Bayh-Dole compliance for investigators seeking federal funding

The Bayh-Dole Act (1980) regulates “inventions” (for definitions of this and other terms on this page, see 35 US Code 201 and 35 CFR 401) that are created during federally-funded research projects. Prior to Bayh-Dole, these inventions were often owned by the US government, but Bayh-Dole allowed the college/university receiving the federal funding to own the invention provided that it shares royalties with the invention’s Creator (often the PI). [Note that in complying with Bayh-Dole, the College would refer to its intellectual property (IP) policy, which describes the relative roles of the PI/inventor and the College when IP is involved.]

The Bayh-Dole Act requires a sequence of steps be taken in the event that an invention is created under a federal award. At least three steps impose a responsibility on the investigator/inventor:

1. Notifying the College that an invention has been made, and
2. Assigning title to the invention to the College, and
3. Executing all papers necessary to file patent applications and establish the government’s rights in subject inventions that may be required by regulation.

Per revisions to Bayh-Dole that took effect on May 14, 2018, the College is required to obtain, by written agreement from all investigators/inventors on federally-funded projects that they will take steps (1-3) above. To that end, before the College will apply for federal funding, all investigators who will work on the project must sign the attestation below. Subsequent addition of an investigator to the project can only be made after the investigator signs the attestation.

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I hereby attest that, for any invention made under the federal award

__________________________________________ (provide title of proposal and funding agency)

I will:

- disclose the invention promptly in writing to the Provost’s Office, and
- and hereby do promptly assign to Haverford College the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, and
- execute any papers as part of patent applications or to establish the US government’s rights in subject inventions, according to the College’s determination of how to comply with the Bayh-Dole Act.

Signed: ________________________________ Date: ___________________________

(As per the regulations, a written signature is required. Please print this form, sign, scan, and email to hc-aor@haverford.edu.)