



*Tuesday Tips* is a new outreach effort by OGCA. The idea behind *Tuesday Tips* is to convey tips, tricks and other helpful information around the area of research administration. Our goal is to post on (almost every) Tuesdays. If there is something you would like to see covered on *Tuesday Tips*, email: [UAF-GCReATE@alaska.edu](mailto:UAF-GCReATE@alaska.edu). For more Tips visit [OGCA website](#).

## Types of Awards

An agreement is a legal document detailing the obligations of two or more parties over the course of a research or services project. It typically has specific deliverables and milestones to be met and dictates how the contracting parties will interact with each other, including payment and from time-to-time, other issues such as publicity, confidentiality, publication and ownership of intellectual property (including academic and other copyrights, and inventions or patents, and options to license the intellectual property arising from the research). Agreements may be called by a variety of names, such as a sponsored research agreement, contract for services, subaward, or master agreement.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks, rather than a UAF principal investigator (PI), is the responsible contracting party in relation to formal agreements. This means all contracts must be negotiated, reviewed, and accepted by the

University rather than by individual faculty. Each agreement comes with terms and conditions which must be thoroughly reviewed prior to acceptance. While UAF policy, federal and state laws give general direction regarding acceptable terms, the nature of the proposed project and sponsor type will ultimately determine how an agreement is written and who can approve and sign it.

### **Grants**

Grants are financial assistance instruments that provide the researcher with significant flexibility to determine spending categories and research direction. Grants are usually made in support of basic research, training, or workshop support, requiring technical and financial reports rather than specifying definite services or product deliverables.

They typically come from the Federal or State government, a corporation, foundation or other organization, not an individual, and are awarded in response to a proposal submitted by UAF. Unlike cooperative agreements, grants do not require substantial programmatic involvement between the parties. Federal grants are governed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Uniform Guidance, and by each individual agency's grants policy document.

### **Cooperative Agreements**

A cooperative agreement is an arrangement where both parties are involved in carrying out a portion of the research. Cooperative agreements generally stipulate the responsibilities of both parties. Federal cooperative agreements are governed by the same statute and regulations as Federal grants.

## Contracts

In contracts, one party is buying a service or product from the other in exchange for payment. Contracts assume the production and delivery of a specific product that can be an instrument, device, or technical report. Consequently, contract requirements are more specific and less flexible than grants and agency personnel tend to maintain stricter oversight. Federal contracts are governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), as well as specific terms and conditions in each contract document.

Additional information on [Types of Sponsored Agreements](#) can be found on the OGCA web site. OGCA Website: <https://www.uaf.edu/ogca/index.php>