

Intellectual Property and Commercialisation

Intellectual property (IP) and routes to commercialisation are key considerations when developing partnerships or drafting Pathways to Impact sections for research grant applications.

IP is a valuable business asset and properly protecting your IP is important to control how it is used.

Commercialisation can be achieved in many ways from consultancy and contract research to licensing and spin-out companies.

There are a wide range of translational funding streams and awards such as Enterprise Fellowships to support your entrepreneurial journey.

The IP & Commercialisation Team works closely with SETSquared Exeter to support researchers on their entrepreneurial journey from idea to realisation.

IIB can help you find the best options for you and your project.



Top tips

1. Prior publication or public disclosure of results can invalidate certain types of IP protection – always check with IIB first. We can usually arrange protection without needing to delay your publication, meeting or conference presentation
2. Protecting your IP can be important even if you don't want to commercialise it – you can ensure you are credited as the originator of the work and prevent it being used in a way you disapprove of
3. If the University commercialises your IP you are entitled to a revenue share or equity stake - see the University IP policy
4. Students (including research students) generally own any IP they create unless they have signed a contract that specifies otherwise
5. Thinking about what IP your research might create and how it may be commercialised can help strengthen your research proposal and make it easier to find partners

Innovation, Impact and Business support

We can support you by:

1. The evaluation and protection of IP arising from research
2. Market research and commercial validation
3. Identifying and applying for translational funding
4. Licensing IP to external partners
5. Creation of new spin-out companies and entrepreneurial skills development in partnership with SETsquared Exeter

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