

# **Best Practices for International Transactions**

RBC Royal Bank is committed to providing you with the best possible service and ensuring you make informed financial decisions. When conducting non-domestic or international transactions, it is advised that you avoid Dynamic Currency Conversion (DCC) when offered the ability to pay in your home currency.

## What is Dynamic Currency Conversion (DCC)?

Dynamic Currency Conversion (DCC) allows credit or debit cardholders to choose the merchant's local currency or the currency of your card's country of issue (home currency) when conducting non-domestic or international transactions at various channels (online or Point of Sale (POS) terminals). While this may seem convenient to pay in your home currency, you often end up paying more due to other acquirer-related markups and potential hidden fees.

### Why you should avoid DCC

### 1. Higher costs and unfavorable exchange rates:

DCC transactions typically come with higher fees and less favorable exchange rates compared to those provided by your Bank or the payment network. These additional costs can add up quickly, making your purchases more expensive.

### 2. DCC fees:

In addition to higher exchange rates, DCC transactions can include hidden fees (e.g., a margin added by the merchant (DCC markup)) that may not be immediately apparent. These fees can further increase the overall cost of your purchase.

3. Additional foreign exchange (FX) Fees:

These transactions are processed as foreign exchange (FX) transactions and will therefore incur FX markup fees and impact FX limits where applicable.

### Best practices for international transactions

To avoid the drawbacks of DCC and ensure you get the best value for your money, we recommend the following:

• Always choose the merchant's local currency:

When offered the option, always choose to pay in the merchant's local currency. This ensures that your transaction is processed using the competitive exchange rates provided by your Bank or payment network.

### • Stay informed:

Familiarize yourself with the exchange rates and fees associated with your card before traveling and performing international purchases. This will help you make informed decisions and avoid unnecessary costs.

#### Our commitment to you

At RBC, we prioritize your financial well-being and strive to provide you with the tools and knowledge you need to manage your finances effectively. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our Client Advice Centre, details at <u>RBC</u> <u>Caribbean - Contact Us</u>.

Thank you for being a valued RBC client.