
Model Off-Campus Agreement

The paragraphs below are suggested as models for the development of a written agreement between a school and a federal, state, or local public agency or a private nonprofit organization that employs students who are attending that school and who are participating in the Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program. Institutions and agencies or organization may devise additional or substitute paragraphs as long as they are not inconsistent with the statute or regulations.

This agreement is entered into between _____, hereinafter known as the “Institution,” and _____, hereinafter known as the “Organization,” a (Federal, State, or local public agency), (private nonprofit organization), (strike one), for the purpose of providing work to students eligible for the Federal Work-Study Program [FWS].

Schedules to be attached to this agreement from time to time must be signed by an authorized official of the institution and the organization and must set forth—

- 1 brief descriptions of the work to be performed by students under this agreement;
- 2 the total number of students to be employed;
- 3 the hourly rates of pay, and
- 4 the average number of hours per week each student will be used.

These schedules will also state the total length of time the project is expected to run, the total percent, if any, of student compensation that the organization will pay to the institution, and the total percent, if any, of the cost of employer’s payroll contribution to be borne by the organization. The institution will inform the organization of the maximum number of hours per week a student may work.

Students will be made available to the organization by the institution to perform specific work assignments. Students may be removed from work on a particular assignment or from the organization by the institution, either on its own initiative or at the request of the organization. The organization agrees that no student will be denied work or subjected to different treatment under this agreement on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex. It further agrees that it will comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352; 78 Stat. 252) and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Pub. L. 92-318) and the Regulations of the Department of Education which implement those Acts. Two examples of Off-Campus Agreements are included to provide additional guidance.

(Where appropriate any of the following three paragraphs or other provisions may be included.)

- 1 Transportation for students to and from their work assignments will be provided by the organization at its own expense and in a manner acceptable to the institution.
- 2 Transportation for students to and from their work assignments will be provided by the institution at its own expense.

3 Transportation for students to and from their work assignments will not be provided by either the institution or the organization.

(Whether the institution or the organization will be considered the employer of the students covered under the agreement depends upon the specific arrangement as to the type of supervision exercised by the organization. It is advisable to include some provision to indicate the intent of the parties as to who is considered the employer. As appropriate, one of the following two paragraphs may be included.)¹

1 The institution is considered the employer for purposes of this agreement. It has the ultimate right to control and direct the services of the students for the organization. It also has the responsibility to determine whether the students meet the eligibility requirements for employment under the Federal Work-Study program, to assign students to work for the organization, and to determine that the students do perform their work in fact. The organization's right is limited to direction of the details and means by which the result is to be accomplished.

2 The organization is considered the employer for purposes of this agreement. It has the right to control and direct the services of the students, not only as to the result to be accomplished, but also as to the means by which the result is to be accomplished. The institution is limited to determining whether the students meet the eligibility requirements for employment under the Federal Work-Study program, to assigning students to work for the organization, and to determining that the students do perform their work in fact.

(Wording of the following nature may be included, as appropriate, to locate responsibility for payroll disbursements and payment of employers' payroll contributions.)

Compensation of students for work performed on a project under this agreement will be disbursed—and all payments due as an employer's contribution under State or local workers' compensation laws, under Federal or State social security laws, or under other applicable laws, will be made—by the (organization) (institution) (strike one).

(Where appropriate any of the following paragraphs may be included.)

1 At times agreed upon in writing, the organization will pay to the institution an amount calculated to cover the organization's share of the compensation of students employed under this agreement.

2 In addition to the payment specified in paragraph (1) above, at times agreed upon in writing, the organization will pay, by way of reimbursement to the institution, or in advance, an amount equal to any and all payments required to be made by the institution under State or local workers' compensation laws, or under Federal or State social security laws, or under any other applicable laws, on account of students participating in projects under this agreement.

3 At times agreed upon in writing, the institution will pay to the organization an amount calculated to cover the Federal share of the compensation of students employed under this agreement and paid by the organization. Under this arrangement the organization will furnish to the institution for each payroll period the following records for review and retention:

a Time reports indicating the total hours worked each week in clock time sequence and containing the supervisor's certification as to the accuracy of the hours reported;

1. Although the following paragraphs attempt to fix the identity of the employer, they will not necessarily be determinative if the actual facts indicate otherwise. Additional wording that specifies the employer's responsibility in case of injury on the job may also be advisable, since federal funds are not available to pay for hospital expenses or claims in case of injury on the job. In this connection it may be of interest that one or more insurance firms in at least one state have in the past been willing to write a workers' compensation insurance policy which covers a student's injury on the job regardless of whether it is the institution or the organization that is ultimately determined to have been the student's employer when he or she was injured.

- b A payroll form identifying the period of work, the name of each student, each student's hourly wage rate, the number of hours each student worked, each student's gross pay, all deductions and net earnings, and the total Federal share applicable to each payroll;² and
- c Documentary evidence that students received payment for their work, such as photographic copies of canceled checks.

2. These forms, when accepted, must be countersigned by the institution as to hours worked as well as to the accuracy of the total federal share which is to be reimbursed to the organization or agency.

