



Proposal Submission



Award and Account Establishment



After Research Commences



Closeout

## What kinds of equipment or items might be controlled under U.S. export control regulations?

There is a wide range of equipment or items that may trigger export control considerations, even when used within the United States. Examples of such items include, but are not limited to:

- Night-Vision Goggles
- Encryption Items and Technology
- Rockets
- Propellants
- High-Powered Lasers
- GPS Units
- Satellites
- Spacecraft
- Some UAVs (Drones)
- Semiconductor

The Office of Ethics and Compliance (OEC) periodically monitors research equipment that may be or is subject to U.S. export control and economic sanctions laws and regulations.

## Certain equipment we use in my lab is export-controlled, but I conduct fundamental research that includes foreign nationals on the research team. What are some examples of equipment usage that might raise export control considerations?

Most usage of research-related equipment in the university context are not controlled under the export control regulations, particularly where the equipment is simply being used as a tool to assist in the conduct of research and the research team is not engaged in “development”, “production”, or “use” of the equipment.

However, if the research team will be engaged in these activities or if the equipment is considered a defense article under the International Traffic in Arms (ITAR) regulations, an export license may be required. For guidance on whether the use of research equipment in your lab amounts to an export-controlled activity that may require a license before foreign nationals may participate, please contact OEC for guidance before engaging in any activities (see contact information below).

Examples of potential uses of equipment that might raise export control considerations include:

- Receipt of or obtaining equipment that bears an Export Control Classification Number or “ECCN” (e.g., 3A001), or is provided with a “Distribution Statement” or other restrictive legend.
- Receipt of or obtaining equipment that is marked as controlled under the ITAR or has a United States Munitions List (USML) category (e.g., Cat. V(b) rocket propellants).
- Development of a prototype integrating the equipment.
- Usage of the equipment or item in research that has publication and/or personnel restrictions (such as restrictions based on nationality).
- Taking or sending equipment to any destination outside the United States, even temporarily.

For more information on what constitutes “development,” “production,” or “use,” please contact OEC.

## I'd like to learn more about equipment use and export controls. Where can I find additional information?

For additional information about export control compliance and controlled equipment, consult the [Office of Ethics and Compliance](#) or email Emily Pender, Assistant Director of Export Control Compliance, at [epender@usc.edu](mailto:epender@usc.edu).

