



Could your copyright-based innovation have broader impact?

Intellectual property goes beyond patents

You may have developed a tool that is already making a difference with our researchers, students, or communities. What if enhanced visibility and broader adoption were to make your copyright-protected innovation even more impactful? CoMotion partners with authors of original work to license innovations to third parties.

Here are types of copyright based innovations that have been licensed from the UW:

 Databases*	 Models
 Software	 Educational games
 Produced videos	 Diagnostic questionnaires
 Maps	
 Authored program materials / training materials	

Does my copyright need to be registered?

Not necessarily. Common law copyright protection is automatically granted when an original work is fixed in a tangible medium, be it writing or sound recordings. A © symbol may be used to denote copyright, even when the work is not registered. Registration is an extra step that may be taken when licensing into a commercial entity is being considered. Copyright registration provides a public record of ownership and may make statutory damages and attorney's fees available in infringement cases.

What if I co-authored material?

Joint authorship applies when two or more authors intend to combine copyrightable contributions into one work. Joint owners share rights equally, and have reporting and sharing obligations to each other, unless they agree otherwise.

What are the standards for “originality” in authorship?

Copyright originality has a low threshold: the work must be independently created and contain at least a minimal amount of creativity. This means that software, databases, training materials may all qualify as original authorship.

COPYRIGHT PROTECTION COVERS ORIGINAL WORKS OF AUTHORSHIP IN A FIXED, TANGIBLE MEDIUM.

What does copyright protect?

- Software
- Literary works
- Musical works
- Audiovisual works
- Architectural works
- Sound recordings
- Artistic works
- Choreographic works

What does copyright NOT protect?

- Ideas
- Facts
- Recipes
- Procedures and systems
- Utilitarian items
- Titles



CONNECT WITH A COMOTION INNOVATION MANAGER TO LEARN IF YOUR INNOVATION CAN BE LICENSED

*For databases, the data itself is factual and therefore not protected by copyright, but the arrangement and structural presentation of data is considered original authorship