



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Executive Action Summary

Audit, Risk, & Compliance-Attachment 1a

APPROVED

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

Date: September 11, 2026

Committee Name: Audit, Risk, & Compliance

Agenda Item: Michigan State University (MSU) and Fraunhofer USA, Inc. Master Services Agreement

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Information

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Discussion

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Action

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby approves a Master Services Agreement with Fraunhofer USA, Inc. consistent with the term sheet now presented to the Board of Trustees for its inclusion in its minutes.

Recommendation:

The Trustee Committee on Audit, Risk, & Compliance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the agreement between Michigan State University and Fraunhofer USA, Inc. in which Michigan State University faculty member, Dr. Thomas Schuelke, serves as the President.

Prior Action by BOT:

Not applicable.

Responsible Officers:

Shashank Priya, Vice President for Research and Innovation

Summary:

The proposed Master Services Agreement is designed to cover those transactions which are necessary to make the collaboration between Michigan State University and Fraunhofer USA, Inc. function efficiently.

Background Information:

The attached term sheet summarizes the agreement between Michigan State University and Fraunhofer USA, Inc.

Source of Funds:

Will vary based on the needs of individual research collaborations.

Resource Impact:

The existing Collaboration Agreement covers the use of facilities and Personnel. The Master Services Agreement will not change the current personnel and facilities policies that exist under the Collaboration Agreement.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

TERM SHEET

Party:

Fraunhofer USA, Inc.

Project Description:

In late 2024 MSU and Fraunhofer USA, Inc. entered into a Collaboration Agreement to perform scientific research in coatings, diamond electronics, industrial lasers, and other advanced material applications. As part of the Collaboration Agreement Fraunhofer USA, Inc. agreed to establish its Center Midwest on MSU's Campus. The Collaboration Agreement also sets forth a procedure to allow MSU employees to be assigned to work at the Center as part of their appointment at MSU with the work they perform at the Center being reimbursed by Fraunhofer USA, Inc. as appropriate. In the course of performance of the Collaboration Agreement it has come to light that certain payments are required to be made between the parties rather than merely the reimbursement of assigned employee time. The proposed Master Services Agreement is designed to cover those transactions which are necessary to make the collaboration between MSU and Fraunhofer USA, Inc. function efficiently.



Term:

The term of this Master Services Agreement shall be coextensive with the existing Collaboration Agreement which runs through December 31, 2029.

Financial Terms:

Will vary based on the needs of individual research collaborations.

Services Provided:

By MSU to company: The use of equipment connected with the existing collaboration agreement between MSU and Fraunhofer USA, Inc., services as a sub awardee of grants administered by Fraunhofer USA, Inc. as the primary grantee.

By company to MSU: The use of equipment connected with the existing collaboration agreement between MSU and Fraunhofer USA, Inc. and services as a sub awardee on grants administered by MSU as the primary grantee.

**Use of University
Facilities/
Personnel:**

The existing Collaboration Agreement covers the use of facilities and Personnel. The Master Services Agreement will not change the current personnel and facilities policies that exist under the Collaboration Agreement.

Office of
**RESEARCH
AND INNOVATION**

Shashank Priya, Ph.D.
Vice President

Hannah Administration Bldg.
426 Auditorium Rd, Rm 249
East Lansing, MI 48824

517/355-0306
Fax: 517/432-1171

priyash1@msu.edu

**Organization Type
and Domicile:**

Fraunhofer USA, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation headquartered in Plymouth, Michigan, and currently does business as the Center Midwest in East Lansing, Michigan

Personnel Interest:

Dr. Thomas Schuelke, Professor in the Department of Engineering, serves as the President of Fraunhofer USA, Inc.