



CONTRACTORS' HANDBOOK

Personal Services Company Edition - 2010



Contents

Contracting through expand	3
What do you require for my contract?	3
How do I record the work carried out?	4
How are fees invoiced?	4
Invoicing cycle.....	4
How and when does expand make payment?	5
What if I have a query on an invoice of payment?.....	5
Can I fax and/or email you timesheets and invoices?	6
What happens if I don't provide services?.....	6
Problems.....	6
Code of Conduct.....	6
Equal Opportunities & Discrimination	7
Liability Insurances.....	7
Comments	7
IR35	7
European Working Time Regulations	8
Health & Safety	9
Appendix 1 – Umbrella List	10
Appendix 2 Processing Schedule	11



Contracting through expand

Welcome to expand! We hope that the following details will answer many of the common queries that we field on a day-to-day basis. If anything isn't covered here, please contact **Samantha Maxwell-Reed** on **01273 668 700**. Alternatively please email on smr@expandrecruitment.com

What do you require for my contract?

You may contract with us via an Umbrella company or your own Limited Company. We have an approved list of Preferred Umbrella companies. Please see Appendix 1. These have been audited and offer most protection against MSC risk.

At the start of the assignment, we require the following:

Umbrella Company

- ✓ The contract documents signed on behalf of the Umbrella Company providing the services
- ✓ Name of chosen Umbrella Company (For a list of Approved Umbrella companies please see appendix 1)
- ✓ Contact details of two professional references from recent assignments.
- ✓ Copy of Passport (must be legible)
- ✓ Proof of eligibility to work in the United Kingdom (if required)

Limited Company

- ✓ The contract documents signed on behalf of the Company providing the services (the Limited Company)
- ✓ Certificate of Incorporation
- ✓ VAT Registration Certificate (if applicable)
- ✓ Bank/Building Society account details
- ✓ Contact details of two professional references from recent assignments
- ✓ Copies of Professional Indemnity Insurance & Personal liability insurance (minimum £2 million cover)
- ✓ Copy of Passport of the individual completing the project (must be legible)
- ✓ Proof of eligibility to work in the United Kingdom (if required) of the person completing the project.



How do I record the work carried out?

Time spent on Client projects is to be recorded on timesheets, which will be sent directly to you. The expand timesheet is a three -part document that, when it has been completed and signed by an authorised signatory of the Client (as defined on the Contract) is to be distributed as follows:

White copy - to be returned to expand Recruitment attached to your fee invoice and sent to: danielle.leggatt@expandrecruitment.com

Pink copy - give to the Client

Yellow copy - to keep for your records or send to your Umbrella company

Please ensure the name of the person working on the assignment is clearly written on all timesheets.

How are fees invoiced?

We process invoices on a monthly basis, provided that these are supported by authorised timesheets and/or expense claims.

We will notify you of any specific Client progress report/invoicing cycle requirements and it is important that your invoicing falls into line with these requirements.

The schedule in your contract sets out the basis on which the Company should invoice fees, i.e. daily or hourly. Where fees are based on a daily rate, it is essential that the timesheet authorised by the Client shows the number of days worked. This should be shown in one of two ways:

- Complete the timesheet in days – making sure you clearly mark it as “days”.

Invoicing cycle

In order to assist clients in monitoring the status and cost to date of projects, please ensure you submit invoices and timesheets by 2 pm on the Tuesday after the end of the period to which these relate. This will also ensure that you are paid on time

If the invoices and timesheets are submitted after the cut-off time then the payment to you will be delayed to the following payment run. Where invoices and timesheets are submitted more than four weeks after the end of the period to which they relate, we will not make a payment to you until the client has confirmed agreement to us.



Unless stated otherwise in the contract, invoices must be submitted for a period up to the last Friday of the month. Please do not submit invoices mid month to mid month. Where more than one timesheet is submitted, please do not submit a separate invoice for each week.

Invoices submitted must contain certain minimum information. If you are in any doubt about the way in which you should present the details of the services provided, please take independent professional advice.

How and when does expand make payment?

Our payment method is by BACS, directly into the Company's bank account. Payment by BACS is independent of postal delays and gives cleared funds on a determined date.

For security reasons, we require the bank details to be in writing, on our BACS Agreement Form, which will be supplied to you if we haven't got your details already. You must ensure all details are fully completed. Our systems can handle most bank and building society accounts, although in the case of the latter we may require additional details. Please note that we cannot make payment other than to the account of the Company.

We run a regular processing cycle, with a cut-off time for the receipt of invoices and progress reports of 2pm on Tuesdays.

Instructions to our bankers to pay against all timesheets/invoices received by this time will be made the following Thursday.

Please refer to the processing schedule in Appendix 2. When these instructions are given, we will send you a remittance advice setting out the details of the payment made.

If for any reason invoices/timesheets miss the above runs they will be processed the following week.

What if I have a query on an invoice of payment?

Please contact Anna Ecclestone on 01273 668 700 or email

anna.ecclestone@expandrecruitment.com.

Please note that in order to preserve the confidentiality of personal details we may not be able to answer your queries on the telephone or email. We may find it necessary to ask questions to confirm your identity, after which we will be able to confirm, rather than provide, information.

Queries as to whether or not timesheets/invoices have been received for a particular week's payment should be made by 2pm on Tuesday, at which point we may ask you to fax copies of any items not yet received.

Where adjustments are made, we will require the Company to re-submit corrected invoice documentation, to ensure that our records are complete.



Can I fax and/or email you timesheets and invoices?

Yes. Please use the following methods:

Fax: (0) 871 661 5474

Email: danielle.leggatt@expandrecruitment.com

What happens if I don't provide services?

As a matter of courtesy, the contractor should notify their Client project manager or equivalent in any instance where services cannot be rendered due to sickness or other reasonable cause. This should be done not only on the first day of absence, but on a daily basis, unless instructed otherwise.

Where no individual provided by the Company is to be on site due to either holiday commitments or other project commitments, this must be notified in advance to the Client and alternative arrangements made when required to ensure the assignment is duly completed to the satisfaction of the Client. Reasonableness and professionalism dictate the advance notice. Please note your period of leave on your timesheet so we don't chase you for missing time/data.

Problems

Your first point of contact for any problems, other than queries on payment of invoices is **Samantha Maxwell-Reed** on 01273 668702 or smr@expandrecruitment.com who helped secure the position with our Client.

Code of Conduct

We require all Companies provided to our Clients to ensure that any individuals engaged on assignment abide by the following code of conduct.

1. To be aware of and adhere to all Client and site regulations and requirements, working standards and procedures.
2. To dress in a manner appropriate to the site.
3. To be courteous at all times to Client's employees, suppliers and customers.
4. To exhibit professionalism through punctuality, time - keeping, commitment and general conduct.
5. To make the Client aware of any problems or difficulties that present themselves regarding work. If a speedy and satisfactory resolution is not possible, please notify expand.
6. If you are unable to attend the Client site for any reason, make absolutely sure that this is communicated promptly to the Client.



7. When you are proposing to take leave make sure that this is agreed with the Client well in advance and that it takes into account the work schedule under the assignment.

Equal Opportunities & Discrimination

expand is committed to being an equal opportunities employer. expand aims to recruit, develop and promote the best people for the job irrespective of sex, marital status, home and family responsibility, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnic or national origin, religious belief or disability, and will not tolerate any direct or indirect discrimination or harassment of any employee.

expand expects all sub-contractors, third party consultants, consultancies and companies, including any officer, employee or representative thereof, assigned or engaged by expand to work on a Client site to adhere to the principles of this policy and to behave at all times in a non-discriminatory manner.

Should any sub-contractor or third party consultant feel that they have been subjected to discrimination or harassment by any employee or representative of expand or its Clients, this should be directed in the first instance to **Samantha Maxwell-Reed**, expand Contractor Care Manager. Definitions of indirect and direct racial and sexual discrimination are available upon request.

Liability Insurances

All Companies operating within the UK have an obligation to hold Employers' Liability Insurance (as required by Compulsory Insurance Act (Employers' Liability) 1969). This applies to all Companies, including Sole Trading Limited Companies.

In addition, the recommended level of Public Liability Insurance is at least £2 million. This covers liability for injury to third parties (i.e. other than employees) and for accidental damage to third party property.

We will require copies of your current Insurance Policies before any Project can commence.

Comments

Should you have any comments with regard the quality of any of the documentation you have received, please contact Samantha Maxwell-Reed on (0) 1273 668702, alternatively email smr@expandrecruitment.com

IR35

IR35 may apply to the company supplying services. Our recommendation is that you should always seek appropriate financial advice on the circumstances and implications of the assignment.



For example, where this falls within IR35, then it is essential to ensure the proper compliance, returns and payments are made as and when due. If not it is equally important to be able to provide evidence to prove, on Inland Revenue investigation, that you do not fall within IR35.

You should also be aware that we are required to make a return of all payments made to Companies House each tax year in respect of your services, so the Inland Revenue has information available to cross check to the company's tax return.

European Working Time Regulations

The Working Time Regulations, effective since October 1998, implemented the European Time Working Directive into UK law.

This is primarily health and safety legislation and the intention is to protect workers from the risks that arise from working excessively long hours for long periods without breaks.

The opinion of REC (Recruitment and Employment Confederation) is that individuals who work through their own or umbrella Companies are not within the definition of "workers" of expand although they do fall within the definition of "worker" of the Company through which they operate. As such the responsibilities for adherence, record keeping etc does not rest with expand but with the Company through which each individual works.

Under the provisions, where the worker can determine his or her own working time, that worker will be excluded from all the provisions of the Regulations apart from those relating to holidays. Given the nature of many contracts, it is not certain as to whether this exclusion would apply.

You are advised to consult your professional advisors regarding compliance. As it is a health and safety issue, your Company records can be inspected at any time and failure to comply or show compliance can result in penalties. The Regulations provided that all workers should be entitled to:

- A maximum average working week (inclusive of overtime) of not more than 48 hours (the averaging period to be 17 weeks or longer in some cases).
- A 20 minute rest break where the working day is longer than 6 hours (30 minutes rest in the case of young workers, aged 15-18 years)*.
- A minimum daily rest period of 11 consecutive hours in each 24 hour period (12 hours rest in the case of a young worker)*.
- A restriction of 8 hours night work in every 24 hour period, the restriction of 8 hours to be averaged except where the work involves special hazards or heavy physical or mental strain in which case it can never exceed 8 hours.
- Free health assessments (and capacities assessments in the case of young workers) prior to the workers being assigned to night work and at regular intervals thereafter.



- Four weeks of paid annual leave. Apart from the excluded sectors, no opting out of the annual leave provisions, no carrying over holiday from one annual leave year to the next and no payments in lieu except on “termination of employment”.
- Protection through the Employment Tribunals (the new Industrial Tribunals) from suffering detrimental treatment of dismissal by the employer for taking entitlements under the Regulations.
- All “employers” under the Regulations are required to keep records to show that they have complied with their obligations.

Health & Safety

All Clients will have a written Health & Safety Policy as required by law. All individuals on assignment must refer to this document and familiarise themselves with their responsibilities under this policy. It is essential that the individual on assignment does not undertake any task, which is outside the scope of the works schedule.



Appendix 1 – Umbrella List

expand Approved Umbrella List

- **Springboard**
<http://www.springboardumbrella.co.uk/enquiries@springboardumbrella.co.uk>
0845 602 7712
- **i4 pay partners**
<http://www.i4groupuk.com/index.htm>
info@i4groupuk.com
0845 33 11 242
- **RACS**
<http://www.racsgroup.com/default.aspx>
info@racsgroup.com
0845 604 0571
- **Key Portfolio**
<http://www.mykeypay.com/page/home/portfolio@mykeypay.com>
0845 371 0303
- **Atlantic**
<http://www.atlantic-umbrella.com/enquiries@atlantic-umbrella.com>
0845 045 1021
- **Giant**
<http://www.giantgroup.com/Umbrella.aspx>
0844 324 7700
- **Contractor Solutions**
<http://www.contractorsolutions.co.uk/info@contractorsolutions.co.uk>
020 7940 1990



Appendix 2 Processing Schedule

January

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 Invoice for previous month sent to expand	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Monthly Payments processed by BACS	16
17	18	19 Payments received by Contractors / Umbrellas	20 Payments received by Contractors / Umbrellas	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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