

The University of Michigan Regents Communication

Request for Action

Subject: Regental Action Required Under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute

Action Requested: Authorization for the university to amend a contract with Morph Biosciences, LLC (University of Michigan Employee, David Olson, Owner and Member)

Background:

The University of Michigan Medical School Office of Research Fast Forward Medical Innovation unit seeks approval to amend a contract with Morph Biosciences, LLC for the lead instructor services for Aikens Innovation Academy.

The proposed contract falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as David Olson is employed by the University as Mentor in Residence with the Innovation Partnerships and would be a party to the contract as owner and member of Morph Biosciences, LLC.

However, the Statute allows the university to enter into such contracts if the following conditions are met:

- 1) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the contract to the official body which has power to approve the purchase, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.
- 2) The purchase is approved by a vote of not less than 2/3 of the full membership of the approving body in open session without the vote of the public servant making the disclosure.
- 3) The official body discloses the following summary information in its official minutes:
 - a) The name of each party involved in the contract.
 - b) The terms of the purchase, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the purchase, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the purchase.
 - c) The nature of any pecuniary interest.

The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (3) above:

- a) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its UMMS Office of Research – Fast Forward Medical Innovation unit and Morph Biosciences, LLC.
- b) The contract is for lead instructor services for Aikens Innovation Academy at a total cost not to exceed \$54,106. Morph Biosciences, LLC will supply the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions are typical to those used in Procurement Services standard templates for other similar contracts entered into by the Regents.
- c) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, David Olson, is owner and member of Morph Biosciences LLC.

Daivd Olson has met state law requirements with the disclosure of his pecuniary interest and formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan. Requirements, if any, that may be applicable by the supervisor of David Olson under the UMMS Office of Research – Fast Forward Medical Innovation unit or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee's procedures are separately analyzed and managed.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the contract between the University of Michigan and Morph Biosciences, LLC. subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of David Olson or the UMMS Office of Research – Fast Forward Medical Innovation unit or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Hewlett III
Executive Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

October 2026