Payhawk

Corporate card program evaluation:
# Twenty-four must-ask questions for CFOs

On the hunt for your next corporate card provider? Look no further. We've put together 24 essential questions to help you evaluate your current program and select the best fit for your business.

Whether you need cards in multiple currencies (both credit and debit), integrated expense reporting and receipt collection, an effortless sync to your ERP, or all three, this comprehensive checklist will help you pinpoint your gaps and find a better solution.

Your company context

- Name/ employees/ where you operate/ approx. number of overall solution users/ no. of legal entities (and where)

- Some financials (amount of card spend, number of cards you'd like to have)

- Business challenge/ problem statement you're trying to solve with a new card program

- What is your current process (short description)

- Business goals and objectives (short term and long term/ how do you expect your business to grow in the next 12 months)

Key card program requirements: Your checklist
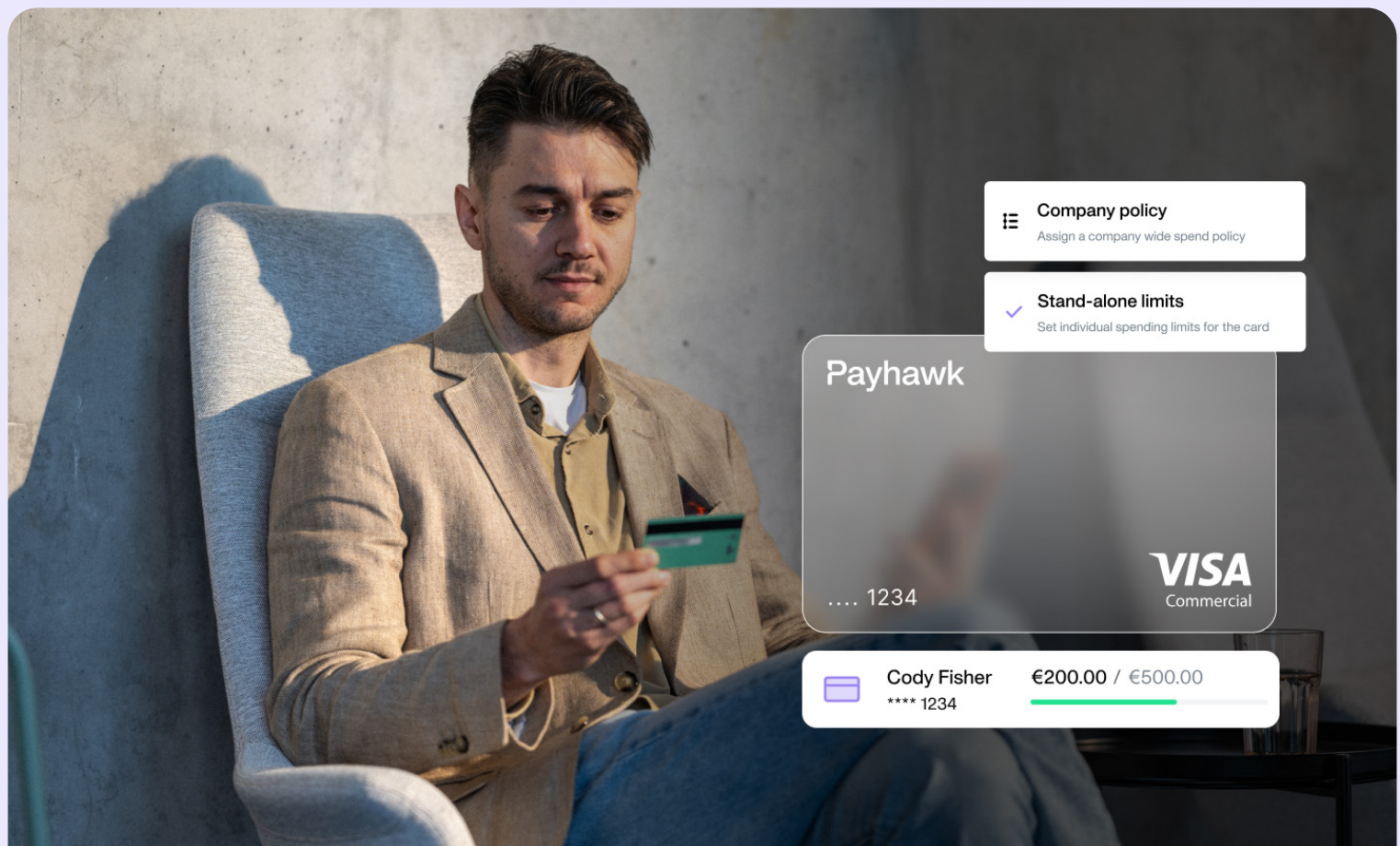
What to expect from your corporate card program. Ask yourself:

Card controls

☐ Can you turn your company spend policies into proactive card controls to encourage compliance? (With features like, ATM blocks, spend limits, freezes, blocks, country & merchant restrictions, day & time conditions, and more)

☐ Can your cardholders request funds as needed? And can you set customisable multi-step workflows to approve them?

☐ Can you manage both debit and credit corporate cards in bulk, setting rules and applying them to whole departments with a couple of clicks?

Payment flexibility and accessibility

☐ Do you have access to slick, globally accepted (Apple and Google Pay compatible) physical cards in plastic and metal?

☐ Can you set up and issue virtual credit and debit cards in an instant?

☐ Can you see real-time spend as it happens and get excellent visibility over expenses at a group level?

Cash flow supporting credit options

☐ Can you leverage credit lines with limits of £ / €500,000 and $1,000,000?

☐ Can you access credit lines in Euros, GBP and USD?

☐ Can you get flexible with corporate credit cards? (With no personal guarantees or personal credit checks)

> If you've left **any questions unchecked**, you're not getting enough from your corporate card program. **Expect more.** The right card program will let you manage cash flow flexibly, stay agile globally, and take complete control over spending with robust controls.

"Using credit cards with Payhawk is a big benefit for us. It means we have more flexibility as we don't have to tie up our cash up front! Payhawk gives us a really good ROI and lets us close our month twice as fast."

Carolina Einarsson
Finance Director at Essentia Analytics

ESSENTIA ANALYTICS

What to expect from your corporate card program, *continued:*

Cost efficiency

☐ Do you have zero FX fees in USD, EUR, and GBP?

☐ Do you have low FX compared to traditional banks?

☐ Do you get interest-free credit card purchases?

Data capture and transfer (integrations)

☐ Does your corporate card sync with an expense App in real time? (And, if so: can you capture card receipt data in seconds via the App?)

☐ Can you save hours with bulk employee cardholder off and onboarding (including Teams and Organisational information) via HRIS integrations?

☐ Do you have best-in-class ERP integrations to reconcile card transactions fully and in real time?

Budgets, team, and project spend

☐ Can you create, track, and update team cards with shared budgets for team, department, event, or project?

☐ Can your finance managers take real-time control over their team spend, budgets, and subscriptions? (What workflows and controls exist?)

☐ Can I link globally accepted corporate cards to team budgets to simplify team and project spend management?

More unchecked boxes? You're probably spending too much time and money on disconnected tools, steep FX fees, and opaque project spend. If you're using traditional bank cards, plug-in expense management software, and budgeting by Excel — there's a better way.

"We get complete global spend visibility, and we can see our receipts and invoices directly in NetSuite because of Payhawk's integration. That data flow means we can understand our P&L very quickly after we produce it with no headaches."

Andrew Jacobi
VP of US Finance at State of Play Hospitality

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What to expect from your corporate card program, *continued:*

Support flexible spending

☐ Can you offer a lifeline to your cardholders with flexible company spending via instant fund requests (and approvals) for out-of-policy, unforeseen, or emergency payments when required?

☐ Do you know when you need to top up accounts with features like low funds alerts?

☐ Can you use credit and debit cards in different ways throughout the business to avoid tying up cash upfront as required?

Easy expense reports

☐ Can you support easy card payments with user-friendly expense reporting via an easy-to-use multilingual App?

☐ Does your App include OCR to capture all receipt and invoice data with virtually zero effort?

☐ Can you automate a lot of the tasks involved with expense reporting (including approval workflows, spend categorisation, and more)?

If you're supporting flexible global spending, you need a card program co-pilot that won't let you down. If you have any unchecked boxes here, you risk slowing your business down and leaving your travelling colleagues in sticky situations.

"One of my favourite Payhawk features is missing document reminders. It saves me from chasing my teammates to upload invoices from their trips. Another favourite feature is low funds alert - it means I never leave my colleagues without funds in the middle of a business trip abroad."

Diana Ruseva
Finance Manager at Eleven Ventures

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Next steps

Card program sussed? You should know where your gaps are by now, so it's time to look for a solution to cover them all.

Our biggest insight? **Cards are just the start.**
Implement a complete spend management solution like Payhawk (that checks all the boxes).

Beyond a global corporate card program, with Payhawk you can:

- Save time with expense management automation
- Swerve errors and get total visibility with real-time reconciliation
- Get a complete spend overview and make quick decisions with multi-entity management
- Kick time-consuming admin to the curb with bulk controls, and bulk on-and-off-boarding
- Track recurring payments to avoid duplicate and overspend
- And more

x2
Close your month
twice as fast

33%
Reduce your manual
finance tasks by 33%

100%
Get 100% real-time
reconciliation

0 sec
Monitor spend with zero delays for
the most informed decisions

€2 million saved
Customer's like ATU report over €2 million
in savings thanks to VAT reclaims

"Since switching to Payhawk, we have more time to analyse spend! Before, we spent most of our time getting spend data from employees — but now we have more transparency, tighter expense control, and less paperwork thanks to Payhawk."

Gabriela Leovac
Accountant at Porsche e-Bikes

Porsche eBike Performance

About Payhawk

Payhawk is one of the leading spend management solutions for domestic and international businesses throughout Europe, the US, and the UK. Combining company cards, reimbursable expenses, accounts payable, and seamless accounting software integrations into a single product, Payhawk makes business payments easy — for everyone. Payhawk helps customers in over 32 countries to maximise efficiency, control spending at scale, and stay agile. With offices in London, Berlin, Barcelona, Paris, Amsterdam, Vilnius, Sofia, and New York, Payhawk's diverse customer base includes top names like LuxAir, Babbel, Vinted, Wallbox and Wagestream.

Moving global spend forward.

Whether you have tens, hundreds, or thousands of employees, we're making your business spend work for you.

Schedule a demo