



Your Research, Your Intellectual Property

QIMR Berghofer encourages students to participate in, and contribute to research projects that may be commercialised in the future for financial return. Commercialisation of intellectual property (IP) is an essential aspect of developing medical research so it can be delivered to those who need it most – patients, doctors, hospitals and the general public. Commercialisation is also an important way for organisations such as QIMR Berghofer to fund other research programs.

What is IP?

Intellectual property can be an invention or discovery, a method or process, chemical or biological material, a computer program or circuit layout, trademark, plan, drawing or design. Basically IP is any intangible property that is a creation of the mind. Most of the research conducted at QIMR Berghofer will result in some IP, however only certain types of IP are suitable for protection or commercialisation.

Why do I need to assign my IP?

To successfully commercialise research outcomes, QIMR Berghofer requires unfragmented ownership of IP. A student's IP may just be a small part of the technology that is licensed to a third party, and not having ownership of this part could expose QIMR Berghofer to legal liabilities. Staff members automatically assign their IP to the Institute as part of their employment contract. As a student, we ask you to assign your IP to the Institute before you start your research project. This way the QIMR Berghofer Business Development (BD) team will be able to commercialise the technology that you, your supervisor and your colleagues have worked on.

What's in it for me?

In return for assigning your IP to QIMR Berghofer, the Student IP Policy allows for you to participate in the sharing of any commercialisation revenue resulting from the Intellectual Property. This return will be shared with other inventors, and will be calculated in accordance with QIMR Berghofer's Commercialisation of Intellectual Property Remuneration Framework.

What do I have to do?

We understand that making a legal decision such as this can be stressful. Additionally your University may also ask you to assign your IP to them. For these reasons, students are strongly encouraged to obtain independent legal advice on any request for assignment of their IP and QIMR Berghofer will contribute to the cost of that legal advice. Questions about the Student IP Policy and your enrollment can be directed to your Graduate Development Officer:

(Angela Trieu, angela.trieu@qimrberghofer.edu.au)

Questions about IP, patents and commercialisation can be directed to the BD team:

(business.development@qimrberghofer.edu.au)

More Information:

Student IP Policy

https://intranet.qimrberghofer.edu.au/media/11115/student_interlectual_property_policy.pdf

Commercialisation of Intellectual Property Remuneration Framework

<https://intranet.qimrberghofer.edu.au/media/2180/311-commercialisation-of-intellectual-property-remuneration-framework-approved-23-february-2016.pdf>