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.

PROTECT

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

PATH TO MARKET

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

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.

COMMERCIALIZE

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

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.

REVENUE

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