



TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROCESS OVERVIEW

GETTING STARTED

💡 DISCOVERY / INVENTION
 Novel Idea
 Grants and Proposals
 Research
 Inventor(s) identify invention or discovery.

🔗 DISCLOSURE
 Inventor(s) disclose invention to
 Technology Transfer Services (TTS)

✓ EVALUATION
 TTS assesses marketability and patentability
 and determines a commercialization process.
 Evaluation may take about 12 weeks.

✗ NOT PROCEEDING
 Invention lacks sufficient commercial or
 intellectual property potential. Inventor may
 continue their research.

🔄 FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
 While it shows promise, the invention or
 discovery needs additional development for
 commercialization or patenting.

➔ PROCEEDING
 The invention or discovery shows market
 potential. TTS will pursue intellectual property
 protection and commercialization.

PATENTING

📄 APPLICATION PREPARATION
 TTS works with outside counsel to prepare
 the application.

📄 PROVISIONAL APPLICATION
 A cheaper placeholder application, filed when in
 a hurry or unsure about commercialization
 potential. This is not examined by the Patent
 Office, but receives a filing date which can be
 used as a basis for a full utility application.

**📄 UTILITY (NON-PROVISIONAL
 PATENT APPLICATION)**

 Based on the provisional filing, this is the
 full patent application that is examined by
 the Patent Office and hopefully proceeds to
 issuance as a patent.

⚖️ PATENT PROSECUTION
 The time between filing and issuance (or
 abandonment, if it appears no patent will
 result). There is interaction between the
 Patent Examiner, outside counsel, TTS, and
 the inventor(s), and the process usually takes
 between 2-4 years. If issued, USU maintains
 the patent until it expires 20 years after
 filing.

NOTE: OTHER TYPES OF INTELLECTUAL
 PROPERTY PROTECTION MAY INCLUDE:
 Copyrights, Trademarks, Trade Secrets, and Plant
 Variety or Plant Cultivars.

COMMERCIALIZATION

👥 COLLABORATION
 TTS identifies opportunities for
 collaboration through commercial
 agreements.

💰 FINANCING
 TTS identifies funding opportunities.

⚙️ COMMERCIALIZATION
 TTS works to license the technology to an
 existing entity or a potential new faculty
 startup company. In time, commercialization
 can lead to revenue generation and
 distribution. (see USU IP Policy 587)

Research
UtahStateUniversity®

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER SERVICES
 techtransfer.usu.edu
 TechTransfer@USU.edu
 (435) 797-9613