

UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER POLICY MANUAL

Chapter No. 701

PHS Policy for Technology Transfer Awards

A. PURPOSE

This Manual Chapter sets forth the Public Health Services (PHS) policy for granting cash awards to PHS employees who make outstanding contributions that promote technology transfer.

B. BACKGROUND

The primary mission of PHS research laboratories is to acquire new knowledge through the conduct and support of biomedical research to improve the health of the American people. PHS pursues this mission through basic and applied biomedical research. However, some research results must be transferred to the private sector for subsequent commercial development and manufacture in order to realize public health benefit. An incentive program that rewards outstanding technology transfer activities is one means of promoting the transfer of such research results to the public. The Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986 (FTTA), 15 USC § 3710, as amended, provides PHS with the authority to establish a cash awards program for specified Federal employees who make outstanding contributions that promote technology transfer.

C. POLICY

The primary purpose of the FTTA is to ensure that Federal agencies actively promote the transfer of scientific discoveries and technologies from Federal laboratories to public use. PHS policy, consistent with 15 U.S.C. § 3710(b), is to recognize with Technology Transfer Awards those employees who contribute their skill, energy, and expertise to the advancement of the public health through technology transfer.

In accordance with the FTTA, PHS employees may receive awards abased on: (1) inventions, innovations, computer software, or other outstanding scientific or technological contributions of value to the United States due to commercial application or due to contributions to missions of the Federal agency or the Federal Government, or (2) exemplary activities that promote the domestic transfer of science and technology development within the Federal Government and result in utilization of such science and technology by American industry or business, universities State or local governments, or other non-Federal parties. (15 U.S.C. § 3710b (1996)).

D. EFFECTIVE DATE

The policy set forth in this Manual Chapter is effective March 8, 2012 and supersedes in its entirety the policy in PHS Technology Transfer Policy Manual Chapter 312, which was first approved on March 17, 1999.

E. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on this Manual Chapter, contact the Office of Technology Transfer, NIH, (301) 496-7057 or <http://www.ott.nih.gov/contact-us>