

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY (CMU) and CENTRAL MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CORPORATION (CMURC) Commercialization
Process**

Key Steps and Decision Points

It is essential that there is good communication between the Dean's office, the Office of Research and Graduate Studies (ORGS) and CMURC recognizing all have major roles in the commercialization of CMU intellectual property (IP). For example, deans supervise the faculty member and needs to know about, and approve, any factors that affect a faculty member's professional responsibilities at CMU. Similarly, because colleges benefit from royalty payments they should share the burden of investments required to advance the technology (exclusive of patent costs).

Step 1: Inventor(s) file Invention Disclosure.



Step 2: Invention disclosure reviewed by CMURC under blanket NDA for patentability/commercialization assessment (deadline two weeks after invention disclosure).



Step 3: Meeting between inventors and CMU Vice President for Research (VPR), CMURC staff and Dean(s) to address any questions (deadline 3 weeks after invention disclosure)



Step 4: VPR determines next steps in consultation with CMURC and Dean(s). Options include (these are not mutually exclusive):

- a) Filing provisional patent application, or full patent application;
- b) Encouraging faculty member(s) to continue research;
- c) Provide internal funding for further development, develop prototype, etc.



Step 5: Once provisional patent or full patent application is filed CMURC, ORGS and Dean(s) offices seek commercial partners or develop licensing agreement with inventors.



Step 6: Reconvene meeting between inventors and VPR, CMURC staff and Dean(s) to discuss additional progress (deadline 10 months after invention disclosure).



Step 7: Based on outcome of steps 5 & 6 VPR determines next steps in consultation with CMURC and Dean(s) offices. Options include (these are not mutually exclusive):

- a) Filing for full US patent if good prospects for commercialization;
- b) Abandoning provisional patent giving inventor(s) option of assuming patent (and costs);
- c) Filing provisional patent based on additional advances;
- d) Encouraging faculty or staff member(s) to continue research;

Notes:

1. To minimize cost, CMU will normally only file for patent protection in the US.
2. CMU will conduct an annual review of all patents and determine whether to continue to pay the ongoing costs or to abandon them giving the inventor(s) the option of assuming the patents (and costs).