COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEE VERSUS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA

An independent contractor is an individual (or non-corporate business entity) that provides personal services to the University in such a manner as to be free from University control over performance. Typically, the independent contractor will have a principal place of business other than at the University, has a business license, and offers services to the general public. External consultants are independent contractors who provide professional advice.

The following criteria are used by the Internal Revenue Service to classify individuals as either independent contractors or employees. No single criterion or group of criteria will provide a definitive determination. The criteria are used in combination to obtain an overall indication of how the individual should be classified. [A "Yes" response to the questions tends to either strengthen or weaken the case that the individual is an independent contractor.]

Weakens	Strengthens	BEHAVIORAL CONTROL	
/		1. Does the University have the right to tell the worker when, where and how work is to be performed?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		2. Does the University have the right to determine the sequence, details, or means of work performed?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		3. Are work hours set by the University?	☐ Yes ☐ No
✓		4. Does the University train the worker to perform the service?	☐ Yes ☐ No
✓		5. Does the University require services be rendered personally?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		6. Does the University have responsibility for hiring, firing, supervising, or paying assistants of the worker?	☐ Yes ☐ No
✓		7. Does the University dictate which workers should be used or hired to complete the project?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		8. Is the worker required to provide oral or written reports to the University periodically?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		9. Does the University tell the worker where to purchase supplies and services?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		10. Does the University provide tools and materials necessary to perform the service?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		11. Does the University have the right to fine or discipline the worker if instructions are not followed?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		12. Does the University have the right to terminate the relationship with the worker?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Weakens	Strengthens	FINANCIAL CONTROL	
/		1. Is compensation made on a regularly recurring basis (e.g., weekly, monthly, or on retainer)?	☐ Yes ☐ No
	~	2. Does the worker have a significant investment in facilities or materials (other than computer equipment and education)?	☐ Yes ☐ No
	/	3. Does the worker have a direct interest in or share of any profit or loss of the work accomplished?	☐ Yes ☐ No
	/	4. Does the worker incur unreimbursed business expenses in connection with the project?	☐ Yes ☐ No
	/	5. Are the worker's services available to the general public?	☐ Yes ☐ No
	/	6. Does the worker have a business license to perform the services provided to the University?	☐ Yes ☐ No
	/	7. Does the worker perform similar services for more than one firm at a time?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Weakens	Strengthens	RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES	
	~	Is there a written contract between the worker and the University describing the worker as an independent contractor?	☐ Yes ☐ No
	~	2. Do the <i>University and the worker</i> intend for the worker to serve as an independent contractor?	☐ Yes ☐ No
/		3. Does the worker have a continuing relationship with the University?	☐ Yes ☐ No
~		4. Does the worker devote full time to the business of the University?	☐ Yes ☐ No
-		5. Does the worker expect to receive employee benefits from the University?	☐ Yes ☐ No