

Absolute Accountancy Recruitment Limited

A company incorporated in England and Wales under company number 9290602
("The Employment Agency");

Standard Terms of Business – Permanent and Fixed Term Contract Introductions Introduction of Candidates to Clients for Direct Employment/Engagement

1. Definitions

In These Terms,

- 1.1 "Client" means the person, firm or corporate body to whom the Employment Agency Introduces a Candidate;
- 1.2 "Candidate" means the person Introduced by the Employment Agency to the Client for an Engagement including, but not limited to, any officer or employee of the Candidate if the Candidate is a limited company, any member or employee of the Candidate if the Candidate is a limited liability partnership, and members of the Employment Agency's own staff;
- 1.3 "Engagement" means the engagement, employment or use of the Candidate by the Client or by any Third Party to whom or to which the Candidate was Introduced by the Client (whether with or without the Employment Agency's knowledge or consent) on a permanent or temporary basis, howsoever engaged (whether directly or indirectly); and "Engages" and "Engaged" shall be construed accordingly;
- 1.4 "Introduction" means
- a) the interview of a Candidate in person or by telephone; or
 - b) the passing of a curriculum vitae or information about the Candidate.
- The time of the Introduction shall be taken to be the earlier of (a) and (b) above; and "Introduced" and "Introduces" shall be construed accordingly;
- 1.5 "Regulations" means the Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003; and references to a particular Regulation are references contained therein;
- 1.6 "Remuneration" includes base salary or fees, guaranteed and/or anticipated bonus and commission earnings, allowances, inducement payments, shift allowances, location weighting and call-out allowances, the benefit of a company car and all other payments or emoluments payable to or receivable by the Candidate for services rendered to or on behalf of the Client. Where the Client provides a company car, a notional amount of £6,000 will be added to the salary in order to calculate the Employment Agency's fee;
- 1.7 "Terms" means these Terms of Business as further defined with clause 2;
- 1.8 "Third Party" means any company or person who is not the Client. For the avoidance of doubt, subsidiary and associated companies of the Client (as defined by s. 1159 of the Companies Act 2006 and s.416 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 respectively) are included in this definition.

2. These Terms

- 2.1 These Terms constitute the entire agreement between the Employment Agency and the Client in relation to the subject matter hereof and are deemed to be accepted by the Client and to apply by virtue of (a) an Introduction to the Client of, or the Engagement by the Client of, a Candidate or (b) the passing of information about the Candidate by the Client to any Third Party or (c) the Client's interview or request to interview a Candidate or (d) the Client's signature at the end of these Terms or (e) any other written expressed acceptance of these Terms. For the avoidance of doubt, these Terms apply whether or not the Candidate is Engaged by the Client for the same type of work as that for which the Introduction was originally effected.
- 2.2 The Terms supersede all previous agreements between the parties in relation to the subject matter hereof.
- 2.3 These Terms prevail over any other terms of business or purchase conditions put forward by the Client.
- 2.4 The Client authorises the Employment Agency to act on its behalf in seeking Candidates and, if the Client so requests, shall advertise for such Candidates through such methods as are agreed with the Client.
- 2.5 For the purposes of these terms, the Employment Agency acts as an employment agency as defined within the Regulations.

3. Obligations of the Employment Agency

- 3.1 The Employment Agency shall use reasonable endeavours to introduce one or more suitable Candidates to meet the requirements of the Client for any particular vacancy. The Employment Agency cannot guarantee to find a suitable Candidate for each vacancy. Without prejudice to clause 3.2 below, the Employment Agency shall use reasonable endeavours to ascertain that the information provided by the Employment Agency to the Client in respect of the Candidate is accurate.
- 3.2 The Employment Agency accepts no responsibility in respect of matters outside its knowledge and the Client must satisfy itself as to the suitability of the Candidate.

4. Client Obligations

- 4.1 The Client shall satisfy itself as to the suitability of the Candidate. The Client is responsible for obtaining work permits and/or such other permission to work as may be required, for the arrangement of medical examinations and/or investigations into the medical history of any Candidate, and satisfying other requirements, qualifications or permission required by law of the country in which the Candidate is engaged to work.

- 4.2 To enable the Employment Agency to comply with its obligations under Regulation 33, the Client undertakes to provide to the Employment Agency details of the position which the Client seeks to fill, including the type of work that the Candidate would be required to do; the location and hours of work; the experience, training, qualifications and any authorisation which the Client considers necessary or which are required by law or any professional body for the Candidate to possess in order to work in the position; and any risks to health or safety known to the Client and what steps the Client has taken to prevent or control such risks.
- 4.3 The Client shall provide details of the date the Client requires the Candidate to commence work, the duration or likely duration of the work; the minimum rate of remuneration, expenses and any other benefits that would be offered; the intervals of payment of remuneration and the length of notice that the Candidate would be entitled to give and receive to terminate the employment with the Client.
- 4.4 The Client shall inform the Employment Agency of any information it has that suggests it would be detrimental to the interests of either the Client or the Candidate for the Candidate to work in the position which the Client seeks to fill.
- 4.5 The Client shall inform the Employment Agency within 1 working day where it receives details of a Candidate from the Employment Agency which it has already received from another agency in relation to the same vacancy. If no such notification is given by the Client then, in the event of an Engagement, the Client agrees the Employment Agency is entitled to charge a fee in accordance with clause 5.2.
- 4.6 The Client agrees to,
- a) notify the Employment Agency as soon as possible (and in any event, not later than 7 days from the date of the offer or from the date the Engagement takes effect; whichever is earlier) of any offer of an Engagement which it makes to the Candidate; and
 - b) notify the Employment Agency immediately that its offer of an Engagement to the Candidate has been accepted and to provide details of the Remuneration to the Candidate; and
 - c) pay the Employment Agency's fee within the period set out under clause 7.2.
- 4.7 The Client shall not, and shall not seek to cause the Employment Agency to, unlawfully discriminate in relation to the services provided by the Employment Agency to the Client in connection with these Terms and shall disclose any and all information requested by the Employment Agency in the event a Candidate makes a complaint to the Employment Agency.

5. Charges/Fees Applicable to Contingency Recruitment

- 5.1 Introductions of Candidates are confidential. Where the Client discloses to a Third Party any details regarding a Candidate Introduced to the Client by the Employment Agency that Third Party subsequently Engages the Candidate within 6 months from the date of the Introduction, the Client shall pay the Employment Agency's fee as set out in clause 5.3 and there shall be no entitlement to any rebate or refund to the Client or Third Party.
- 5.2 The Client shall pay the Employment Agency a fee calculated in accordance with clause 5.3 where it engages, whether directly or indirectly, any Candidate Introduced by or through the Employment Agency within 6 months from the date of the Employment Agency's Introduction.
- 5.3 The fee shall be calculated as a percentage of the Candidate's Full Time Annualised Remuneration applicable during the first 12 months of the Engagement (as set out in the table below); if the role is not a Full Time permanent position fees will be calculated as follows;
- The fee for Part Time positions shall be based on the Full Time equivalent Remuneration.
 - The fee for a Contract position (less than 12 months in duration) will be based on the Full Time Annualised Remuneration.
 - If the position is deemed to be both Part Time and a Contract, the fee will be based on the Full Time Annualised equivalent Remuneration.
 - The Employment Agency will charge VAT on the fee where applicable. The introductory fee is subject to a minimum charge of £3000 + VAT.

Candidate's Remuneration	Percentage payable as the Fee
Salary up to and including £34,999	20%
Salary between £35,000 & £69,999	25%
Salary £70,000 and above	30%

- 5.4 Where the amount of the actual Remuneration is not known or disclosed, the Employment Agency will charge a fee calculated in accordance with clause 5.3 on the maximum level of remuneration applicable for the position or type of position the Candidate had been originally submitted to the Client for and/or comparable position in the general marketplace.
- 5.5 Charges incurred by the Employment Agency at the Client's written request in respect of advertising or any other matters will be charged to the Client in addition to the fee and such charges will be payable whether or not the Candidate is Engaged.

6. Charges/Fees Applicable for Retained Assignments

- 6.1 Introductions of Candidates are confidential. Where the Client discloses to a Third Party any details regarding a Candidate Introduced to the Client by the Employment Agency that Third Party subsequently Engages the Candidate within 6 months from the date of the Introduction, the Client shall pay the Employment Agency's fee as set out in clause 5.3 and there shall be no entitlement to any rebate or refund to the Client or Third Party.
- 6.2.1 A Retainer Fee of the overall fee is payable immediately upon acceptance of Client's instructions and is non-refundable.

- 6.2.2 A Shortlist Fee of the overall fee is payable upon the presentation to the Client of a minimum of 3 candidates who in the reasonable opinion of The Employment Agency meet the agreed specification and is non-refundable.
- 6.2.3 A Completion Fee which incorporates the Total Fee based on the actual gross Remuneration of the Applicant as set out below, minus the Retainer Fee and Shortlist Fee (if levied) and is payable on the day the Applicant commences the Engagement. If, after acceptance of an offer of Engagement, the Client decides for any reason, which is outside the control of The Employment Agency, not to proceed with the Engagement, it shall still be liable to pay the completion fee.

Candidate's Remuneration	Retainer Fee	Shortlist Fee	Completion Fee	Overall Percentage payable as the Fee
Salary up to £34,999	7%	7%	6%	20%
Salary between £35,000 & £69,999	8%	8%	9%	25%
Salary £70,000 and above	10%	10%	10%	30%

- 6.3 All fees are expressed and calculated as a percentage of the Applicants first 12 months anticipated gross full time remuneration. Where the precise remuneration is not known in advance, the remuneration will be estimated for the purposes of the first two instalments of the fee. The final instalment of the fee will be based on the actual remuneration and any necessary adjustments will be made. No entitlement to refunds of any paid instalments arises, where the Client decides not to proceed with the search or appointment of the Applicant.
- 6.4 Retained Assignment Fees will be payable as a result of the Engagement of an Applicant notwithstanding the fact that the Engagement may not comply with the Client's original requirement.
- 6.5 In the event that more than one Applicant is engaged by the Client, then the Client shall pay an Introduction Fee, as detailed above, in respect of each Applicant.
- 6.6 If The Employment Agency provides an advertising service to the Client, all prior-agreed advertising costs, travel and interview expenses will be charged to the Client as incurred, and the Client will pay the agreed artwork costs incurred by The Employment Agency. An advertisement may only be cancelled on sufficient notice to enable The Employment Agency to withdraw the advertisement. Advertising and Expense accounts shall be paid by the Client within 7 days of the invoice date.
- 6.7 If a retained Assignment is cancelled or deemed by The Employment Agency to be inactive beyond a period of 6 weeks, then in addition to the Retainer Fee and Shortlist Fee (if submitted), the Client shall pay a cancellation fee of 10% of the maximum stated remuneration, plus all the agreed advertising costs and travel expenses

7 Invoices

- 7.1 For contingency recruitment, with the exception in the circumstances set out in clause 5.1, no fee is incurred by the Client until the Candidate commences the Engagement; whereupon the Employment Agency will render an invoice to the Client for its fees.
- 7.2 The Employment Agency shall raise invoices in respect of the charges payable and the Client agrees to pay the amount due within 7 days of the date of the invoice.
- 7.3 All invoices will be deemed to be accepted in full by the Client in accordance with the payment terms stated within clause 7.2 unless the Client notifies the Employment Agency in writing within 5 days of the amount the Client disputes and the reason the Client disputes that amount. In the event the Client does so notify the Employment Agency that it wishes to dispute part of an invoice, the Client shall pay the undisputed part of the invoice within the agreed payment terms and shall co-operate fully with the Employment Agency in order to resolve the dispute as quickly as possible.
- 7.4 The Employment Agency reserves the right to charge interest on invoiced amounts overdue at the statutory rate as prescribed pursuant to Section 6 of the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998 (as may be calculated using the calculator on the website: www.payontime.co.uk).

8 Rebates

- 8.1 Where the Client qualifies for a rebate in accordance with clause 8.2, and the Engagement of the Candidate is terminated by the Client or the Candidate within the time periods specified below, the Client shall be entitled to a rebate of the introduction fee as follows:

Duration of Employment	Percentage of Fee to be rebated
0 – 4 weeks	50%
5 – 8 weeks	25%
OR	
0 – 12 weeks	Free replacement

- 8.2 The following conditions must be met in order for the Client to qualify for a rebate,
- the Client must notify the Employment Agency that the Candidate's Engagement has ended within 7 days of the Engagement ending or within 7 days of notice being given to end the Engagement; whichever is earlier; or
 - the Employment Agency's invoice for the fee must have been paid within the payment terms in accordance with clause 7.2; or

- c) the Candidate's engagement is not terminated by reason of redundancy or re-organisation or change in strategy of the Client; or
- d) the Candidate did not leave the Engagement as a result of discrimination or other acts against the Candidate; or
- e) the Candidate was not at any time in the 12 months prior to the start of the Engagement employed or hired (whether on a permanent or contract basis) by the Client.

8.3 Where the Client re-engages the Candidate either on an employment or indirect basis, any rebate paid to the Client under clause 8.1 in respect of that Candidate, shall be immediately repaid to the Employment Agency by the Client.

8.4 Where the Client does not wish to receive a rebate, the Employment Agency shall endeavour to seek one replacement at no extra cost to the Client.

9 Liability and Indemnity

9.1 The Employment Agency shall not be liable under any circumstances for any loss, expense, damage, delay, costs or compensation (whether direct, indirect or consequential) which may be suffered or incurred by the Client arising from or in any way connected with the Employment Agency seeking a Candidate for the Client or from the Introduction or Engagement of any Candidate by the Client or from the failure of the Employment Agency to introduce any Candidate or from the Client's disclosure to a Third Party of any details regarding a Candidate.

9.2 Notwithstanding clause 9.1 above, nothing in these Terms shall be deemed to exclude or restrict any liability of the Employment Agency to the Client for personal injury or death.

9.3 The Employment Agency shall not be liable for failure to perform its obligations under these Terms if such failure results by reason of any cause beyond its reasonable control.

9.4 The Client shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Employment Agency against any costs (including legal costs), claims or liabilities incurred directly or indirectly by the Employment Agency arising out of or in connection with these Terms including (without limitation) as a result of,

- a) any breach of these Terms by the Client or by its employees or agents; and/or
- b) any breach by the Client or Third Party, or any of its employees or agents, of any applicable statutory provisions (including, without limitation, any statutory provisions prohibiting or restricting discrimination or other inequality of opportunity, immigration legislation and the Regulations); and/or
- c) any unauthorised disclosure of a Candidate details by the Client or Third Party, or any of its employees or agents.

10 Termination

10.1 These Terms may be terminated by either party by giving to the other immediate notice in the event that either the Employment Agency or the Client goes into liquidation, becomes bankrupt or enters into an arrangement with creditors or has a receiver or administrator appointed or where the Employment Agency has reasonable grounds to believe the Client will not pay the Employment Agency's invoice within the payment terms agreed within clause 7.2

10.2 Equal Opportunities

10.3 The Employment Agency is committed to equal opportunities and expects the Client to comply with all anti-discrimination legislation as regards the selection and treatment of Candidates.

11 Confidentiality

11.1 All information contained within these Terms shall remain confidential and the Client shall not divulge it to any Third Party save for its own employees and professional advisers and as may be required by law.

11.2 The Client shall not without the prior written consent of the Employment Agency provide any information in respect of the Candidate to any Third Party whether for employment purposes or otherwise.

11.3 The Client agrees to comply with the Data Protection Act 2018 ("the Act") and shall not cause or seek to cause The Employment Agency to breach the Act in connection with these Terms and shall provide any and all information requested by the Employment Agency in a timely manner to assist the Employment Agency to respond to a Data Subject access request (as defined with the Act).

12 General

12.1 Any failure by the Employment Agency to enforce at any particular time any one or more of these Terms shall not be deemed a waiver of such rights or of the right to enforce these Terms subsequently.

12.2 Headings contained in these Terms are for reference purposes only and shall not affect the intended meanings of the clauses to which they relate.

12.3 No provision of these Terms shall be enforceable by any person who is not a party to it pursuant to the Contract (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

12.4 If any provision, clause or part-clause of these Terms is held to be invalid, void, illegal or otherwise unenforceable by any judicial body, the remaining provisions of these Terms shall remain in full force and effect to the extent permitted by law.

12.5 Any reference to legislation, statute, act or regulation shall include any revisions, re-enactments or amendments that may be made from time to time.

13 Notices

- 13.1 Any notice required to be given under these Terms (including the delivery of any information or invoice) shall be delivered by hand, sent by facsimile, e-mail or prepaid first-class post to the recipient at its fax number or address specified in these Terms (or as otherwise notified from time to time to the sender by the recipient for the purposes of these Terms).
- 13.2 Notices shall be deemed to have been given and served,
- a) if delivered by hand, at the time of delivery if delivered before 5.00pm on a business day or in any other case at 10.00am on the next business day after the day of delivery; or
 - b) if sent by facsimile or e-mail, at the time of despatch if despatched on a business day before 5.00 p.m. or in any other case at 10.00 a.m. on the next business day after the day of despatch, unless the transmission report indicates a faulty or incomplete transmission or, within the relevant business day, the recipient informs the sender that the facsimile or email message was received in an incomplete or illegible form; or
 - c) if sent by prepaid first-class post, 48 hours from the time of posting.

14 Variation

- 14.1 No variation or alteration of these Terms shall be valid unless approved in writing by the Client and a Director of the Employment Agency.

15 Applicable Law

- 15.1 These Terms shall be construed in accordance with English Law and the parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales.