

STUDENT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & CONFIDENTIALITY DEED

Some organisations request that the Intellectual Property created on a placement be owned by the organisation. This Fact Sheet provides some information to assist you in understanding the University Deed you may be asked to sign.

What is a Deed?

A Deed is a legally binding document that you sign, where you promise or commit to do something. This Deed is about what happens to the Intellectual Property you may create and how you will treat any Confidential Information you may come across as part of your WIL program.

Why have I been given the Deed?

Intellectual Property part of the Deed

The company that you are doing your placement with as has requested that the Intellectual Property you create when on placement be owned by the company. This is usual business practice (where a company generally keeps the Intellectual Property created by its employees) but it is not usual University practice where students retain all the Intellectual Property rights in the work they create as students.

As a result of the difference between usual University practice and the wishes of the Company, to complete the placement you need to assign some of your rights to the Intellectual Property you create when on placement. Below is more information about what IP you can continue to use.

Confidential Information part of the Deed

The Deed also requires you to abide by some confidentiality requirements. This means that if you come across some information that is confidential during your time at the company, you cannot disclose this. This information could be commercial information that the company does not want its competitors to know about or personal information about people.

However, whatever that confidential information is, you will be required to agree to not copy that information or publish it in any way (including on electronic media) without first getting the consent of the company.

What rights do I keep?

You retain a right to use the IP as part of your education and research. This means you can submit assignments, essays, exams etc utilising the work you did as part of the placement. You can also tell future employers of your placement, the work you performed at the placement and can put this information on your resume and job applications. Apart from any confidentiality restrictions you can tell anyone you choose about your involvement and the work you performed. You just do not actually own the work (just as you would not own the work if you created it as an employee of the company).

What if I don't sign the Deed?

If you do not wish to sign the Deed, even after seeking legal advice, you should speak to your lecturer or placement coordinator about your concerns. If you still do not wish to sign, you may not be able to undertake the placement at a company that has requested the IP rights. This may limit the placements you can undertake. You may still be required to sign a confidentiality deed.

Work
Integrated
Learning (WIL)

MORE INFORMATION

MORE INFORMATION ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

See the Fact Sheet –
**Intellectual Property and
WIL Placements**

Your WIL team has this
(see below for contacts)

WIL TEAMS

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edu.au

[www.latrobe.edu.au/students/
opportunities/wil-placements/
contact](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/opportunities/wil-placements/contact)

LEGAL ADVICE

You should seek legal
advice if you have any
queries about the Deed.

You may be able to seek
advice from the La Trobe
Student Union Legal
Service or from your local
community legal centre.
See:

latrobesu.org.au/legal

or

www.fclc.org.au