

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PURCHASING MANUAL

I. PURPOSE

- A. The Acquisition Card (ACARD) is a purchasing method whereby users in the department are issued a commercial MasterCard. Each MasterCard is printed with the CSU name/logo, the name of the individual cardholder (faculty/staff) and the State of Colorado tax exemption number. Interested departments should contact the Department of Procurement and Contracting Services or visit the ACARD website at www.purchasing.colostate.edu/acard.html for more information and program instructions.
- B. ACARD may be used to place orders up to \$3,000 per transaction for goods from local and non-local vendors (unless a higher amount, up to \$5,000, has been approved for the cardholder by the Director of Procurement and Contracting Services).
- C. Cardholders are prohibited from artificially splitting a purchase in order to circumvent their single transaction limit.
- D. ACARD can be used for the purchase of services up to \$3,000 per transaction from local and non-local vendors (unless a higher amount, up to \$5,000, has been approved for the cardholder by the Director of Procurement and Contracting Services) when the contractor DOES NOT require a contract to be signed by the University. When acquiring personal services (labor, time or effort) with ACARD, it is the ordering department's responsibility to request and obtain an insurance certificate from the vendor showing general liability, worker's compensation, employer's liability, and auto liability coverages (see the PCS website for instructions and coverage amounts). In addition, all transactions for services MUST be reallocated to a proper 4000 series subcode.
- E. All written agreements requiring the University's signature **MUST** be processed by the Department of Procurement and Contracting Services, regardless of dollar amount.
- F. The ACARD is a point-of-sale payment method only and should not be used to pay invoices after-the-fact.

II. PROCEDURES

- A. Cardholder Responsibilities. Cardholders are responsible for:
 - 1. Knowing and applying all of the rules related to the ACARD program as stated in the ACARD Cardholder's Handbook
 - 2. Reporting a lost or stolen card IMMEDIATELY to JP Morgan Chase Bank at 1-800-316-6056. Your department has full liability for all purchases made before a card is reported lost or stolen.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PURCHASING MANUAL

- a. Making purchases for your department within the most current policies of the ACARD program as well as State of Colorado Fiscal Rules, Colorado State University Procurement Rules, and the Colorado State University Financial Policy and Procedure Instructions Manual (FPIs).
 4. Reviewing e-mail notifications for unauthorized transactions.
 5. Ensuring merchant documentation is complete and available for every transaction and giving that documentation to the Reallocator.
 6. Signing the statement of account for each cycle that had transactions.
 7. Turning in your ACARD to the department Approver upon termination of employment with either the department or CSU, or upon request of the department authority.
- B. Approver Responsibilities. Approvers are responsible for ensuring the integrity of the ACARD program by:
1. Knowing and enforcing compliance of the rules of the ACARD program as stated in the Approver and Cardholder Handbooks.
 2. Reviewing e-mail notifications and questioning unusual transactions appearing on these e-mail notifications.
 3. Ensuring that every statement is reviewed and approved.
 4. Ensuring there is complete documentation for every transaction.
 5. Determining if there were ACARD violations and ensuring appropriate action is taken by the Department if violations are found.
 6. Ensuring, if applicable, that purchases are allowable under the terms of the sponsored program account for which the purchase was made.
 7. Reviewing and signing statements.
 8. Notifying the ACARD Program Administrator immediately should any Cardholder under his/her approving authority leave the employment of the department or the University, or for any other reason regarding loss of cardholder status. In addition the approver must collect and destroy all cards from such cardholders.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PURCHASING MANUAL

B. Reallocator Responsibilities. Reallocators are responsible for:

1. Reallocating transactions on-line from the default account and subcode (as necessary).
2. Informing the department Approver of transfer or termination.
3. Assisting Approvers, as needed, to ensure the integrity of the ACARD program.
4. Printing monthly Cardholder statements from the ACARD system.

III. Authorization

Authority to use the ACARD is open to all colleges and departments. Departments are responsible for the order, control and receipt of goods and services. Requests for cards with official function/hospitality access require Dean or VP approval.