

Subrecipient	Consultant ¹	Vendor/Contractor
Subrecipient means a non-Federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a sponsored program.	Consultant is an individual or business whose expertise is required to perform the project. Services are temporary and specialized or highly technical.	Vendor/Contractor means an entity that receives a legal instrument by which a non-Federal entity purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a sponsored award.
A Subrecipient technical lead is usually a scientific collaborator and typically considered a Co- PI of the project. Both entities have PIs involved, though Notre Dame is the lead organization	A Consultant is an entity that provides guidance or shares technical expertise with the PI on a specific aspect of the scope of work; does not serve as senior personnel (e.g Co-PI, PI, etc.)	Vendor/Contractor means an entity that receives a legal instrument by which a non-Federal entity purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a sponsored award.
Subrecipient services are uniquely designed in response to each project, and not provided commercially	A Consultant provides similar services to other organizations	A Vendor operates in a competitive environment
A Subrecipient uses sponsor funds to carry out a program rather than provide a good or a service	A Consultant's fee is based on an hourly or daily rate which is provided and explained in a Consultant rate; it is not considered an employee of Notre Dame and therefore is not eligible for works compensation, liability coverage or unemployment	A Vendor's services are ancillary to the scope of work. A Vendor provides a good or service that is narrowly constrained or defined
A Subrecipient retains rights to intellectual property	A Consultant's services are on a "work for hire" basis and all intellectual property or copyrightable rights are assigned to University of Notre Dame by the Consultant	There is no potential for patentable or copyrightable technology to be created through the project from activities of the Vendor
A Subrecipient is responsible for adhering to applicable Federal or other sponsor programmatic compliance and reporting requirements	A Consultant is not responsible for the design, conduct or reporting on the research	A Vendor not subject to sponsor compliance regulations
A Subrecipient is responsible for assisting in the development and execution of Statement of Work	A Consultant does not develop the objectives of the program; Notre Dame defines the scope of work for the Consultant	A Vendor has no scope of work as part of the program only a good or service that is narrowly constrained or defined that is needed by the program
Subrecipient results are likely to be published in the scientific literature and/or a Subrecipient is likely to be a co-author on an Notre Dame publication	In general, a Consultant is not responsible for the design, conduct or reporting on the research	Joint authorship of publications is not sought by Vendors
A Subrecipient has responsibility and authority to make administrative and programmatic decisions and to control the method and result of the work	A Consultant determines how to accomplish the work; A Consultant does not use university resources and provides its own work area, tools, materials and supplies	A Vendor does not make programmatic decisions or take actions that impact a program overall success or failure
A Subrecipient has responsibility for the end results of the research	A Consultant is not responsible for the overall outcome of the project	A Vendor is not responsible for research results

¹ Consultants in this context are generally individuals, or may work as an individual or through a business entity such as a sole proprietorship, partnership, or limited liability corporation. A firm that provides consulting services is more appropriately administered as a vendor/contractor relationship.