Employment vs. Scholarship/Fellowship Questionnaire

This questionnaire is not required for graduate teaching or research assistants.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to determine when payments made to students represent compensation for services. Section A and D should be completed by the administering department for each program/project. If the program/project requirements change, a new questionnaire will be needed.

Section A. Questionnaire

Possible documentation needed to complete the following questions:
- Contract or agreement
- Location of activity
- Beneficiary of activity
- Program description

1. Is the student required by written agreement to accept employment with the University or the grant funding agency after the stipend or scholarship/fellowship has ended? This includes a written requirement to pay back amounts received if the student does not accept employment.
   □ Yes [Payment is compensation. See section C.]
   □ No [Continue]

2. Is the student participating in activities on UA’s or the grant funding agency’s premise?
   □ Yes [Continue]
   □ No [Skip to Question 4]

3. If the student was not doing the activity, would an employee be hired to do it?
   □ Yes [Payment is compensation. See Section C.]
   □ No [Continue]

4. Do the activities of the student provide a benefit to UA or the grant funding agency that is significant or more than incidental to the primary purpose? (Check all that apply.)
   □ If working on a grant, the student has a required deliverable to the grant funding agency, e.g., research report.
   □ The student is participating in an activity that generates revenue (other than grant funding) for UA or the grant funding agency, e.g., sporting event ticket sales generate revenue.

If you checked any of the above boxes, continue to Question 5. Otherwise, skip to Question 7.
5. Is the activity directly connected to UA’s academic or related extracurricular student program, e.g., sports program, performing arts, teaching a class, lab assistant, research for a UA project funded by a grant, clinical internship?

☐ Yes   [Continue]
☐ No     [Payment is compensation. Go to Section C.]

6. Is the payment of the stipend or scholarship/fellowship contingent upon the student completing the practicum, field experience, research, training, or other activities?

☐ Yes   [Continue]
☐ No     [Payment is a scholarship/fellowship. Go to Section B.]

7. Is the only requirement for payment of the stipend or scholarship/fellowship that the student be enrolled per program requirements and make satisfactory progress?

☐ Yes   [Continue]
☐ No     [Payment is compensation. Go to Section C.]

Section B. Scholarship/Fellowship
Payment to the student is a Scholarship/Fellowship. Contact one of the following departments for questions on payment process:
- UAA- Office of Student Financial Assistance (financial.aid@uaa.alaska.edu)
  For more information see www.uaa.alaska.edu/scholarships/dept_faq.cfm
- UAF- Diane Leavy (dleavy@alaska.edu or 907-474-2634)
- UAS- Corine Soltis (casoltis@uas.alaska.edu or 907-796-6255)

If it should be later determined by a taxing authority that the payment should have been classified as compensation, the originating UA department may be financially responsible for any tax assessments, which could amount to 30% or more of the payment amount.

Section C. Employment Compensation
Payment to student is Compensation. The student is considered an employee and payments must be made through Payroll.

Section D. Department Certification
Departments must retain this questionnaire and any additional documents used in the determination at the administering department for the length of the program plus three additional calendar years in order to respond to audit requests.

I certify that the above is true and correct according to the best of my knowledge.

Dept. Signature ____________________________________________              Date________________
Print Name __________________________________             Title ___________________________