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Technical Assistance from Higher Education Institutions

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Grant/Contract Research

- **A requirement of university employment for many faculty members**
- **Get what you need**
 - Grants vary from open-ended to highly specific
 - Contracts imply recompense for work/product
- **RFP shopping list**
- **Operate through the institution**
- **Overhead costs vary among institutions and may reduce the budget for deliverables**

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Assistance Sources

- **Workshops/Special Classes**
- **Grant/Contract-based Research Projects**
- **Consultation**
- **Community Service**
- **Internships**

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Consultation

- **Usually services for a fee**
- **Typically carried out by faculty members acting as individuals**
- **Advantages**
 - greater flexibility in scheduling
 - reduced overhead
- **Disadvantages**
 - lack of institutional authority
 - lack of institutional support services

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Workshops/Special Classes

- **Uses existing institutional resources**
- **Campus-based, site-based, or distance learning**
- **Self-improvement or client delivery**
- **Continuing education credit**
- **Examples**
 - Collaboration with Denver Water on western water issues
 - Collaboration with Denver Museum on endangered species issues
 - Implications of “takings” on environmental regulation

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Community Service

- **A requirement of university employment for many faculty members**
- **Usually volunteer activity**
- **Government agencies and non-profit NGOs**
 - Greeley Citizen’s Planning Advisory Committee
 - Northern Front Range Solid Waste Action Group
 - Conservation/environmental groups
 - Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education
 - Colorado Wildlife Federation
 - National Wildlife Federation

Internships

- **Practical experience for students and extension of service capacity for agency**
- **Variable in time commitment**
 - 25-30 hours of service per hour of academic credit
 - 10 hours a week to essentially fulltime work
- **Paid vs. unpaid**
 - stipends (token to substantial)
 - housing or travel support
 - liability implications

Internship Considerations

- **It should be of clear mutual benefit**
- **Task types**
 - clerical work, research, client outreach, service delivery, business consulting, community organizing
 - develop progressive responsibility for the intern
- **Evaluation**
 - reflective journal
 - research paper
 - letter from supervisor