## SUBJECT: New Per Diem Rates for Fiscal Year 2005

TO: Rural Development State Directors, Rural Development Managers, Area Directors and National Office Officials

## ATTN: Administrative Programs Directors

## PURPOSE/INTENDED OUTCOME:

This is to advise you of the issuance by the General Services Administration (GSA) of Per Diem Bulletin 05-1 which provides the Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 travel per diem rates for the Continental United States (CONUS).

Beginning FY 2005, the standard CONUS lodging amount will increase to \$60 from \$55. There are increases/decreases in the maximum lodging amounts in some existing per diem localities, and several new per diem localities are being added.

## **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES:**

These changes apply to travel performed on or after October 1, 2004.

The GSA issues CONUS per diem rates, formerly published in Appendix A, 41 Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 301, solely on the Internet at <u>http://www.gsa.gov/perdiem</u>. Notices of revisions to CONUS per diem rates will continue to be periodically published in the Federal Register.

Please advise all of your staff of these changes.

(Signed by Sherie Hinton Henry)

SHERIE HINTON HENRY Deputy Administrator for Operations and Management

EXPIRATION DATE: September 30, 2005

FILING INSTRUCTIONS: Preceding RD Instruction 2036-A

Sent by electronic mail on <u>09-16-04</u> at <u>3:30 p.m.</u> by <u>SSD</u>.