

# Step-by-Step Guide for Inventors

START



## INVENTION

Your invention or research discovery may take the form of a new idea, experiment, observation, software, or data.



## PRIOR TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

It is very important for you to **contact the Polsky Center before making your discovery public** (i.e., through a presentation or publication).



## INNOVATION REPORT

You submit a confidential Innovation Report to document your invention and we will set up a meeting to discuss various commercialization options with you.



## EVALUATE

We evaluate your submission and assess the commercial potential of the invention.



## PATH TO MARKET

We identify the best path to market either through licensing to an existing company or creating a startup.



## PROTECT

We select and pursue the best protection strategy for the invention (i.e., patent, trademark, copyright, or by other means).

## FORM A STARTUP

## FIND A PARTNER



## LAUNCH

Once a startup is created, we work with you to license the invention to your startup.



## MARKET

We market your technology to find a commercial partner interested in your invention.



## LICENSE

Once a commercial partner is identified, we negotiate the terms of a license agreement for the IP.



## LICENSE

We license the IP to your startup using the UCGo! Startup License or a negotiated agreement.



## VENTURE SUPPORT

We provide training, mentorship, opportunities for funding, and other resources to support your startup as it grows and seeks revenue, partnerships or an acquisition.



## COMMERCIALIZE

The company turns your innovation into a product or service and brings it to market.



## REVENUE

Revenues from the licensee are distributed to you, the inventor, and the University of Chicago.