



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE *of* TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Internship Program

Gateway to Discovery, Innovation, and Products.



Program Basics

What are the goals of the internship program?

- To provide opportunities for interns to gain exposure to the process of intellectual property management, particularly in a university setting.
- To provide opportunities for interns to improve analytical and writing skills.
- To provide guidance on a potential career in technology transfer or a registered patent agent or attorney.

What experience can I gain as an intern?

What you get out of the program is strongly tied to what you put into it. If you are interested in patent law, you can apply for the patent track and work with the Emory Patent Group (EPG). If you are interested in marketing or business development, you can apply for the licensing track and work with the Licensing Team. If you are interested in entrepreneurship, you can apply for the licensing track and work with the Emory VentureLab Team. Of course, if you are unsure of what you want to do, that's perfectly fine. Apply to the licensing program and we'll take it from there.

What jobs can I get after my internship?

The office has a proven track record of providing valuable experience that has helped many interns go on to secure professional positions. You will be exposed to a range of activities and gain valuable skills that can be applied in a number of career paths. OTT staff is committed to assisting you find a profession that is right for you. Previous interns have gone on to pursue careers in a wide range of fields such as technology transfer, patent law, consulting, and banking. In fact, some interns have even found permanent positions within OTT.

Application Process

What are the qualifications for the internship program?

- Have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a life science, physical science and/or engineering
- Written and verbal fluency in English
- Must be pursuing or have received an advanced degree in law, science or engineering
- Have an interest in intellectual property as a career goal

If applicable, will I need my advisor's permission to participate in the program?

Yes, OTT wants to ensure that both interns and their supervisors understand the time commitment and requirements of the program.

When should I apply?

Licensing Track

Admission for the licensing track is rolling. You can apply at any time of year and can begin the program throughout the academic year.

Patent Track

Admission for the patent track is fixed by semester. Apply by August 1st for the fall semester, January 1st for the spring semester, and May 1st for the summer semester.

Program Commitment

What is the time commitment?

Licensing Track

Interns are required to commit to at least six months of volunteer service, working 5-10 hours each week.

Patent Track

Interns are required to work at least 10 hours per week during the fall or spring semester. During the summer session full-time is preferred, which is comprised of at least 20 hours per week for 8-10 weeks.

Can I work after hours such as late evenings and weekends?

Interns should work in the office during normal office hours between 7:00 am – 5:00 pm. This ensures that you have access to OTT staff and resources to successfully complete your duties. Interns are not allowed access to the building after hours. However, if assignments can be completed outside of the office, interns are free to work on them whenever they like.


Internship Duties

What will my responsibilities be as an intern?

Licensing Track

The first few weeks of the internship consist of reading and obtaining a basic understanding of university technology transfer. Interns will become familiar with the office and staff. Over the course of the program interns may participate in any number of the following activities:

- a) Write technology briefs (short non-confidential summaries of technologies)
- b) Conduct prior-art analysis (an examination of all information that has been made available, in any form, to the public that may affect the patentability of a technology)
- c) Perform market research and analysis (a comprehensive report of the market potential of a technology, including a description of manufacturing capabilities/costs, distribution channels, any established proof of concept as well as the benefits of the technology vs. currently available technologies)
- d) Write technology assessments
- e) Attend meetings with faculty inventors regarding their disclosures
- f) Attend office-wide intern meetings to interact with the patent track interns
- g) Attend “Boot Camp” that will provide the basics of intellectual property protection and licensing strategies



Patent Track

An intern should expect to participate in at least two of the below activities and possibly more depending on availability.

- a) Conduct prior art searches
- b) Draft patent applications
- c) Prepare a portfolio analysis
- d) Search and prepare infringement analysis
- e) Prepare a response to an office action
- f) Attend meetings with faculty inventors regarding their disclosures
- g) Attend office-wide intern meetings to interact with the licensing track interns
- h) Attend “Boot Camp” that will provide the basics of intellectual property protection and licensing strategies

What does the “Boot Camp” consist of?

- “Basics of patent protection” – what is a patent, an overview of the process and how to evaluate patentability
 - General considerations of how the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office examines the basics of novelty, obviousness, and statutory subject matter
 - Techniques of searching literature and patent databases to identify potential prior art materials that may be relevant to the patentability of an invention
- Considerations in patent application drafting – implications of current case law
- Why patent – how universities use their intellectual property including basics and implications of university licensing