

Michelle L. McMullen, Ph.D.

SHAREHOLDER
she / her / hers

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Dr. Michelle McMullen leverages her 20 years of intellectual property experience and her understanding of biotechnology, pharmaceutical and medical technologies to offer clients real world perspective and guidance. Her strategic patent counseling includes developing comprehensive IP strategies for licensing, patent-related disputes, patentability requirements and freedom to operate concerns.

Michelle's practice includes patent procurement, patent enforcement and global patent estate management, in the areas of biologics, stem cell technologies, medical device, peptide and cell therapeutics, metabolomics, diagnostics, vaccines, regenerative medicine, water treatment and food processing.

When representing biotechnology companies, university clients and start-ups, Michelle works closely with licensing, regulatory, litigation and foreign counsel to strategically coordinate international patent prosecution. Michelle's IP diligence practice includes assessment of the strength and weakness of client and third party patent portfolios and recommendations for maximizing value of patent portfolios.

Education

- Northwestern University (Ph.D.)
 - Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cellular Biology
- DePaul University College of Law (J.D.)
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (B.S.)
 - Microbiology

Bar Admissions

- Illinois
- North Carolina
- Admitted to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Capabilities

- Life Sciences
- Intellectual Property Counseling & Opinions
- Biotechnology & Life Sciences Patent Prosecution
- Intellectual Property Patent Preparation & Prosecution
- International
- Medical Devices
- Licensing & Transactions
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Hatch-Waxman & Biologics

Memberships

- Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM)
- Licensing Executive Society (LES)

Recognition

- Selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers in America*® for Patent Law, 2024-2026

Publications

November 17, 2025

New USPTO IDS Fees Raise Strategic Stakes for Biotech Filings

November 10, 2025

New Continuation Fee Among 2025 USPTO Changes Impacting Biotech

November 5, 2025

USPTO Launches Streamlined Claim Set Pilot to Accelerate Patent Examination