



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

RESEARCH ALERTS



Protect, License, and Fund your Intellectual Property with IPO

October 25, 2022 • Reply to [Michael DiPaul](#)

The Innovations & Partnerships Office (IPO) is your first stop for research commercialization at U of T. IPO helps turn innovations into patents, licenses, and startups, building successful relationships between researchers, industry, and investors.

What you need to know:

1. **It starts with a disclosure:** If a new technology, method, or product was created using U of T facilities or funding administered by U of T, a [Confidential Invention Disclosure](#) is your first step toward commercializing your research.
2. **Ownership:** U of T has a modern, flexible invention policy that is 'Inventor's Choice' – in absence of pre-existing IP rights, inventors may choose to take personal ownership, or have U of T lead commercialization.
3. **Intellectual property (IP) and patents:** While there are many types of IP, patents may be affected by presenting and publishing. It is best to involve IPO early to help review, file, and protect your invention.
4. **Funding:** IPO can help maximize budgets by licensing technologies and leveraging internal, public, and private funding opportunities for research and startups.
5. **Network:** Access U of T's growing international network of industry, mentors, and VCs to support technology validation, product development, and go-to-market.

In 2021, U of T inventors made over 180 invention disclosures, with IPO managing 74 priority patent applications, more than 39 licensing and option agreements, and 290 ongoing commercialization projects. In the

last 5 years, companies based on U of T Research have secured more than \$1.5 billion in investment and capital.

Learn more and get started @ [uoft.me/inventors!](https://uoft.me/inventors)