§ 515.564 Professional research and professional meetings in Cuba.

(1) Professional research. The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to professional research are authorized, provided that:

(i) The purpose of the research directly relates to the traveler’s profession, professional background, or area of expertise, including area of graduate-level full-time study;

(ii) The traveler does not engage in recreational travel, tourist travel, travel in pursuit of a hobby, or research for personal satisfaction only; and

(iii) The traveler’s schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule of professional research.

Example to § 515.564(a)(1): The making of a documentary film in Cuba would qualify for the general license in this section if it is a vehicle for presentation of the research conducted pursuant to this section.

Note to § 515.564(a)(1): A person does not qualify as engaging in professional research merely because that person is a professional who plans to travel to Cuba.

(2) Professional meetings. The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to travel to Cuba to attend professional meetings or conferences in Cuba are authorized, provided that:

(i) The purpose of the meeting or conference is not the promotion of tourism in Cuba

(ii) The purpose of the meeting directly relates to the traveler’s profession, professional background, or area of expertise, including area of graduate-level full-time study;

(iii) The traveler does not engage in recreational travel, tourist travel, or travel in pursuit of a hobby; and

(iv) The traveler’s schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule of attendance at professional meetings or conferences.

Note to § 515.564(a): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(b) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a) of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

Example to § 515.564(b): A musicologist travels to Cuba to research Cuban music pursuant to the general license for professional research set forth in paragraph (a) of this section. Others who are simply interested in music may not engage in travel-related transactions with
the musicologist in reliance on this general license. For example, an art historian who plays in
the same band with the musicologist would not qualify for the general license.

(c) Specific licenses. Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the
travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related
to professional research or professional meetings in Cuba that do not qualify for the general
license under paragraph (a) of this section.

https://www.cubatravelservices.com/plan-your-trip/who-can-go/