

Inventorship – *When collaborating on a project that is potentially patentable, how do you determine who the inventors are?*

- **Required** to be named as an inventor^[1]:
 - An inventor must have contributed to the conception of the claimed invention, e.g., conception of physical structure or operative steps.
- **Not required** to be named as an inventor^[1]:
 - An inventor is not required to personally reduce the invention to practice, i.e., to personally construct or test their invention if this does not require inventive skill.
 - Joint inventors are not required to (1) physically work together or at the same time, (2) make the same type or amount of contribution, or (3) make a contribution to every claim of the patent.
- Collaborators who are typically **not inventors**^[1,2]:
 - Someone who suggested an idea of a problem to be solved or a result to be accomplished, but not the means of accomplishing it.
 - A technician who only performed experiments or assembled the invention.
 - The manager of the person who conceived the invention.