

When do I have to disclose inventions to the VA? At the time of invention, Federal Employees (whether VA Paid or WOC) are obligated to disclose to the VA any inventions or potential inventions to the Federal Government. The VA Office of Technology Transfer will then review the disclosure and make an ownership determination. The government will either claim ownership or return rights back to the party disclosing.

How do I disclose an Invention to the VA?

Employees who need to disclose to the VA should contact the Research Office. You can also find the appropriate forms and more information on the Intranet at http://vaww.research.va.gov/programs/tech_transfer/policies/ . After you complete the forms, submit them to the Research Office for Review, Signature and Submission to VACO.

I disclosed to Emory, do I need to disclose to VA as well?

Yes. As a Federal Employee you must disclose your work to the Federal Government for determination of Ownership and rights.

Will Emory and VA work together?

Yes, if VA selects to obtain a right to ownership, they will work with Emory's Tech Transfer Office to sort out ownership issues, licenses etc.

The VA did not make any contribution to my invention. Am I still required to submit a VA disclosure?

Yes. Many employees believe that if an invention is not made during official working hours or with no contribution of the VA, a disclosure of the invention is not necessary. Even if VA made no contribution towards an invention, i.e., the invention was made entirely outside official working hours, unrelated to VA employment, and with no use of VA facilities, equipment, etc., **a VA disclosure is still required by Federal law**. Following receipt of a disclosure, the Technology Transfer office will review the file and make a recommendation regarding ownership and submit it to the Office of General Counsel (OGC). OGC will review the facts presented in the disclosure and issue a legal determination of rights. (http://vaww.research.va.gov/programs/tech_transfer/faq.cfm)