

Engineering programs at colleges and universities are reaching out to local adaptive programs to contribute their expertise to collaborate on design and production of adaptive equipment. These projects are a great opportunity to open new doors and advance adaptive sports. That being said, there are several considerations that should be addressed prior to proceeding with potential projects.

## **Vet the Project/Program**

- What is the program's area of expertise?
- What is the goal of the project?
- Does the goal of the project align with your goals/mission or would participation be mission creep?
- What is the return on investment for your program?

## **What is the nature of the relationship?**

- Define what each entity is responsible for. Who is doing what?
- What is expected of your group? Expertise? Time? Financial commitment?

## **What is the end goal?**

- Will the project create a concept of a product or the actual product for use within your program?
- Is the product specific to one athlete/program or does it have broader implications within adaptive sports?
- Is the final product sustainable? Is there a mechanism in place for reproduction?

## **Liability Considerations**

- Does the academic program have insurance/coverage in place for products they manufacture?
- What does your insurance coverage say about manufacturing products for use within your program?
- Is additional coverage required? Who should hold any additional coverage?

If your member organization is interested in learning more about potential opportunities to work with engineering programs, please contact [Kyleen Davis](#).