

Decision Tree to Determine Appropriate Agreement Type

	Purpose	Relationship / Benefit to ARS Programs	ARS Involvement During Performance
Use a Contract When:	Acquiring Service or Property	Direct Benefit/Use	No Involvement
Use a Grant When:	Transferring Anything of Value	To Support or Stimulate a Public Purpose	No Involvement
Use an Assistance Type Cooperative Agreement (ACTA) When:	Transferring Anything of Value	To Support or Stimulate a Public Purpose	Substantial Involvement
Use a Specific Cooperative Agreement (SCA) When:	ARS is Paying and Mutual Interest and Contributions toward Research Effort exists	Direct Benefit to ARS in-house research	Substantial Involvement
Use a Research Support Agreement (RSA) When:	Procuring Service/Supplies Directly from a College or University	Direct Benefit to ARS in-house research	Substantial Involvement
Use a Non-Funded Cooperative Agreement (NFCA) When:	Describing Research Work with No Obligation of Funds	Direct Benefit to ARS in-house research	Substantial Involvement
Use a Technology Transfer Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) When:	Receiving Funds under Federal Technology Transfer Act	Direct Benefit to ARS in-house research	Substantial Involvement
Use a Reimbursable or Trust Fund Agreement When:	ARS Receives Funds to Perform Research Work	Direct Benefit to ARS in-house research	Substantial Involvement

Each project involving cooperation must be assessed individually to ascertain the agreement instrument most appropriate for the project.