

How to Partner with NIH

We have a variety of agreements that allow companies, universities, and government agencies to leverage our unique and wide-ranging resources.

- Your specific goals will determine the most appropriate agreement, whether a **transactional agreement**, a **co-development agreement**, or a research-use or commercialization **license**.
- A **Confidential Disclosure Agreement** (CDA) allows you to discuss confidential or proprietary information with NIH employees, it limits the public release of the exchanged information, and either one-way or two-way agreements are possible.
- If you are with a **for-profit company**:
 - A **Biological Materials License** is required for transfer of materials from NIH to a for-profit organization;
 - A **Collaboration Agreement** is the simplest research collaboration agreement;
 - A **Cooperative Research and Development Agreement** (CRADA) allows you to more broadly negotiate terms and conditions and provide resources;
 - A **Clinical Trial Agreement** (CTA) defines: who will perform a clinical trial; who is responsible for providing the drug(s) or other materials; and who has responsibility for complying with Federal regulations on protecting human subjects;
 - Exclusive and non-exclusive **licenses** are available for commercialization of an NIH invention.
- If you are with a **non-profit or university**, a **Material Transfer Agreement** (MTA) will be required for exchanging research materials with an NIH scientist in order to memorialize the transfer. This is critical if the materials are human-derived.

TTC highly recommends a discussion with TTC staff to determine the type of agreement needed to partner. If you do not have a TTC staff contact, please reach out to our [Technology Analysis and Marketing Unit](#).

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