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[The Consulting Agreement](#)

The consulting agreement summarizes the work to be performed by SMR consultants, the responsibilities of various parties, fees and other conditions. The following elements are contained in the consulting agreement:

1. Overview of Problems/Needs

2. Definition of Consultant Services to Be Provided

- Specific deliverables
- Methodologies to be employed
- Work plan with timetable

3. Responsibilities of Client

- Designation of 'primary client'
- Designation of 'primary contact'
- Responsibilities of client (i.e., provision of data, availability for meetings, etc.)

4. Consultant(s) to Be Assigned to Project

- Designation of principal consultant
- Process by which secondary (non-SMR) consultants would be approved if necessary

5. Terms of the Agreement

- Billing Information
 - Estimated hours – usually a range that includes travel time, telephone calls and meeting preparation
 - Hourly rate, flat rate or retainer depending on agreed upon fee
 - Estimated total fees
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- Out-of-pocket expenses
 - Billing terms – invoice schedule

6. Other Conditions of the Agreement

- Confidentiality/anonymity
- Who and how information will be shared
- Access to information and individuals
- Termination by mutual agreement or other terms

7. Evaluation of the consulting engagement and working relationship

- Review effectiveness of recommended interventions at date subsequent to end of agreement

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