Basic Economy Fares: Travel Office Recommendation

Delta, United, and American Airlines now offer a new type of low fare selection called Basic Economy Fares. While generally less expensive than standard economy fares, these fares are highly restrictive and will likely not meet the needs of business travel for OSU. The Travel Office does not recommend purchasing these fares due to the significant restrictions that may be impactful to business travel.

However if the selection is made, it is important to convey the limitations and restrictions to the traveler before purchase. Note the standard restrictions by airline below.

**Delta Airlines:**
- Changes are prohibited.
- Exchanges are prohibited.
- If cancelled, ticket retains no value.
- Seat will not be assigned until check-in.
- Traveler will board with last boarding group
- Traveler will not be eligible for paid or complimentary upgrades or preferred seats.

**United Airlines:**
- Changes are prohibited.
- Exchanges are prohibited.
- If cancelled, ticket retains no value.
- Seat will not be assigned until check-in.
- Traveler will board with last boarding group
- Traveler will not be eligible for paid or complimentary upgrades or preferred seats.
- No use of overhead bin allowed.

**American Airlines:**
- Changes are prohibited.
- Exchanges are prohibited.
- If cancelled, ticket retains no value.
- Seat will not be assigned until check-in.
- Traveler will board with last boarding group
- Traveler will not be eligible for paid or complimentary upgrades or preferred seats.
- No use of overhead bin allowed.

**Warning:** The Ohio State University does not recommend purchasing Basic Economy Fares due to the significant restrictions. Travelers and Travel Arrangers are encouraged to pursue alternate options (other fares, airline, etc) to ensure business needs are met.