

Reduced Lower Limit (RLL) Information

A Reduced Lower Limit (RLL) line is a regular line with a value between zero and the lower limit of a pilot's line construction window (LCW). An RLL is an option for any pilot, in any fleet where a certain number of trips is too few and a one additional is too many. RLLs are more common on widebody fleets but can occur on narrowbody fleets with the right set of circumstances.

A pilot who cannot hold a regular line could bid for an RLL as an alternative to bidding for reserve. An RLL will be made up of some combination of trips awarded through PBS, trips picked up from open time, recovery days (which differ somewhat from reserve on-call days), and trips assigned during those recovery days. RLLs are detailed in *PWA Sections 23 D. 10.* and *23 D. 17.* of the PWA.

Benefits of the RLL

An RLL could be advantageous to a pilot in either a widebody or a narrowbody category.

Example 777

DTW 777 has an ALV of 73:00.

The LCW is 65:30 to 80:30.

When PBS gets to captain Delta the only remaining trips are worth 28:44 each.

Result

Three of these trips would result in a line worth 86:12, over the LCW.

Two of these trips would result in a line worth 57:28, under the LCW.

PBS would be unable to award the pilot a regular line.

Bidding for an RLL

An RLL would allow two trips worth 28:44 to be awarded, resulting in a line worth only 57:28.

The pilot could accept the line worth the lower value and white slip the third trip (the pickup limit is 88:00 [ALV+15] in this case) resulting in a final line value of 86:12.

Example M88

ATL M88 has an ALV of 75:00.

The LCW is 67:30 to 82:30.

When PBS gets to first officer junior there are only four-day trips available.

Result

Three four-day trips would result in a line worth 63:00, below the LCW.

Four four-day trips would result in a line worth 84:00, above the LCW.

PBS would be unable to award the pilot a regular line.

Bidding for an RLL

An RLL would allow the three four-day trips to be awarded, resulting in a line worth only 63:00. The pilot could accept the line worth the lower value and use the SWAP board or white slip for additional flying via PCS.

Note: In either example, the pilot could elect to have recovery days added to his schedule instead of picking up additional flying from open time.

RLL Eligibility

Any pilot may bid for an RLL, but only a pilot whose seniority is above a specified minimum seniority within his category will be eligible for an RLL award. Pilots can determine their position within their category from month to month by referencing the category list posted on the Crew Resources and Scheduling page of DeltaNet. A pilot's position on the list may change before PBS bids are processed.

**** RLL and projected regular line count are the same value**

Parameters for February 2017

February 2017 has 30 days

Category	ALV	LCW		RES	RES	EXTRA	RLL
		LOW	HIGH	GUAR	RULE	XDAY	LIM
ATL 777 A	71:00	65:00-78:30		72:00	4-99-3	No	157
ATL 777 B	71:00	65:00-78:30		72:00	4-99-3	Yes	160
ATL 330 A	72:00	65:00-79:30		72:00	4-99-4	Yes	92
ATL 330 B	71:00	65:00-78:30		72:00	4-99-4	Yes	144
ATL 765 A	71:00	65:00-78:30		72:00	4-99-4	Yes	70

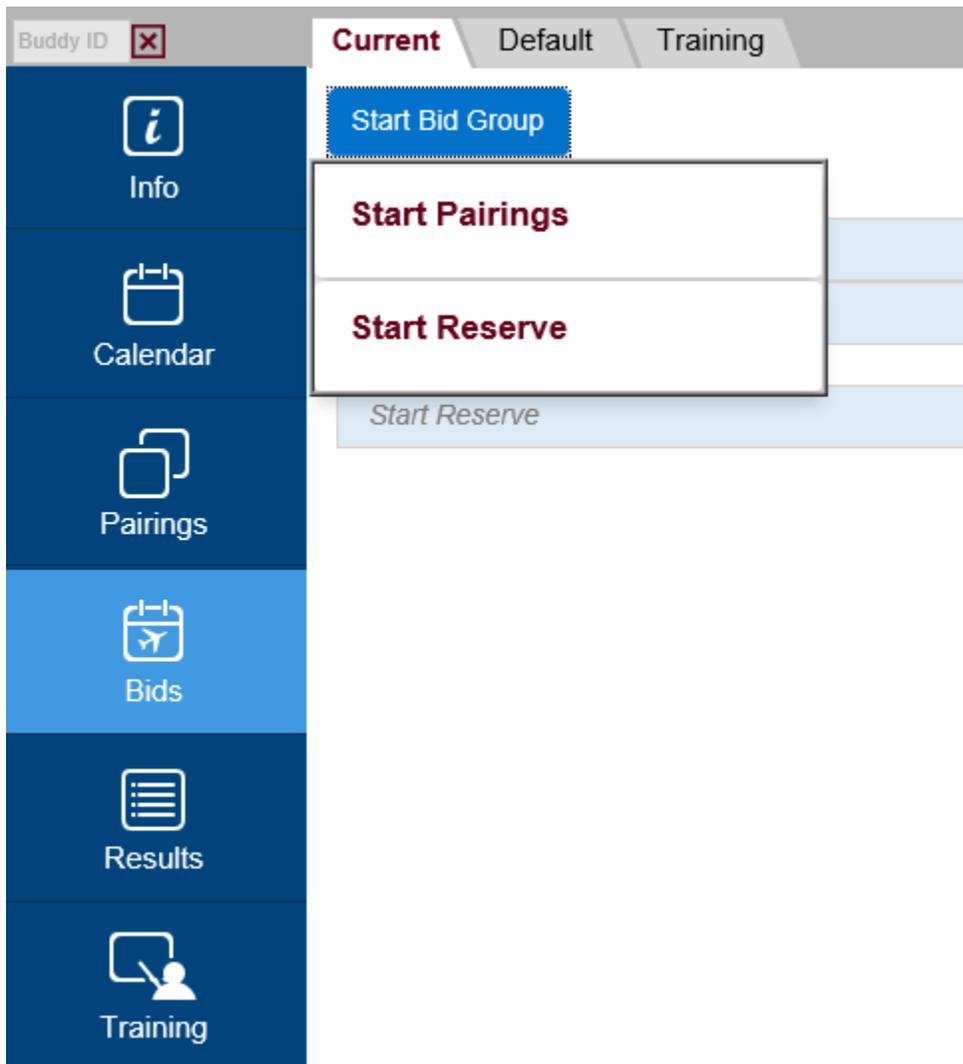
You will notice the last column labeled RLL LIM has a value representing the projected regular lines and the cutoff value for RLL. After the category list is published and before PBS bid awards, there is always the possibility of pilots returning to and/or leaving the category. If a pilot is a few numbers above the RLL LIM value, we recommend he include an appropriate reserve bid group in his PBS bid to protect against a number of more senior pilots returning to the category and effectively pushing him below the RLL cutoff. Alternatively, it is possible that a pilot who finds himself slightly below the RLL cutoff could move up on the category list if more senior pilots leave the category, thereby making the pilot eligible to be awarded an RLL line if PBS is unable to award him a line within his LCW.

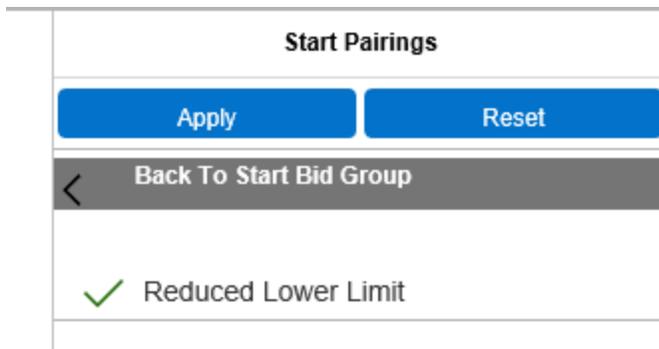
Bidding for an RLL

PBS will not automatically award an RLL. The pilot must opt to bid for an RLL, if desired. Only if you are willing to be awarded a line of time that is below the normal LCW should you use the RLL option. A pilot may not indicate a minimum line value in an RLL bid group.

You bid for an RLL line of time by entering an RLL Bid Group. Because PBS will attempt to award you an RLL schedule ***only if it cannot award you a line of time within the normal LCW***, it is necessary that you place your RLL Bid Group below every normal Pairings Bid Group in your bid and only after an Unconditional Pairings Bid Group. This ensures that PBS has considered every possible combination of rotations available to you to award you a line of time within the normal LCW before attempting to award you an RLL line.

To bid for an RLL, select 'Start Pairing' and then select 'Reduced Lower Line' on the right, and use the 'edit' feature as desired.





You can change a Pairings Bid Group to an RLL Bid Group or vice versa by clicking on the Start Pairings bid line at the beginning of the bid group and selecting Edit. For example, you might copy an entire bid group by clicking on the Start Pairings bid line of that bid group, then selecting Copy followed by Paste, and then edit it to be an RLL Bid Group.

Remember, a valid bid must first have an unconditional Pairings Bid Group, followed by a RLL Bid Group. Maximum credit or minimum credit may not be used in an RLL bid group.

Modifying an RLL

A pilot who has been awarded an RLL line in PBS may begin to modify his line via the SWAP board as soon as schedules are released in iCrew. Starting with the first PCS run on the 20th of the month for the next bid period, a pilot can modify their schedule. Such pilot then has two options:

1. Accept the awarded line and any modifications with no regular line guarantee.

Note: This is the default option. No further action is required by the pilot.

2. No later than 1800E on the 24th, he may **accept the awarded line and any modifications with a regular line guarantee equal to the lower limit of his LCW, and then remain available for assignment to recovery flying.** The number of days of availability will be determined by dividing the difference between the pilot's guarantee and his projection by a reserve pro rata share and rounding up. These days will be placed on his line by mutual consent and in a single group, if possible. If the pilot and the Company cannot agree on placement of the days, the Company may place the days at its discretion.

After the 2200E PCS run on the 24th of the month, Crew Scheduling will place assigned recovery days on the pilot's schedule and may begin assigning open time per Section 23 D.19.

Recovery flying assignments are different from reserve flying assignments and follow a separate set of rules. Any recovery flying assigned by the Company must meet the following criteria:

- Must report at least 24 hours from initial notification attempt
- Must report on a recovery day
- May release up to three days after the last recovery day
- Is not limited to one rotation

A pilot is obligated to fly an RLL recovery assignment whether he acknowledges the rotation or not.

A pilot whose line contains RLL days of availability may adjust his schedule via PCS and/or the Pilot-to-Pilot Swap Board without regard to his days of availability. An increase in the pilot's projection will trigger a recalculation of the number of days of availability and any excess days will be removed from his schedule, beginning with the earliest of such days. A decrease in the pilot's projection will cause a corresponding decrease in his RLL line guarantee.

Example

Assumptions:

Pilot is awarded an RLL line with a value of 48:00

ALV 78:00 (LCW 70:30 - 85:30)

Result:

If the pilot accepts the awarded line with a line guarantee of 70:30, six days of availability will be placed on his line, calculated as follows:

Reserve guarantee is 76:00 (78:00 - 2:00)

The reserve pro rata share is 4:13 (76:00 ÷ 18)

$(70:30 - 48:00) \div 4:13 = 5.3$, rounded up to six days of recovery obligation

For more information about bidding a RLL line in PBS see the PBS Gouge, page 76. You can find the PBS Gouge at www.pbshelp.info/delta.