



Urgent: Delay in PBS bidding timeline

March 10, 2020

All flight attendants

In a communication released earlier today, American announced significant reductions to our April flight schedule because of COVID-19's effect on air travel demand. This means a lot of the trip sequences for April, which were already published, will have to be modified. As a result, **the opening of April PBS bidding for flight attendants will be delayed to Friday, March 13, at 1200 CT and will close Wednesday, March 18, at 1200 CT.**

Taking the time to create new sequences that reflect the expected April flying in PBS will ultimately provide the most accurate schedules for bidding and trading

- The new sequences will be properly awarded in PBS and will be able to be dropped/picked up/traded within our applications.
- You may recall from the Boeing 737 MAX removal from service, many trips could not be dropped/picked up/traded due to cancelled legs and the subsequent need for manual repair of the sequences. In addition, some Flight Attendants could not participate in trading because of incomplete sequences on their schedule.
- With the large number of changes to the April schedule, moving forward with the regular schedule would have led to a manual repair for many sequences. Further, it would have taken multiple days to repair and result in many flight attendants not being able to trade when TTS opened.

The bidding window will be adjusted as follows:

	Regular Date	March Date (for April bids)
PBS Opens	10th	13th
PBS Closes	15th	18th
PBS Awards Posted	18th	21st
PBS Awards Finalized in FOS	20th	23rd
First TTS Run for Next Month	21st	24th
ETB Opens for Next Month	22nd	25th

Note: Bid sheets were previously printed but are now inaccurate and should not be used. New bid sheets will be posted online and we'll let you know when they're ready to view.

Voluntary Leave Options

The good news is that we already have been able to mitigate some of the loss of flying with 1,120 flight attendants being awarded a VLOA for the month of April.

In order to further reduce the impact of these reductions, we will also offer “VOLOs” for the April bid month across all bases. A “VOLO” is a new special option consisting of a “zero hour line” – which then lets you pick up time (using TTS/UBL and/or ETB) as you’d like.

- To request a VOLO, submit an online ballot [here](#).
 - You can also navigate to the ballot through the Flight Service website by clicking on Crew Resources, then Voluntary Open Line Option under **Manning**.
- The online ballot for VOLO is now open and **closes** at **0800 CT on March 12**.
- If you are awarded a VOLO, you will be treated as if on active status for travel benefits, medical benefits, sick and vacation accrual.
- Additional information regarding VOLOs can be found in the March 8 CCI message from Crew Planning. [Click here](#) for more info.

PBS award challenge window

The PBS award challenge window for calling the FABRC is now March 21 – 27.

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