



BULLETIN

> INTRO TO TECH TRANSFER @ CU

Contact Us:

CU-Boulder and CU-Colorado
Springs inventors:

Kate Tallman
kate.tallman@cu.edu
phone: 303-492-5732
fax: 303-492-2128

UC Denver inventors:

Rick Silva
rick.silva@uchsc.edu
phone: 303-724-0222
fax: 303-724-0816

Information about licensing to start-up companies:

Tom Smerdon
tom.smerdon@cu.edu
phone: 303-735-0621
fax: 303-735-3831

General information and CU System office:

David Allen
david.allen@cu.edu
phone: 303-735-3711
fax: 303-735-3831

General address for correspondence:

CU System Technology
Transfer Office
4740 Walnut St., Suite 100
588 SYS
Boulder, CO 80309-0588

Web site:

www.cu.edu/techtransfer

The CU Employee's Guide to Technology Transfer

Benefits of the Tech Transfer Process

- ♦ Opportunity to get your invention into the marketplace
- ♦ Real-world impact, often requiring substantial partnering efforts
- ♦ Compliance with University policy and federal law
- ♦ Potential source of additional personal, lab and department income

University policy on inventions, discoveries, and other intellectual property

The CU Intellectual Property (IP) Policy was created by Regent action in 1983 and revised three times since, most recently in January 2003. It applies to all CU employees and their collaborators, and to those engaged in substantial use of CU facilities.

Essentially, the presumption of IP ownership lies with the University, as dictated by the Bayh-Dole Act of 1980. Covered IP includes any inventive idea (compound, device or process) or its reduction to practice, including know-how, and copyrightable works pertaining to the invention. The IP policy on Discoveries and Patents does not apply to ownership and copyright of scholarly and artistic works, which are governed by the Intellectual Property Policy on Educational Materials; in such educational works, the presumption of ownership lies with the creator or author.

Employee obligations under University IP policy

Any CU employee who, in the course of his or her work for CU, makes an invention or discovery is required to disclose the invention to the CU Technology Transfer Office (TTO). Disclosure is a simple process — a short form asks the inventor(s) to describe the invention, indicate its commercial applications and answer a few questions about funding and publication of the invention. Inventors have an obligation to respond to TTO requests for more information.

These obligations do not in any way interfere with publication or other academic activities, but inventors who intend to publish their work should communicate with TTO to make sure no IP is lost in this process and that University contractual obligations to sponsors are fulfilled. These policies are standard at all research universities in the US.

Basic Tenets of Regent IP Policy

- ♦ CU owns IP created by its employees
- ♦ Narrow circumstances create a few exemptions
- ♦ Division of royalty revenue income stipulated by policy
- ♦ Inventors receive a share of any royalties
- ♦ Faculty oversight committee created to oversee tech transfer operations
- ♦ Cooperation between inventors and technology transfer is key to success



Resources available through the tech transfer office

TTO can help you develop your invention in a number of ways:

- ♦ TTO manages and pays for patent filing and prosecution
- ♦ Connect to industry experts in your field to help determine commercial pathway
- ♦ Access proof-of-concept funding to move your invention towards commercialization
- ♦ Find other sources of commercialization funding outside the University
- ♦ Secure capital to advance the invention in the market
- ♦ Provide networking opportunities to meet potential industry and academic partners

All TTO licensing staff have both scientific and business backgrounds, and will work with you to understand your invention before making decisions about the commercialization path.

The tech transfer process

The process begins with an invention confidentially disclosed to TTO. TTO staff then discuss the disclosure with the inventor and assess patentability and commercial viability. Following review, the IP is protected, most frequently with a provisional patent, or offered back to the inventor. During the review stage TTO contacts potential partners under a confidential disclosure agreement (CDA). Once a commercial partner is identified and information on intent is exchanged, license terms are negotiated, agreed upon, and executed. This entire negotiation to execution process can take as little as six months, but most cases typically take longer. Royalty and other income from these agreements is split between the inventor(s), the inventors' lab, the campus, and TTO.

For the licensing process to work, a cooperative relationship must exist between the inventor and Technology Transfer Office. **Inventor leads have been found to generate over 70% of successful licenses.** Communication, shared vision and mutual understanding enhance the prospects for leads to be transformed into commercial prospects and eventual licensees. At CU, inventors will be involved and informed at all stages of the licensing process.

TTO also manages a wide variety of agreements for researchers, including material transfer agreements and confidentiality agreements, and reviews sponsored research and consulting agreements where there is a possibility that IP may be generated. For more information, please contact Kathe Zaslow (303-735-4525, kathe.zaslow@cu.edu).

Find out more about tech transfer

The TTO website is located at <http://www.cu.edu/techtransfer>, and contains a wide variety of resources for understanding the tech transfer process, including Information Bulletins on:

When (and what) to disclose

How to protect IP

How TTO handles software, biomaterials, and research tools

How to start a company based on your IP

How to access TTO proof-of-concept funding

TTO publishes an annual report detailing our performance and success stories, as well as a monthly e-newsletter — if you'd like to receive either publication, send an email to ttonews@cu.edu.

To learn more about TTO processes: <http://www.cu.edu/techtransfer/about/bulletins.html>

To download disclosure forms: <http://www.cu.edu/techtransfer/disclose/>

For more info or to submit a disclosure, email ttocontact@cu.edu