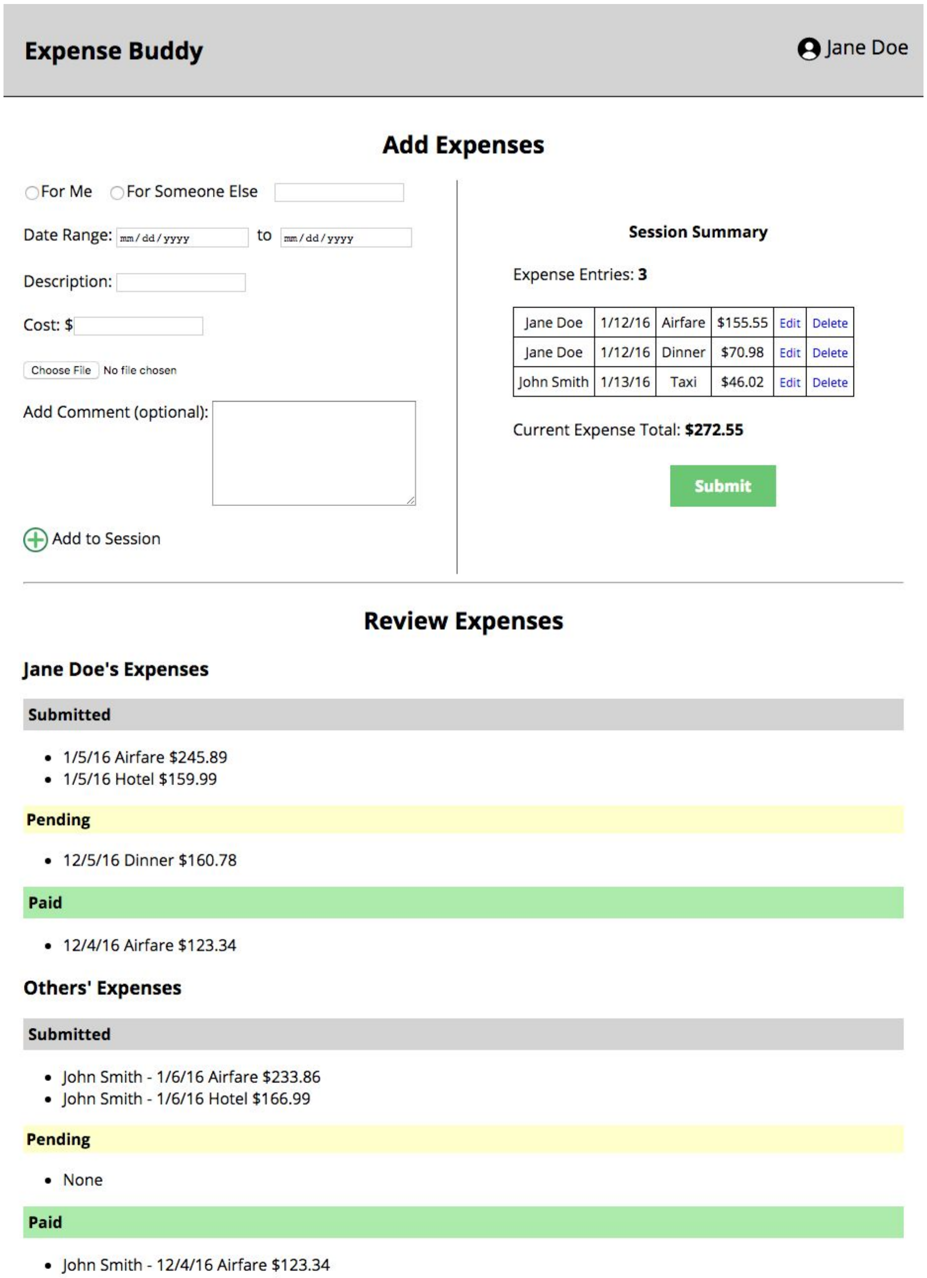
Valerie Pouti
HCI 454
Small Project 2

*Note: Visit www.valeriepouti.com/hci454/project2/project2.html for the completed wireframe.



The wireframe to the left represents the completed design. It was created in html; input fields are functional but buttons are not.

A user is routed to this page in order to add, edit, delete, or review their expenses.

Users have the opportunity to add expenses at the top of the page. Once they add an entry, the submission(s) are added to the summary on the opposite side of the page.

Users can edit or delete entries from this side of the page, and are given a total for the expenses that they have submitted thus far.

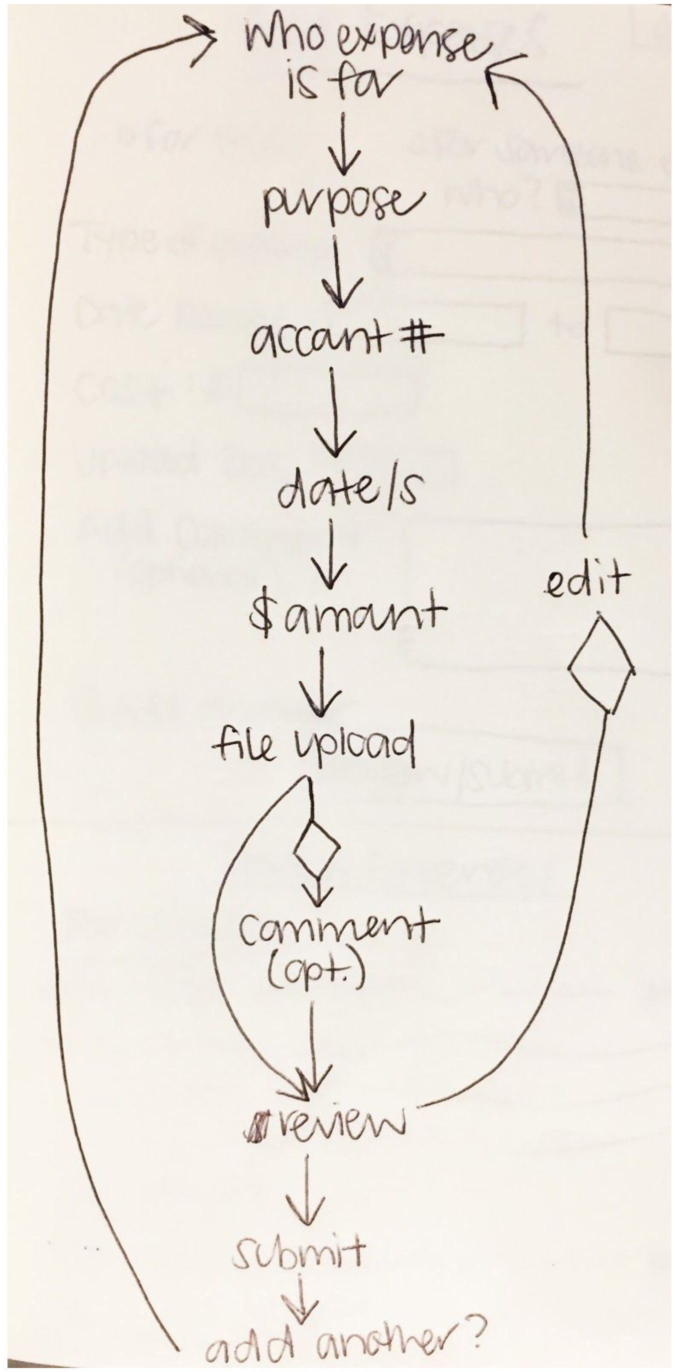
In the bottom section of the page, users can review previously submitted expenses. They are able to view submitted, pending, and paid entries from the last year. These are also separated by expenses submitted for themselves or other individuals.

Users are not allowed to edit or delete expenses in the “Review Expenses” section of the page, as these have already been submitted to another department for approval.

Design Process

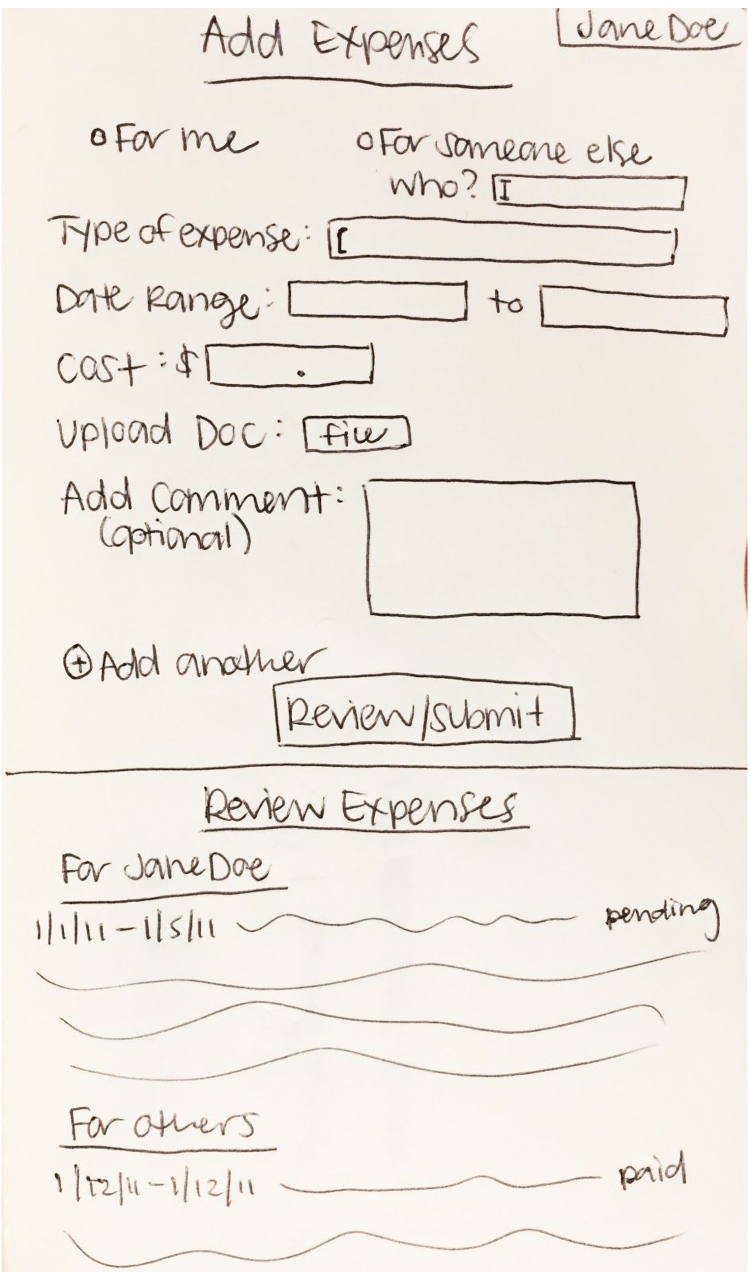
Flow Chart

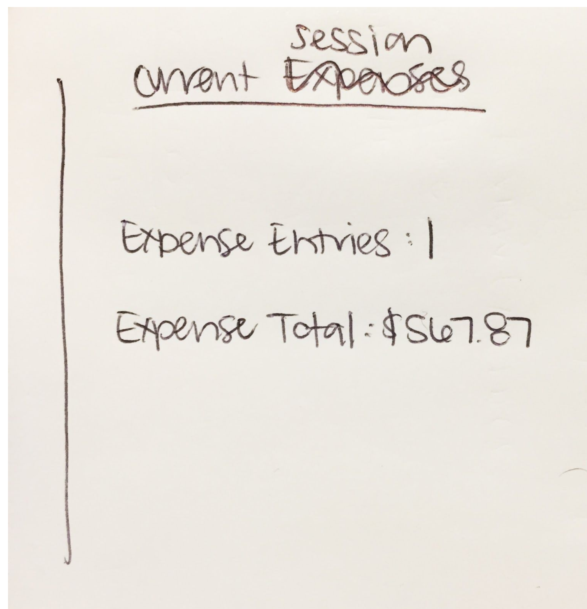
I began this assignment by creating a flow chart (right). This process was slightly more involved than previous exercises, as there were many different ways in which users should be able to engage with the interface. However, it provided a good starting point for beginning to think about user interactions while submitting expense reports.



Wireframe Sketches

After completing the flow chart, I began making my first preliminary sketches of the interface design (below). These sketches would dramatically influence the final design, and only underwent minor changes throughout the process.





Changes

A few key elements changed from these early wireframes, most notably that the “Current Session” section of the wireframe transformed into the “Session Summary” of the final design. I decided that it was important to provide a more comprehensive summary of the submitted expense entries, as users would very likely refer to this list during the submission process. I added in a table that included all the pertinent pieces of information from these entries as a result of this.

Additionally, I moved the “Submit” button from the bottom/center of the top section of the page to be under the “Session Summary”. This occurred because I felt it was important to have this step in the same section of content in which users will be reviewing their entries. Positioning the “Submit” button here can better ensure that users are doing this.

Another button that was changed from the wireframe sketches was the “Add Another” button. After coding out this section of the interface, I realized it would be confusing for those who would only be entering one expense to click this button in order to see a summary of their entry on the opposite side of the page. “Add to Session” better reflects the functionality of this button: to add it to the summary so that the user can review their work.

Lastly, minor changes were made to the “Review Expenses” section of the page. I used color to better differentiate between submitted/pending/paid expenses, and categorized the entries according to these headings.

Considerations

In a future iteration, there are a few changes I might consider making to my design. Firstly, I might play around with organizing the “Add Expenses” section of content in a horizontal manner. The idea is to be able to provide inputs for all of the individual entries on one line (in a table or spreadsheet design) and thus making the entering process more intuitive for users. The reason I didn’t proceed with this idea during the first iteration was because I wasn’t sure I would have enough room for all the input fields.

Next, I would try to display the “Review Expenses” section in a table format. When reviewing information of this type, I often find it’s easier to comprehend if all of the data are housed in individual cells. This might be appropriate for an expense review interface such as this due to the fact that the entries will be fairly standardized with the same information inputted each time a new submission is made.