**Get a Good Start:**

*Subcontracting and Conflicts of Interest*

*Tip Sheet for Entrepreneurs*

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**Discuss your Plans:**

Combining company and Penn State research can present challenges

- Talk about your plans with COI Staff and your Department Head to identify potential concerns and ensure all checks and reviews are completed prior to submitting proposals.

**Contact the COI Office:**

Your Significant Financial Interests must be disclosed

- Complete or update your disclosure in COINS as early as possible.
- COI Staff can assist you and provide additional guidance as you move forward.

**Identify Research Facilities:**

A company should have its own research facilities as soon as possible

- Where will research take place? Talk to the Financial Officer within your College if you are considering the use of Penn State equipment or facilities.

**Be Distinct:**

Company and Penn State research activities must be kept separate

- It is not advisable to serve as the Penn State PI on awards originating with your company.
- Nor should you serve as PI on both sides of any award.
- Appointing a family member to serve as PI at your company is not recommended.

**Most Importantly: Be Transparent**

- Protect yourself, your research, your business interests, and Penn State by being fully transparent.

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Contact the COI Office: coistaff@psu.edu