affiliation	Reason
Lydia	Abma	Senior Policy Analyst	House Energy and Commerce Committee	As a Senior Policy Analyst for the House Energy and Commerce Committee Health Subcommittee, Ms. Abma brings expertise from the most prominent subcommittee focused on private and public health insurance, biomedical research and development, and the interaction between government agencies and private industry
Anna	Baumstein	Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Darren Soto	As Senior Legislative Assistant for Rep. Darren Soto, Ms. Baumstein provides expertise on pandemic preparedness reauthorizations, public-private partnerships for global health, PEPFAR, the Global Fund, and other programs and issues related to global health under the jurisdiction of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.
Nora	Blalock	Deputy Chief of Staff	Office of Representative Kathy Castor	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and its subcommittees on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, Communications and Technology, and Energy, Ms. Blalock can provide insights on ways in which Congress and the federal government can invest in technological innovations in healthcare.
Julia	Brunner	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Brad Schnieder	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the Ways and Means Committee and a number of key health-related caucuses, Ms. Brunner can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives in the healthcare innovation sector.
Justin	Camp	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Bob Onder	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the Education and Workforce Committee and member of the GOP Doctors Caucus, Mr. Camp can highlight potential solutions to healthcare workforce issues that hinder innovative care solutions.

Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form: Supplemental

First	Last	Title	Affiliation	Reason
Owen	Dankworth	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Ellzey	As Legislative Director for a member of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. Dankworth can speak to the governmental funding mechanisms that keep important public health benefits solvent, discretionary spending dynamics on health care, and funding for agencies that drive healthcare innovation.
Clare	Dentner	Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Brian Fitzpatrick	As Senior Legislative Assistant to a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, Ms. Dentner can provide insights on the intersection between tax policy, innovation efforts, and regulation of healthcare industries.
Leighann	Fairley	Health Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Gus Bilirakis	As Health Legislative Assistant for a member of the Energy and Commerce committee, Ms. Fairley can comment on innovative biomedical research, mental health, substance abuse, and food/drug safety.
Laila	Goharioon	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Whip Katherine Clark	As Health Policy Advisor for a member of House leadership and a member from the Massachusetts delegation, Ms. Goharioon can comment on the larger health policy goals of the Democratic House members as well as the specific conditions that make Massachusetts a hub for innovation.
Alex	Karabatsos	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Lori Trahan	As a senior health policy staffer for Rep. Lori Trahan, who serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Ms. Karabatsos can provide insight into emerging health care issues that Congress will need to address to modernize the health system and spur investment in innovative technologies.
Molly	McTaggart	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Andrea Salinas	As Legislative Director for Rep. Andrea Salinas, Co-chair of the Mental Health Caucus, Molly McTaggart handles the healthcare portfolio with special attention given to mental health issues. She can contribute to conversations on innovative ways in which through new technologies, treatment methods, and prescription options can alleviate mental health issues.

Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form: Supplemental

First	Last	Title	Affiliation	Reason
Davis	Michols	Deputy Chief of Staff	Office of Representative Morgan Griffith	As Deputy Chief of Staff to the Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, Mr. Davis can offer important contributions to conversations on regulations of healthcare companies, interaction between health-related departments and private industry, and the health sector more broadly.
JP	Moreland	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Mike Kelly	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the Ways and Means committee, Chair of the Tax Subcommittee and member of the Health Subcommittee, Mr. Moreland can help lead discussions on federal tax structures that help incentivize or hinder innovation in the healthcare industry.
Jackson	Mountain	Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Craig Goldman	As Senior Legislative Assistant for Rep. Craig Goldman, Mr. Mountain advises on healthcare issues within the Energy and Commerce Committee's jurisdiction. He would contribute a congressional perspective on regulatory oversight, legislative priorities, and balancing innovation with patient protections.
Emma	Schultheis	Majority Policy Analyst	House Energy and Commerce Committee	As a Majority Policy Analyst, Ms. Schultheis can bring expertise in Medicare, Medicaid, public health, biomedical research, mental health issues and more as we discuss how these issues tie in to healthcare innovation.
David	Steury	Health Policy Director	Office of Representative Diana DeGette	As Health Policy Director for Rep. DeGette, the Ranking Member of the Health Subcommittee for the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Steury will contribute to our conversations on innovation in new technologies in healthcare, payment and reimbursement dynamics, and management of chronic disease from the standpoint of the Federal Government.

Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form: Supplemental

First	Last	Title	Affiliation	Reason
Liz	Trombley	Deputy Chief of Staff	Office of Representative Kristen McDonald-Rivett	As the Deputy Chief of Staff for Rep. Kristen McDonald-Rivett who serves on the House Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and the House Committee on Agriculture, Ms. Trombley can discuss how physical infrastructure and sources of food production contribute to health outcomes.
Caroline	Tucker	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Vern Buchanon	As Health Policy Advisor to the Vice Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and the Chairman of the Health Subcommittee, Ms. Tucker can shed light on federal health care programs and policies, including Medicare, Medicaid, and health-related tax issues.
Jackie	Weinrich	Senior Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Doris Matsui	As Legislative Assistant for Rep. Matsui, who serves on both the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications & Technology, as well as Co-chair of the rare disease caucus, Ms. Weinrich can assist in highlighting innovative ways in which new technologies can spur innovative treatments for the rare disease community and beyond.
Austin	Welter	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks	As Legislative Director for Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Welter oversees the office's healthcare portfolio. He would bring strategic insight into committee priorities and real-time legislative considerations shaping federal healthcare innovation policy.
Brayden	Woods	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Beth Van Duyne	As Legislative Director to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Wood can assist in leading conversations surrounding the nation's tax laws and economic policies, and how those laws innovate or discourage healthcare innovation.

Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form: Supplemental

First	Last	Title	Affiliation	Reason
Amy	Zhou	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Kim Schrier	As Policy Advisor to a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and its health subcommittee, Ms. Zhou can assist in leading conversations surrounding healthcare innovation within technological industries including manufacturing, trade, energy, and more.

12. Sponsor’s interest in the subject matter and role in organizing the trip:

Center Forward’s Healthcare Innovation Conference is being convened to bring together a bipartisan group of senior legislative staffers from the House of Representatives to discuss the healthcare supply chain and how the federal government can incentive innovationm business growth, and further scientific progress. Center Forward’s organizational mission is to provide pragamatic offices with the information they need to craft common-sense solutions and provide support in turning those ideas into results. Center Forward brings together Members of Congress, their staffs, not-for-profits, academic experts, trade associations, corporations, patient advocates and more to find common ground.

Center Forward is the sole organizer of the trip. Center Forward is planning the conference and is responsible for the organization and execution of the event logistics as well as the programming content. Discussion topics will include the cell and gene therapy advancements, primary care incentives, intellectual property of public-private partnerships, CHGME funding, IVF treatments, sports medicine artificial intelligence applications for healthcare, supply chain onshoring, and workforce development initiatives to support sensitive and growing industries. Conference attendees will be senior legislative staffers from House member offices, and will speak with researchers, business leaders, startup founders, academics, and local government officials in the Boston-metro area.

15.b.2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:

Boston was selected as the destination for this staff delegation to provide participants with an on the ground view of one of America’s most established and influential healthcare innovation ecosystems. Anchored by world class academic medical centers and research universities, the Boston area has long served as a global leader in biomedical research, life sciences, and advanced therapeutics. The region’s dense concentration of hospitals, startups, and multinational companies has created a unique environment where clinical care, discovery, and commercialization are closely connected. Throughout the visit, attendees will see how sustained public and private investment, coupled with a highly skilled workforce, has positioned Boston as a critical engine of American healthcare innovation and global competitiveness.



Center Forward Healthcare Innovation Conference
Boston, Massachusetts — Monday, May 4, 2026 - Friday, May 8, 2026
Conference Agenda

Center Forward Contact Information

Cori Kramer | 202-550-0888 | cori@center-forward.org
Daniel Garza | (770) 827-0242 | daniel@center-forward.org
Aidan Clements | (980) 263-7325 | aidan@center-forward.org
Ava Bowman Thomas | 402-889-7058 | ava@center-forward.org

<p>Monday, May 4th, 2026</p>

- 1:54 pm EST** Congressional staff use public transportation to arrive at Washington Reagan National Airport. The plane departs early in the afternoon.
- American Airlines Flight AA 3219 | 1 h 39 min flight time
- 3:33 pm EST** Staff arrive at Boston Logan International Airport (BOS)
- Collect luggage and walk towards the arrival hall. Center Forward staff will be there to greet you. After everyone has gathered, the driver will depart the airport.*
- 3:33 pm - 4:00 pm** Depart Boston Logan International Airport via shuttle en route to Omni Parker House
- Omni Parker House Hotel | 60 School Street, Boston, MA 02108
- 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm** Check in to hotel

6:45 pm - 7:00 pm Walk to dinner at Ruth Chris Steakhouse
45 School Street, Boston, MA 02108

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Welcome Dinner

Cori Kramer will welcome staff to the Healthcare Innovation Conference, review the week's agenda, and outline expectations for the trip. Johannes Fruehauf, Founder and CEO of LabCentral, will discuss how shared research infrastructure and incubator models have helped launch hundreds of life science startups and strengthen the US biotech ecosystem. Drawing on his experience as a physician, entrepreneur, and venture capital investor, he will highlight key policy priorities for early-stage biotech, including the importance of FDA stability, strong patent protections, and the risks that price controls and global competition pose to US leadership in innovation.

Speakers include:

- Cori Kramer, CEO, Center Forward
- Dr. Johannes Fruehauf, MD/PhD, Founder & CEO, LabCentral and Biolabs

Tuesday, May 5th, 2026

BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Breakfast is available in the King Room on the Mezzanine Level from 7:00 am - 8:20 am

****Business Casual attire. Closed-toed shoes.**

8:20 am Attendees meet in the hotel lobby

8:30 am - 9:00 am Transit to Takeda

300 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139

9:00 am - 11:00 am Tour and Presentation of Takeda Pharmaceuticals

The visit will begin with a presentation highlighting the end-to-end drug development process, from early scientific ideation to first in-human testing. Attendees will also learn about Takeda's use of artificial intelligence and machine learning across research, pharmaceutical sciences, and clinical development.

Staff will then tour Takeda's laboratory facilities alongside senior scientific leadership, where they will see firsthand how AI-enabled platforms are integrated across experimental systems to support faster, higher-quality decision making. The visit will conclude with a discussion and Q and A session, allowing staff to engage directly with Takeda experts.

Speakers include:

- Dr. Christopher Arendt, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer and Head of Research, Takeda
- Dr. Nicole Glazer, PhD, Head, R&D Data, Digital and Technology, Research and Development, Takeda
- Dr. Kallol Ray, PhD, Head of Biologics, Takeda

11:00 am - 11:30 am Transit to Mass General Brigham

55 Fruit Street, Boston, MA 02114

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Tour and Presentation of Mass General Brigham

This visit will provide congressional staff with a firsthand look at one of the nation's leading integrated academic health systems. Upon arrival at Massachusetts General Hospital, the delegation will be welcomed by senior leadership and escorted through the hospital campus, and will observe key clinical or research areas en route to the meeting space. Over lunch, Dr. Marcela Del Carmen will share remarks highlighting Mass General Brigham's approach to clinical excellence, research innovation, and academic medicine, followed by a discussion and Q&A session.

Speakers include:

- Dr. Marcela G. del Carmen, MD, MPH, President, Mass General Brigham

1:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Transit to Massachusetts Institute of Technology

500 Main Street Building 76, Cambridge, MA 02139

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Tour and Presentation of MIT

The delegation will begin the program at The Engine, where opening remarks and introductory lectures will be hosted before the group transitions to subsequent tour locations. Touring will include The Engine and then walking to the Koch Institute and the Center for Clinical and Translational Research for additional guided visits.

Speakers include:

- Dr. Jonathan Gruber, Ph.D., Ford Professor of Economics, Head of the MIT Department of Economics
- Dr. Anantha Chandrakasan, Ph.D., MIT Provost, Vannevar Bush Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Head of the MIT Health and Life Sciences Collaborative
- Dr. Angela Koehler, Ph.D., Associate Director of the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT, Charles W. and Jennifer C. Johnson Professor of Biological Engineering, Faculty Director of the MIT Health and Life Sciences Collaborative
- Dr. Tarek Fadel, Ph.D., Director of Strategic Alliances for the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT
- Dr. Elazer Edelman, M.D., Ph.D., Edward J. Poitras Professor of Medical Engineering and Science, Director of the Center for Clinical and Translational Research at MIT
- Benjamin Downing, Chief Growth Officer, The Engine

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Transit to Omni Parker House
60 School Street, Boston, MA 02108

4:30 pm - 6:45 pm Break

6:45 pm - 7:00 pm Walk to dinner at Riccardo's
175 North Street, Boston, MA 02113

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Dinner with Team IMPACT

This dinner will feature remarks from Team IMPACT, highlighting the impact of pairing children facing serious illness or disability with collegiate athletic teams. The presentation will conclude with a discussion on how Congress can support nonprofit organizations like Team IMPACT that strengthen community connections and improve the quality of life for children and families.

Speakers Include:

- Rachel Rogovin, Director of Clinical Services, Team Impact

Wednesday, May 6th, 2026

BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Breakfast is available in the King Room on the Mezzanine Level from 7:00 am - 8:20 am

****Business Casual attire. Closed-toed shoes are required.**

8:20 am Attendees meet in the hotel conference room.

8:30 am - 9:00 am Transit to Boston Children's Hospital | Overview of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115

Center Forward staff will provide a brief educational overview of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The discussion will outline how CHIP operates through an enhanced federal matching rate and state administration. The briefing will frame CHIP as a foundational component of the broader pediatric healthcare safety net prior to the site visit.

Speakers include:

- Cori Kramer, CEO, Center Forward

9:00 am - 11:00 am Tour and Presentation of the Boston Children's Hospital

During this visit to Boston Children's Hospital, congressional staff will receive a comprehensive, on-the-ground view of pediatric care delivery, clinical excellence, and cutting-edge research. Following welcome remarks from senior hospital leadership, the delegation will divide into small groups to tour key care settings, including the Emergency Department, the Primary Care Center, and multiple intensive care units spanning medical, surgical, cardiac, and neonatal care.

Participants will also visit leading research spaces across the campus, highlighting work in gene expression, gene therapy, neuroimaging, and childhood-onset genetic disorders. The visit will conclude with a discussion and Q&A session, offering staff the opportunity to reflect on how clinical care, research, and innovation intersect to advance pediatric health.

Speakers include:

- Dr. Ryan Nagy, MD, MBA, President and Chief Operations Officer, Boston Children's Hospital
- Dr. Gina Mortillaro, MD, Medical Director, Emergency Psychiatric Service, Boston Children's Hospital
- Dr. Michael Lee, MD, Executive Director and Medical Director, Department of Accountable Care and Clinical Integration, Boston Children's Hospital
- Dr. Kristen Leeman, MD, Associate Medical Director, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Boston Children's Hospital
- Nancy Andrews, MD, PhD, Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer, Boston Children's Hospital

11:00 am - 11:30 am Transit to Biogen | Overview of the Orphan Drug Act

140 6th Street, Cambridge, MA 02142

Center Forward staff will provide a brief educational overview of the Orphan Drug Act. The discussion will outline how the program provides market exclusivity, tax credits, and regulatory support to encourage investment in areas where traditional commercial incentives may be limited. The briefing will describe the Orphan Drug Act as a key driver of continued investment in cutting edge therapies such as the ones Biogen is developing.

Speakers include:

- Cori Kramer, CEO, Center Forward

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Tour and Presentation of Biogen Pharmaceuticals

This visit will bring congressional staff to the Biogen campus in Cambridge for an inside look at the company's CoLab, a community laboratory designed to expand access to life sciences education and strengthen the regional healthcare ecosystem.

Following arrival and transit to the CoLab space, participants will tour the classroom-style lab where Biogen employees collaborate with local nonprofits and educators to support the next generation of life science learners. The visit will conclude with a working lunch and fireside chat on campus, providing an opportunity for discussion before the group departs.

Speakers include:

- Dr. Priya Singhal, M.D., M.P.H, Head of Development, Biogen
- Robin Kramer, Chief Financial Officer, Biogen
- Chris Leibman, Senior Vice President, Chief Access Officer, Biogen

- 1:30 pm - 2:00 pm** Transit to Omni Parker House Hotel
- 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm** Break
- 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm** Transit to Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate
210 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125
- 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm** Tour and Presentation of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate

The visit to the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate will provide the delegation with a unique opportunity to explore the history, function, and ongoing relevance of the U.S. Senate. The program will include brief welcome remarks from the Mayor of Boston before participants engage with immersive exhibits illustrating how legislation is debated, negotiated, and enacted, offering insight into the bipartisan processes that shape national policy. The visit will also highlight Senator Kennedy’s legacy of public service and bipartisan lawmaking, grounding contemporary policy discussions in the institutional norms and traditions that continue to define the Senate’s role in American governance.

Speakers include:

- Michelle Wu, Mayor, City of Boston
- Cori Kramer, Chief Executive Officer, Center Forward

Thursday, May 7th, 2026

BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Breakfast is available in the King Room on the Mezzanine Level from 7:00 am - 8:20 am

****Business Casual attire. Closed-toed shoes.**

8:20 am Attendees meet in the hotel conference room

8:30 am - 9:00 am Transit to Novartis

181 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139

9:00 am - 11:00 am Tour and Presentation at Novartis Pharmaceuticals

During this session, congressional staff will be introduced to Novartis's Biomedical Research through a series of presentations highlighting the company's research strategy and use of industry-leading technologies across chemistry and biotherapeutics. Discussions will focus on Novartis's advanced platforms, including xRNA, radioligand therapy, and cell and gene therapy, with particular emphasis on US-based research capabilities and collaboration with the local biotech ecosystem. Following the presentations, attendees will participate in a Q&A discussion with senior research leaders before transitioning to guided tours of Novartis's cutting-edge laboratories, offering a firsthand look at innovation taking place across the 2 million square foot research campus.

Speakers include:

- Alexandra Bach-Weidmuller, Chief of Staff, Global Head of Strategy, Portfolio & Operations, Novartis
- Dr. John Tallarico, Ph.D. Head of Discovery Sciences, Novartis
- Dr. Ty Gould, Ph.D., Global Head of Strategy & Insights, Dr. Novartis
- Dr. Ian Hunt, Ph.D. Global Head of Scientific Engagement, Novartis

11:00 am - 11:30 am Transit to Molina

1295 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215

11:30 am - 12:15 pm Molina Visit

Molina will give staff a firsthand look at how community-based, patient-centered care models support individuals with complex health and social needs. Participants will begin by touring the Molina Healthcare Mobile Health Unit, followed by brief remarks from Molina leadership and MassHealth officials outlining programs serving dually eligible populations, including Senior Care Options and One Care. Speakers from Molina and community partners such as Boston Senior Home Care will highlight innovative collaborations supporting older adults, individuals with disabilities, and those impacted by mental health and substance use challenges through mobile care delivery, place-based services, and peer support models.

Speakers include:

- Bill Graham, Plan President, Molina Healthcare
- Leslie Darcy, Chief of Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS), MassHealth
- Meg Hogan, Chief Executive Officer, Boston Senior Home Care
- Marion Burke, MSN Director Quality Management, Risk Management and Training, MetroBoston Recovery Learning Community

12:15 pm - 12:20 pm Walk to UnitedHealth Group

12:20 pm - 1:25 pm UnitedHealth Group Visit

1325 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215

This working lunch will provide congressional staff with a practical, policy focused discussion on the evolution of value-based care and health system transformation. Panelists will examine how value-based models are shaping care delivery, improving outcomes, working productively with other industries in the healthcare supply chain, and drawing on real-world experience from both national and regional perspectives.

Speakers include:

- Dr. Wyatt W. Decker, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President, Chief Physician, Value-Based Care & Innovation, Executive Director, Health Care Transformation Hub, UnitedHealth Group

- Hilary Veinot, Director of Pharmacy Practice, Freedom Fertility, Cigna
- Dr. Sandhya Rao, Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts

1:25 pm - 1:30 pm

Walk to Fenway Park

4 Jersey Street, Boston, MA 02215

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Fenway Park Visit

Fenway Park will offer the delegation a unique opportunity to explore the intersection of sports, medicine, and innovation at Fenway Park. Participants will tour the historic ballpark while learning how professional sports organizations integrate sports science, injury prevention, and performance optimization into elite athletics. The program will also feature a physician with expertise in sports medicine who has worked directly with professional franchises, sharing firsthand insights on athlete health, medical decision-making, and broader health policy issues relevant to workforce performance and injury prevention.

Speakers include:

- Dr. Thomas Gill, M.D., Director of Boston Sports Medicine and Research Institute - formally with the Boston Red Sox, Boston Bruins, New England Patriots, Boston Ballet, Boston Cannons, and the Boston Breakers

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Transit to Omni Parker House

60 School Street, Boston, MA 02108

4:00 pm - 6:45 pm

Break

6:45 pm - 7:00 pm

Walk to dinner at Oceanaire

40 Court Street, Boston, MA 02108

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Closing Dinner

The delegation will conclude the program with a closing dinner, offering an opportunity to reflect on the insights gained throughout the visit and strengthen relationships across the aisle. During the evening, Center Forward's Chief Executive Officer will speak on the importance of bipartisanship in advancing durable healthcare policy,

highlight Boston's role as a leading hub for medical innovation and collaboration, and emphasize the value of bringing the relationships and knowledge cultivated during the trip back to Washington. The dinner will serve as both a celebration of the week's discussions and a forward-looking reminder of the shared responsibility to translate learning into action.

Speakers Include:

- Cori Kramer, Chief Executive Officer, Center Forward

Friday, May 8th, 2026

BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Continental breakfast is available in Club Room from 6:30 am - 11:00 am

- 11:15 am** Staff depart for Washington Reagan National Airport (DCA)
- American Airlines Flight AA 610 | 1 h 44 min
- 12:59 pm** Staff arrive at Ronald Reagan International Airport (DCA)

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas
Brad Knott, North Carolina

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas
Sahas Subramanyam, Virginia



ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Jordan Downs
Chief of Staff to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

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Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
<https://Ethics.House.gov>

May 1, 2026

Ms. Nora Blalock
Office of the Honorable Kathy Castor
2188 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Blalock:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Boston, Massachusetts, scheduled for May 4 to 8, 2026, sponsored by Center Forward.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$525 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:nl