



## **NIST Needs Your Feedback**

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is launching a Return on Investment (ROI) Initiative to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Federal technology transfer system. The initiative will identify opportunities to improve Federal technology transfer efforts, policies, and practices. A Request for Information has just been [published](#) soliciting feedback from stakeholders. While AUTM is working with the higher education community on a formal response, we strongly encourage our member institutions to offer their own comments in support of a strong technology transfer ecosystem. Your voice matters.

There is a 90-day response deadline to submit comment on the following four questions:

- What are the core Federal technology transfer principles and practices that should be protected, and those which should be adapted or changed?
- What are the issues that pose systemic challenges to the effective transfer of technology, knowledge, and capabilities resulting from Federal R&D? Please consider those identified in the RFI as well as others that may have inhibited collaborations with Federal laboratories, access to other federally funded R&D, or commercialization of technologies resulting from Federal R&D.
- What is the proposed solution for each issue that poses a systemic challenge to the effective transfer of technology, knowledge, and capabilities resulting from Federal R&D? Please consider the approaches identified in the RFI.
- What are other ways to significantly improve the transfer of technology, knowledge, and capabilities resulting from Federal R&D to benefit U.S. innovation and the economy? What changes would these proposed improvements require to Federal technology transfer practices, policies, regulations, and legislation?

NIST has announced [four public forums](#) to discuss these questions in the coming months. The forums, which will be limited to 50 participants each, will be held in San Jose, CA (May 17), Denver, CO (May 21), Chicago, IL (May 31), and Gaithersburg, MD (June 14). You may want to coordinate with your government affairs staff to see if your university can participate in-person at one of these events.