

Professional Registered ORTA (PRO[®]) Requirements



APPLICATION GUIDELINES

To qualify for the PRO[®] program, candidates must meet the requirements below. Submissions will be reviewed by a committee of technology transfer peers.

Applicants must be a member of a Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer (FLC) member lab or agency with an active role in technology transfer, including a demonstrated:

- Deep understanding of the practices and principles of federal technology transfer
- Hands-on application within one or more of the FLC career path fields: Intellectual Property, Agreements, ORTA Management, Technology Marketing
- Proof of continuing education and training for the prior three years regarding federal technology transfer to remain relevant in the community
- Attendance at the FLC National Meeting within the past three years
- Completion of at least three FLC educational offerings in the profession, OR service as a trainer/subject matter expert in the development of at least one FLC training to share expertise with others

Applications will be evaluated through the following process:

- Submission of a CV/resume (must have at least three years of experience in federal tech transfer)
- A written statement summarizing achievements, projects, and/or research that allows a review board to understand the individual's achievements and experience
- Review of the material by a cross-agency peer review panel of senior technology professionals from FLC member laboratories and agencies to determine if the requirements are satisfactory



1. FLC MEMBER LAB

Applicants of the PRO[®] program must be in an FLC member lab or agency. Congress designated the members of the FLC as the federal labs and their parent agencies (see 15 USC 3710(e) and 15 USC 3703(4)).

The FLC uses the [Master Government List of Federally Funded R&D Centers \(FFRDCs\)](#) maintained by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to determine which labs are designated as FFRDCs. If you wish to be considered a lab, or if you are a new lab, the FLC works with your [Agency Representative](#) to determine the status. The agency determines which labs are on the list and can update the list with the NSF. For more information, see 15 USC 3703(4) and the [FLC Bylaws](#).

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2. CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Applicants must have:

- Attended at least three FLC webinars (live or on-demand) within the last three years of the application window, OR served as a trainer/subject matter expert in the development of at least one FLC training to share expertise with others
- Participated in one FLC National Meeting (virtual or in-person) within the last three years of the application window

3. RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Applicant's resume/CV must demonstrate at least three years of service in the federal technology transfer profession (or a role with similar skills) within a member lab or agency.

In 1,000 words or less, applicants must outline relevant professional experience and skills in the following areas:

- **Intellectual Property Management:**
Protection and transfer of IP rights to advance technology innovation and increase understanding of patents, copyright, and trademarks, including the ability to identify, develop, and license IP
- **Agreements:**
Partnering with external parties to advance the development of new technology and innovations; knowledge of partnering agreements, including CRADAs, MTAs, and other types of public-private partnering mechanisms
- **Marketing/ Business Development:**
Promotion of laboratory capabilities leading to partnerships and transfer of technology to the private sector; includes determining a value proposition, targeting various audiences/sectors, developing program materials, and communication/outreach
- **Operations/ Administration:**
Understanding of the background, mission, and implementation of technology transfer practices; includes legal framework, communication, and leadership in the field, the structure and practice of tech transfer to achieve lab/agency mission objectives



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4. RELEVANT SKILLS AND CORE COMPETENCIES

Candidates must demonstrate competencies via a resume and/or statement submission. This requirement can also be fulfilled by completing the CRADA and Foundations courses.

- **CRADA Course:** Understanding Cooperative Research and Development Agreements, public-private partnerships, and federal lab collaboration.
 - [CRADA Course: Part 1](#)
 - [CRADA Course: Part 2](#)
- **Foundation Courses:**
 - [Introduction to Technology Transfer](#)
 - [Intellectual Property](#)
 - [Laws, Regulations, and Policies](#)
 - [Working with Scientists and Researchers](#)
 - [What Can FLC Do for You](#)

The PRO[®] Program will provide free access to live and archived FLC webinars, National Meetings, and courses. Upon successful completion of the application process, candidates will receive the PRO[®] designation and entry into the program's registry. Candidates can obtain transcripts, certificates, or attendance records for verification purposes.

For questions, please contact education@federallabs.org

