

Surveillance & Fleet Management Solutions for Student Transportation

Compass Field Trip

Requester Manual

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Compass Field Trip

Requester Manual

Introduction

Compass Field Trips gives school districts the ability to request field trips, approve field trips, and manage the trips using digital resources rather than depending on a paper trail. The web-based application allows the Transportation Department to assign drivers and vehicles according to the requirements of a trip without having the challenge of gathering details which may have been incomplete in a paper format.

Software Requirements

- Internet Explorer (v 8.0 or higher), Google Chrome(v 10.x.xxx.xxx), Mozilla Firefox (v 2.0 or higher), Apple Safari (v 4.0 or higher)
- It is best viewed 1024 x 768 Screen resolution or higher
- Adobe Reader to view the printer friendly request form and other pdf reports
- Network connectivity to the server hosting the application

Recommended Hardware Requirements

• Processor: 1 GHz Processor or higher

Memory: 2 GB or more

Disk Space: At least 5 GB or more

System Workflow

Workflow involved in the field trip system is as follows:

- Trip Requester places a new trip request
- Approvers, if any, approve or reject the request
- Transportation User adds one or more permits (Vehicle and Driver assignments) based on the number of passengers (students and adults) and vehicle requirements
- Trip Requester can view the permits (bus, driver assignments)
- Requester receives e-mail alerts whenever approver approves or rejects the trip request
- Driver receives paperwork with details of trip; form with hours, mileage and applicable notes to be completed and returned to Transportation User upon return.

Login

Compass Field Trips application is accessed by entering the application's URL into your Internet browser window. Please contact administrator for the application login URL.

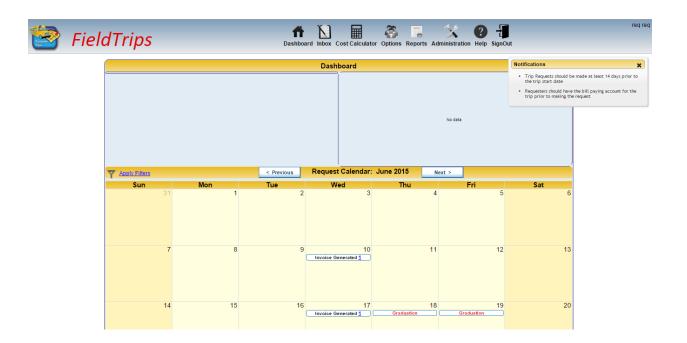
This is the login screen.



Enter your user name and password. Passwords are case sensitive. The program will then open to the Compass Field Trip Dashboard.

Dashboard

After a successful login, a Dashboard screen is displayed with a calendar view showing trips by day, requests and their status.



Inbox

The Inbox icon on the Dashboard redirects the user to the **Inbox** screen which lists out all the requests with several attributes like trip start date, trip end date, the activity, number of passengers and current status.

Using the in the Inbox, the Requester will access the form to create a new trip. Options are also available to filter the trips shown in the Inbox, copy trips and change the view from the trips requested to trips with permits. From the Inbox, all or selected trips may be exported to Excel.

The Cost Calculator tool gives the Requester an opportunity to figure the costs of the planned trip to insure the funds are available for the trip.



The Options tool allows the Requester to change their password and add or delete the Status options for their own trips.



The Reports tool opens the report builder so the Requester can create reports regarding their trips.

Administration The Administration tool opens a screen showing any Administration functions that have been granted to the Requester.



Help The Help tool opens to the user manuals for Field Trip.

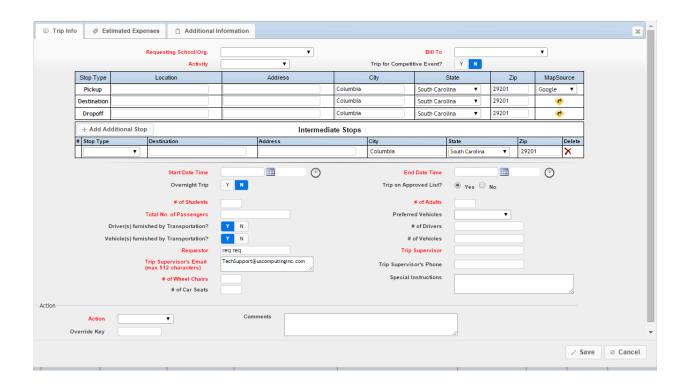


The SignOut tool is the appropriate way to close the application.

New Trip Request

Create a new trip

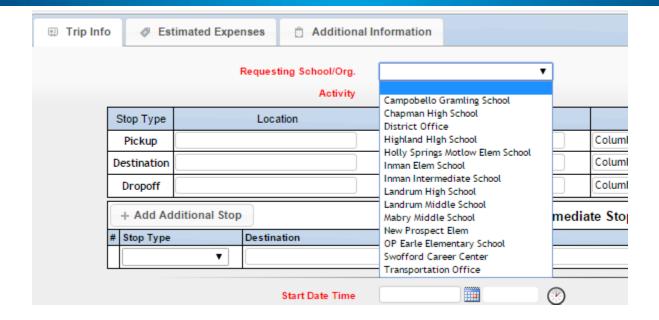
1. Open the Inbox. Click on the to open the form to create a new trip. The empty form will look like this.



NOTE: All fields in **red** are mandatory fields. The Requestor cannot submit a trip with any of these fields incomplete.

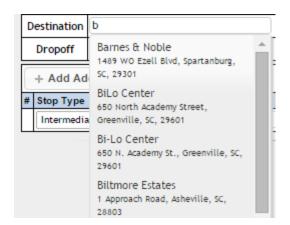
2. Fill in the fields with the requirements for your trip.

NOTE: Many of the fields, including Requesting School/Org, Activity, Pickup and Drop off locations, destinations will have pre-loaded information provided by your school district and available for you when you begin using the application.

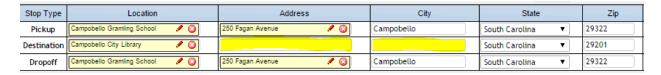


When the Requesting School field is filled, the Pickup and Drop off locations will auto-fill in the form.

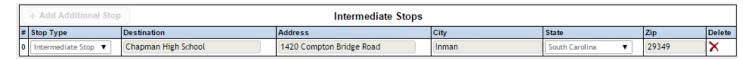
Just start typing your destination and if the destination is in the system, that destination and any others with the same beginning letters will appear in a drop down for you to choose from.



If it is a new destination, enter the information into the destination field, address, city, state and zip.

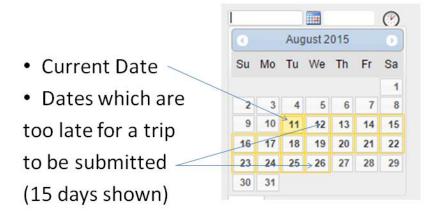


Requester may enter "Intermediate Stops" such as a stop for lunch, additional location etc. in the Intermediate Stop area.



SUGGESTION: This is a great way to plan a performance trip for choral and band trips with performance stops at multiple places.

A calendar is available to choose the date of the trip. As shown below, the calendar is marked showing:

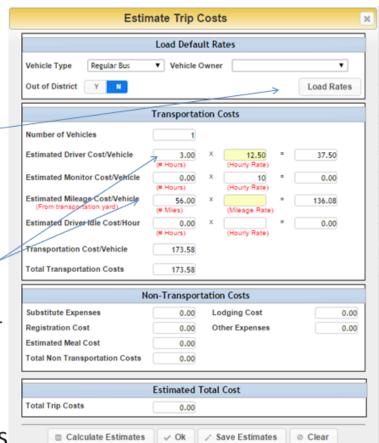


If you need to submit a "	short-notice" tri	p, call Transpo	ortation for an	Override Key.	They can giv	ve you a code	to enter for
	Override Key						
the trip to be submitted.							

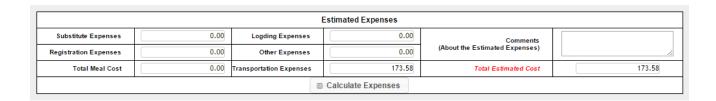
On the Estimated Expenses tab, there are options to calculate the cost of the trip to help in planning and budgeting for the planned trip.

Use the Calculate Expenses button to open the expense calculator.

- Load the rates your district uses for driver costs
- Enter estimated time & miles
- Enter non-transportation costs
- Calculate &
 Save the Estimates



Don't forget to click to bring the information into the Estimated Expenses Screen.



NOTE: When you entered your Activity, in this example Baseball, the associated Fund Account information automatically populated the Account number in the "Estimated Revenue" screen.



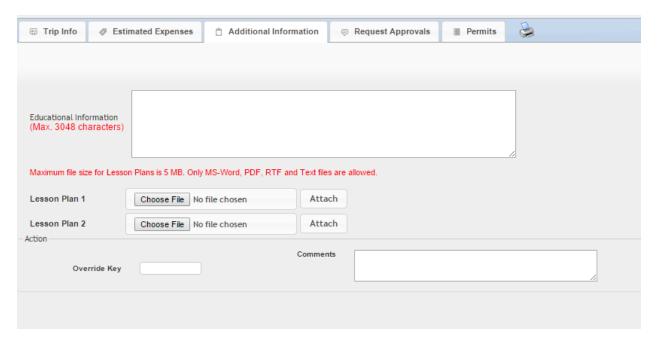
If the trip is being subsidized by someone other than the District, the Booster Club or PTA for example, there is the option in the Account Type drop down to choose the funding.



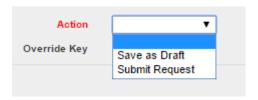
If the costs will be shared, click on + Add Another Account, choose the type of funding and add information in the "Account Number" area.

NOTE: The Total Revenue is not a mandatory field even though it is in red. This is information for the Transportation Department to know how the trip is being funded.

The third tab, Additional Information, is available for requesters to supply information which may be mandatory for education field trips regarding the purpose of a trip and goals to be met, for example. If the District has a policy regarding Lesson Plans in conjunction with field trips and information being available to Principals, the School Board, or other reviewing personnel, two lesson plans may be attached in addition to a large field to enter Educational Information.



To finish creating your Trip, Click on the Action drop down:



The requester can either "Save as Draft" if there has been an interruption while completing the form or "Submit request."

of Wheel Chairs

Save

If the trip is ready for submission click on the Save button

If there are any incomplete mandatory fields, you will get an error!



All incomplete fields will be outlined in red:

If there are no errors or incomplete fields, the application will ask for confirmation.



Click OK.

The trip will have a Request # along with the status posted in the upper right hand corner of the trip request.



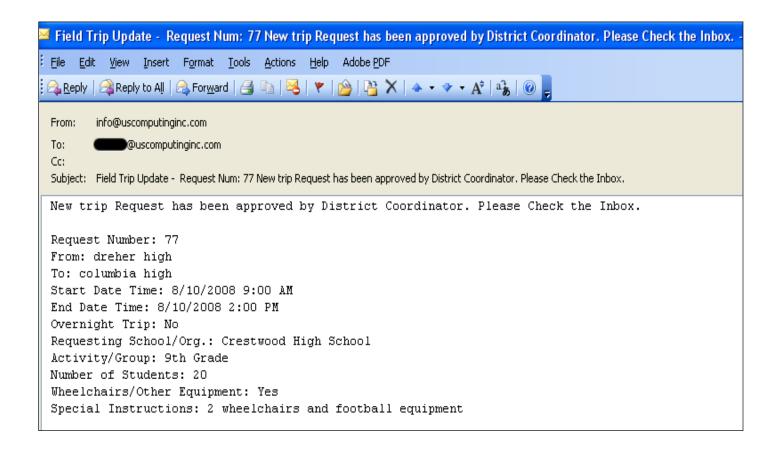
A new line will be added to the Inbox showing the new trip which was created.



E-mail Alerts

When the Requester submits a trip, an email is automatically generated and sent to the next level for approval.

When an approver takes some action on new Trip Request, an Email alert is sent to the Requester.



An e-mail alert will be received by the requester when an action has been taken by the trip approver. Requester can view his Inbox for details.

Upon submission of a trip, a new tab is added to the Trip Request Form and the Requester is able to see details about each step in the progress of their trip in the system.



Inbox

The Inbox consists of a detailed list of all the trip requests.



The Inbox may be sorted by any field whose field name is underlined, for example, Request #, Submission Date, Start Date Time. Only the trips of the Requester will be in the Requester's Inbox.

The Inbox grid displays the following columns

• Request Number – Every request is given its own request number.

- Submission Date this is the date on which this request was submitted by the Requester
- Start Date Time this is the trip start date and time of the trip
- End Date Time this is the trip end date and time of the trip
- School Name this is the School making the request
- Destination this is the place to which the group will be traveling on the trip
- Requester this is the person who is making the request
- Passengers Total number of passengers including students and adults
- Activity Type of activity
- Status indicates the current status for that request

The following tools are available in the Inbox:

Use the filter tool to see a specific date range of trips, activity, or school's trips. See Sort & Filter for details.

Use the New tool to create a new trip request. See Create New Trip for details.

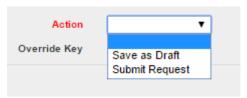
Use the Copy tool to copy a specific trip's details. See Copy a Trip for details.



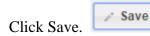
Use the Bulk Print tool to print the trip requests for selected trips.

Save a Trip As Draft

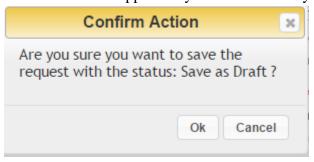
If the requestor does not have all the required information to submit the request or they are interrupted while completing the New Trip form, the requester can save the request as draft. They can edit and submit the draft later.



Pick the option "Save as Draft" in the action dropdown.



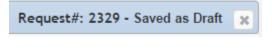
You will have an opportunity to confirm what you want to do. Click OK.



Click OK.



The Trip has been saved as a draft and given a request#.



Status Saved as Draft

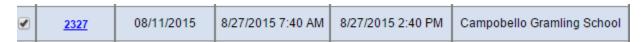
The Trip is now in the Request Inbox

Copying a trip

If the requester has a trip with almost all of the information that is needed for another trip, the original trip may be copied and revisions made in the data on the copied trip.

For example, a 2nd grade class going to the zoo. The next week a 3rd grade class is going. The majority of the information is the same. Copy the first trip. This will eliminate data entry to similar trips.

To copy a trip, put a check mark in the box in front of the trip you want to copy. Click on to create the copy



A copy of the original trip will open. Change the information in the original trip to create the copied trip. For example, the Start Date and End Dates, number of passengers, trip supervisor, and so forth.

When the fields needing to be changed have been revised, click Save . The confirmation window will open. Click OK.

The new Request # will appear in the upper right hand corner of the trip form.



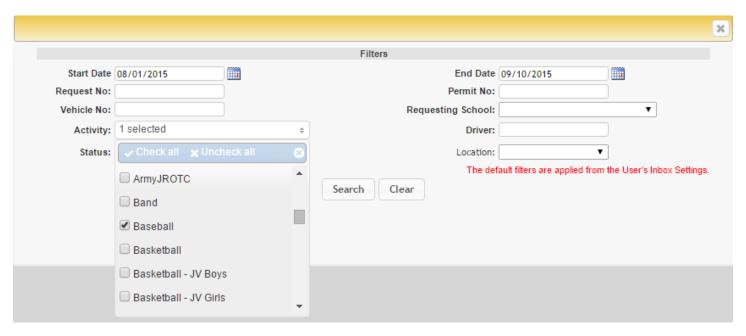
A new line will have been added to the Inbox.

	<u>2328</u>	08/12/2015	8/31/2015 7:40 AM	8/31/2015 2:40 PM	Campobello Gramling School	Blue Ridge High School	req req	43	Baseball	
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Filtering and Sorting the Inbox

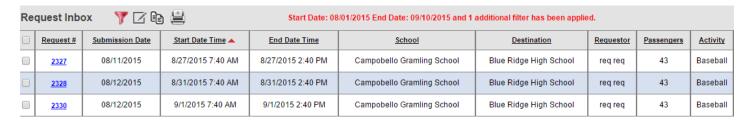
Using the , the requester can filter/query the information in the Inbox to easily narrow the selection of information to only a selection the requester wants to see.

Click on the to open the filters dialog box.



Filter the data by date range, Request #, Activity, or status of the trip. Select the options you want to use for your query and click on the Search button.

NOTE: If your query doesn't return the information you expected, clear the filter screen using the Clear button, and narrow your search. Too many or conflicting filters will result in no items in the Inbox meeting all criteria.



Glossary

Term	Description
Activity/Group	List of activities/groups
Bill Item	The item currently being billed
Bill To	The School/Org. that will pay for the trip
Bus Lot to School	The trip time and mileage information in going from the Bus Lot to the School
Bus Type	List of available vehicle types
Calc Amt	The calculated amount
Calc Type	The type of calculation involved; for example, flat rate or hourly rate etc.
Comments	comments by Requester, approver or processor
Date Range	The Start date and the End date for the Trip
Destination	Location where the bus will be going
Destination to School	The trip time and mileage information in coming from the Destination to the School
Estimated Driver	Estimated driver cost per vehicle. It is equal to driver time
Cost/per bus	(hours) multiplied by driver hourly rate.
Estimated Monitor	Estimated monitor cost per vehicle. It is equal to monitor time
Cost/per bus	(hours) multiplied by monitor hourly rate.
Estimated Mileage	Estimated mileage cost per vehicle. It is equal to number of
Cost/per bus	miles multiplied by rate per mile
Estimated Total Trip	Estimated total trip cost per bus is the sum of driver, monitor
Cost/per bus	and mileage charges per vehicle involved in the trip. These
	include transportation costs only.
Estimated Total Trip	It is the sum of transportation costs for all vehicles
Cost	

Educational Info	Information about the trip like what is the objective of this trip,
	what things are required, what is the planning for the trip etc
End Date	Date on which the trip ends
End Time	Time at which the trip ends
Entire Trip	The entire round trip time and mileage from the Bus Lot
Intermediate Stops	Places where the Requester wants to stop before reaching the final destination
Lesson Plans	are the attachments containing information that goes along educational info
Location	The bus-lot/site to which the Vehicle belongs
Total Male Students	Total Number of male students
Total Female Students	Total Number of female students
Origin	The place where the trip starts
Overnight Trip	Whether this trip is going to be overnight or not?
Payment Method	Mode of payment like Purchase Order, Check, Fund Account etc.,
Permit (Ticket)	Assignment of Vehicle(s) and driver(s) to request. One or more permits are associated with each request based on the number of passengers (students and adults)
Permit ID (Ticket ID)	Unique ID associated with a permit (vehicle and driver assignment)
Pick Up	The Place from where all the students/chaperones etc. will be picked up for the trip
Request No.	Each submitted Request is associated with a unique request number. One or more permits are associated with each request based on the number of passengers (students and adults)
Requester	Name of the person making the request
School	lists all the schools allowed to make trip requests
School to Bus Lot	The trip time and mileage information in coming from the

	School to the Bus Lot
School to Destination	The trip time and mileage information in going from the School to the Destination
Special Instructions	Any special instructions like number of wheelchairs, football equipment etc.,
Start Date	Date on which the trip starts
Start Time	The trip start time on the trip start date
Status	Current status of the request like New, Accepted for Processing, Permit(s) Granted, Billing Complete, Invoice Generated, Payment Received, Cancelled etc.,
Trip for Competitive Event	Whether this trip is for some competitive event or not?
Trip on Approved	Whether this trip is on the Approved List of trips by School
List	District or other District Authorities?
User Amt	The amount paid by user out of pocket and needs to reimbursed. Ex: Food, Damage, Clean-up Fee, Lodging and other miscellaneous expenses
Vehicles Needed	Preferred vehicle type requested by the Requester
Transportation Expenses	Includes the expenses for Driver, Monitor, Mileage etc.
Lodging Expenses	Includes expenses for having to stay overnight or some similar expenses.
Registration Expenses	Expenses for registering the student group to participate in an activity
Other Expenses	Other miscellaneous expenses.

Compass Field Trip Requestor Quick Reference Guide

IF YOU ARE A TRIP	
REQUESTOR:	
A	Click to return to the Dashboard/Calendar screen.
Dashboard	
19	Click to go to the user's Inbox.
Inbox	
 	Click to go to a dialog box to estimate the costs of a trip being planned for
Cost Calculator	submission. This calculator is also on the Estimated Expenses tab in the trip form.
38	Click to change password and inbox settings and other options directly related to
Options	the original permissions for the user.
	Click to appn the Depart greation boy
	Click to open the Report creation box.
Reports	
	Open the help files: Trip Requestor's Manual, Trip Approver's Manual, Power
U	User's Manual. All manuals are available for download.
Help	
-	Sign out to exit the application properly.
SignOut	
	On the Inbox page, use the Filter button to query for a certain trip, or array of trips
V	by date, date range, vehicle, driver, school, or activity.
	Copy a trip by selecting a previously created trip and then editing dates and other
	information. Bulk trips easily duplicated such as an entire season for a sport.
=	Select any trip and print the information in the system for that trip.
Export To Excel	Exports all records in the user's Compass Field Trip to Excel
Permit View	Changes Inbox configuration to show Vehicle and Driver assignments.
□ Request View	Only shows when in Permit View and will make the screen revert to original Inbox configuration.
	Create a new trip.
Request #	The Trip ID # for any trip created.
Any Field Name	Click on any underlined field name to sort the data by the entries in that field.
# of Students	In the Create Trip Form, any field in red is mandatory and must be completed to be
	able to submit the trip.
V	Fields with a down arrow have a list of options to choose from. An administrator
Action Save as Draft ▼	must add new entries if your entry is not available. Complete the form and either save it as a draft or submit for approval.
Jave as Diait	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Click the Save button in the lower right hand corner for final submission or to save as draft.
	1

Frequently Asked Questions

General Questions

How to create another request with same information but with different dates?

Using the copy trip function, the requester may easily create a trip with the same information as previous trips. Please see the "Copying a Trip" for complete details.

How to notify processor about arrangement of own driver and own vehicle or both by the requester?

In the request form:

a) For own vehicle, select "Vehicle furnished by Transportation" option as No and enter the vehicle numbers in the "Vehicle Number(s)" field

Vehicle(s) furnished by Transportation?	Υ	N	

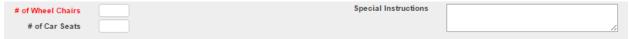
b) For own driver, select "Driver furnished by Transportation" option as No and enter the driver names in the "Driver Name(s)" field



Trip processor will understand the requester is arranging for their own vehicle and/or driver by the above selections.

How to notify processor about special needs requirements?

In the request form, enter desired number of wheelchairs in "# of Wheel Chairs" field or "# of Car Seats" and explain the details in the special instructions field.

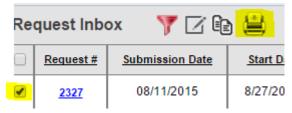


How to notify processor any special instructions?

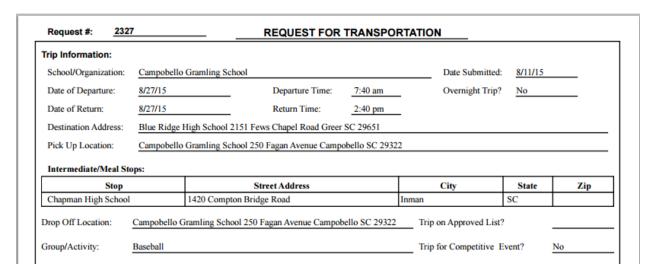
Enter any special instructions in the "Special instructions" field on the request form.

How to print a submitted Trip Request?

Users can print the request form by checking the trip or trips they would like to print. Click on the print icon.



The Trip Request will open in a new page.



A tool bar will be found at the bottom right hand side of the document to be printed. Use the tool bar to print, save, or adjust the orientation of the document.



Can trip be exported to an Excel spreadsheet?

Select the trip or trip you want to export by checking the boxes in front of the trip or trips in the request inbox or place a check in the box in front of the "Request #" field to check all trips

Request #

Then click on the button at the upper right side of the Request Inbox to send information regarding the checked trips to an Excel spreadsheet. A big blue arrow will point to the file in the lower left area of the screen.



Click on this link to open the spreadsheet.

How to Edit/Cancel submitted Request?

Requestors cannot edit a submitted request.

Any trip cancellation/change requests must be sent to Transportation Office via e-mail or phone.

Only a Transportation User can

- a) Edit submitted requests
- b) Cancel submitted requests
- c) Re-instate cancelled Requests

How to edit request saved as DRAFT and submit it?

Login to the application and go to Inbox Screen. Locate the request saved as draft and open the request by clicking on the request #. Fill in the rest of the trip information and submit the request.

Can rejected requests be submitted with changes?

Yes, Requestors can edit and modify the rejected requests and re-submit them.

Login to the application and go to Inbox Screen. Locate the request rejected and click on the rejected request # to open the form. Make the needed changes to the trip information and submit the request.