

2026 Technology Transfer Internship Program

Are you a graduate student looking to explore alternative career paths beyond the bench? Do you want to complement your scientific training with real-world experience at the intersection of science, business, and law?

The Center for Technology Transfer and Commercialization at Vanderbilt University is now accepting applications for its 2026 paid internship program.

Technology transfer is the process of moving university inventions—such as therapeutics, medical devices, and software—into the marketplace, where they can benefit society and fuel economic growth. It's a dynamic, interdisciplinary field that combines science and engineering with business development and legal strategy.

After initial training, interns will work closely with CTTC's licensing professionals to:

- Evaluate the technical, commercial, and legal potential of new Vanderbilt technologies
- Conduct market research and competitive analyses
- Draft marketing materials and prepare outreach campaigns for potential licensees

Additional projects may also be assigned throughout the internship based on the ever-evolving needs of the various teams within CTTC.

Eligibility

- Current graduate student in a science or engineering discipline
- Available to commit ~8 hours per week from June through December, with the option to extend. Interns are expected to be in person on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays during initial training phase, after which a hybrid/remote schedule is possible. CTTC offers flexibility to accommodate research responsibilities, lab meetings, conferences, and other academic obligations.
- Verbal approval from your research advisor

Desired Qualifications

- Interest in intellectual property, business development, and technology commercialization
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to understand technical concepts outside of their specialty and explain them to non-specialists
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously
- Willingness to work on projects outside your specific field of study
- Preference will be given to students who have passed qualifying exams and completed required coursework

Benefits

- Develop transferable skills valued across industries while gaining exposure to the deep tech commercialization process. Past interns have built on their experience to go into careers in tech transfer, consulting, IP law, business development, and medical affairs.
- Unless funded by a grant that does not permit it, interns will be paid \$16/hour.

How to Apply

Email the following materials to cttc.internship@vanderbilt.edu:

1. Cover letter
2. Resume
3. One-page writing sample explaining the significance of a scientific publication, yours or not, to a general audience (include the reference)

Timeline

- June 1: Applications due
- June 1-5: Virtual interviews
- June 16: Start of internship

For any questions or to submit an application, please reach out to **cttc.internship@vanderbilt.edu**.

Note: This is a competitive program and acceptance is not guaranteed. Participation does not imply or guarantee future employment at Vanderbilt or elsewhere.