

Orphan Drug Development Guidebook

Building Block I430

This document defines the content of the Building Block created for each identified tool, incentives, initiative or practice introduced by public bodies or used by developers to expedite drug development in Rare Diseases (RDs).

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Building Block (BB) Title	Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs)
References	Associated with the related research institute/university
Description	Most universities/research institutes have a technology transfer office responsible for technology transfer or collaboration of R&D projects. The TTOs are responsible for the protection and management of the intellectual property rights. TTOs increase research institute/university's visibility among for-profit players in the field (including pharma and biotech companies as well as venture capital firms) and active advertise of the most advanced projects. TTOs also negotiate agreements with for-profit players in the field.
Category	Development Resources Building Block
Geographical scope	International
Availability	Many rare disease programs originate from research at or collaboration with academic institutions. The TTOs support the researchers working both in rare and non-rare disease areas.
Scope of use	Related to the protection and management of the intellectual property rights, R&D collaboration and program licensing.
Stakeholders	Party A: university/ research institute Party B: biotech/pharma company Typically, party A will ask for licensing upfront payment and royalty

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	payment on technology/program it licenses to party B.
Enablers/ Requirements	R&D licensing ownership
Output	R&D licensing agreement
Best time to apply and time window	TTOs should be involved since early in the research/program development so that they can protect and manage properly the intellectual property rights.
Expert tips	<p>PROs:</p> <p>TTOs facilitate and maximize the interactions between a researcher and a pharma company on a potential license interest.</p> <p>CONs:</p> <p>Technology transfer offices sometimes may consider only the commercial terms when choosing a party to collaborate with or license to.</p>