AS A STUDENT, CAN I APPLY FOR A PATENT?

Do you have an invention?

Check internet and patent databases to see if the invention is really new. More information can be found at the TU Delft Student portal

NO → **Go invent something!**

YES ↓

Is your invention disclosed?

Did you tell anyone about it, or post it on the internet?

YES → **In The Netherlands and the EU, disclosed ideas cannot be patented, as the disclosure leads to the invention having lost its novelty by the time you try to patent it.**

NO ↓

Are you the sole inventor?

Is there anyone else involved in your research or invention?

NO → **Determine the percentages of contributions of every inventor** → **Are you on the same page about whether or not to patent?**

Get to a clear agreement

YES ↓

Did you sign a contract or make (implicit) agreements about IP ownership?

YES → **Follow the contract or agreements**

NO ↓

You might be able to patent the invention

YES ↓

Do any of your co-inventors work at the TU Delft?

NO → **Do any of your co-inventors work at a company?**

NO → **You might be able to patent the invention**

YES ↓ **Discuss patent application with the company (but read the IP information provided through the TU Delft Student Portal first!)**

YES ↓

If one of the inventors works at TU Delft, an Invention Disclosure Form (IDF) can be filled in through the TU Delft Inventor Portal. If all inventors are students, please contact the I&IC Patent team to create an account.

↓

Is it patentable?

NO → **There might be other options for protection and/or entrepeneurship, look at the TU Delft Student portal for information**

YES ↓

Discuss patent application with I&IC IP Manager

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Do you want to do this by yourself?

NO → **TU Delft can pay for your patent application costs, then will become the owner of the patent and look for the best way to generate impact for society. You will be listed as the inventor and profit from the TU Delft 1/3 policy. If you want to use the patent yourself, you can negotiate about the conditions for a license.**

YES ↓

Apply for patent. Look at NL Octrooibureau, EPO or TU Delft Student portal for information. Keep in mind patent attorney costs.

TU Delft

Contact info: patent@tudelft.nl