

Graduate Research School

Confidentiality and Intellectual Property Toolkit

This toolkit links to a range of proforma agreements and forms designed to help higher degree by research students and supervisors with commercial confidentiality, confidentiality agreements, intellectual property agreements, student intellectual property rights and reassignment of these rights.

Confidentiality and Intellectual Property Questionnaire

If you are unsure if your project requires confidentiality or intellectual property agreements, you may find this questionnaire useful.



[Intellectual Property Questionnaire](#)

Confidentiality Agreements

When student projects are funded by an external body there may be certain restrictions placed on the publication of information or research results. All obligations which affect the thesis and its publication should be written down as part of the correspondence and agreements with the relevant bodies. A copy of these agreements should be provided to the Graduate Research School.



The UWA Risk and Legal Office can provide confidentiality agreement templates on request. Supervisors should contact admin-riskandlegal@uwa.edu.au to request a template.

Intellectual Property Agreements

The principal forms of intellectual property that may affect students are patents, copyright, plant breeders rights, circuit layout rights, trademarks and registered designs. Copies of all Intellectual Property agreements should be provided to the Graduate Research School.

Student Re-assignment of Intellectual Property

In the University Policy on Intellectual Property - Section 2 Ownership of Intellectual Property created by a Student, the policy states “Unless the Student has agreed in writing to assign Intellectual Property to others, the Student owns Intellectual Property created by that Student”.



[Reassignment Of Student Intellectual Property Rights - Student Deed Poll](#)

Restricted Access to Thesis

If a student's thesis or other work contains confidential material, or private records or material, or if the student is in an employment or other contract relationship with a third party that made the restriction a condition of the contract, a student may request to restrict access to the thesis or other work.



[Application for Restricted Access to Thesis Form](#)

Supporting Policies, Rules & Guides

- [University Policy on Intellectual Property](#)
- [UWA Rules for Rules for Higher Degrees by Research](#): Intellectual property, confidentiality
- [Graduate Research School advice on Confidentiality and Intellectual Property](#)
- [UWA Library Research Data Management Toolkit: Intellectual Property](#)

Queries & Independent Legal Advice

The UWA Risk and Legal Office consider students a separate entity from the University, and are only able to act for and take instructions from the University, through the Graduate Research School and/or UWA supervisors. As such the Risk and Legal Office will not advise students directly.

For supervisors: Supervisors should direct any questions to the Risk and Legal Office using the email admin-riskandlegal@uwa.edu.au.

For students: The UWA Risk and Legal Office will liaise with Graduate Research School and/or UWA supervisors but will not advise students directly. Students can obtain independent legal advice from a legal practitioner of choice before signing any agreements, to assist their understanding of the legal consequences of signing.