



Life Sciences

WilmerHale is recognized both globally and nationally for its leading and long-standing life sciences practice. As counsel of choice to the industry, our lawyers apply practical and innovative legal solutions to our clients' businesses, and deliver exceptional market insight, client service and value. Our teams draw on deep sector expertise in advising our life sciences clients and leading complex deals and matters in the industry, navigating market dynamics and adapting to evolving regulatory and competitive demands.

PRACTICE AT A GLANCE

- We represent biotechnology, pharmaceutical, diagnostic and medical device companies at all stages of growth, as well as investors, founders, research organizations and academic institutions.
- Our team includes nearly 200 lawyers throughout the firm who support the life sciences industry as a core part of their practice, leveraging decades of strategic focus firmwide.
- We offer full-service capabilities and multidisciplinary teams who work seamlessly to handle a broad range of matters for our life sciences clients.
- We regularly advise clients through complex transactions critical to growth, including venture financings, public offerings, mergers and acquisitions, foreign investment transactions, cross-border deals, and licensing agreements and strategic collaborations.



**Top Law Firm for
Life Sciences**

*Band 1 Nationwide
Band 1 Massachusetts
Band 3 California*

2024-2025



**Top Law Firm for
Life Sciences**

2013-2025



**Biotechnology
Law Firm of the Year**

2024



**US Life Cycle
Firm**

2012-2025

EARLY-STAGE IMPACT

We work with life sciences clients throughout their lifecycles – from formation through financings, R&D and commercialization – offering counsel and critical support at each stage.

As trusted advisors working in partnership with our industry clients, we help navigate market conditions and the full range of options for growth and raising capital, drawing on complementary practices to anticipate and meet our clients' evolving needs efficiently and to advance their business objectives.

BROAD EXPERIENCE ACROSS DEAL TYPES

With one of the top **venture capital** practices in the United States, our lawyers have vast experience supporting early to late-stage companies and venture and growth investors on financings, including some of the largest and most prominent deals of the year.

Our **licensing** lawyers—many of whom have scientific and technical backgrounds—regularly structure, prepare and negotiate complex strategic alliances, joint ventures, licensing and option transactions and are highly regarded for creative deal leadership and practical advice, crafting transactions that are responsive to client needs and short and long-term goals.

We've led virtually every type of **M&A** transaction in the life sciences industry, including stock-for-stock mergers, reverse mergers, cash mergers, tender offers, acquisitions and dispositions of divisions, product lines and spin-offs, drawing on experience representing both targets and acquirers. Our lawyers possess deep knowledge of structured transactions, including options transactions, and royalty and milestone-based life sciences deals.

Clients rely on us to guide them through their options for growth including through accessing the **capital markets**. We maintain a leading market position for IPOs as both issuer and underwriter counsel, and pride ourselves on helping our company clients prepare for and transition into public company operations.

Across all deals that we execute, a dedicated core team maintains an active role working alongside our clients to provide informed, proactive counsel and ensure that specialists (including from our tax, IP, FDA, and other regulatory areas) and resources are leveraged efficiently and effectively to the highest standard. We are invested in our clients' success and our relationship for the long-term.

LIFECYCLE CAPABILITIES

- Capital Markets
- Corporate Governance
- and Disclosure
- Cybersecurity and Data Privacy
- Debt Finance
- Executive Compensation and Benefits
- FDA Regulatory
- IP Counseling and Prosecution
- Labor and Employment
- Licensing and Strategic Collaborations
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Real Estate
- Tax
- Venture Financings



“Offers formidable strength in the corporate space, advising on private financings, IPOs, strategic partnerships and M&A deals... ‘They are easy to work with and understand the importance of the issues to their clients.’”

— Chambers USA 2024
(Nationwide Life Sciences)

OUR WORK ADVISING PUBLIC COMPANIES

We leverage our market-leading capital markets, debt finance and corporate governance and disclosure practices to support clients ranging from newly public to more established publicly-traded life sciences companies and market leaders.

Our insight has been developed by serving as outside counsel to hundreds of US and non-US public companies that regularly seek our advice on sensitive and critical governance and disclosure questions. With a team that includes former SEC senior staff members, our lawyers provide a unique combination of substantive knowledge, practical experience and skill.

We work closely with clients to address new disclosure requirements, technical compliance developments, and emerging hot-button governance and disclosure issues.

Our corporate lawyers draw on the firm's preeminent securities enforcement and regulatory practices when clients encounter corporate crises (related to disclosure, whistleblower complaints or internal investigations) or need guidance on important public policy issues. This close collaboration enables us to assist clients with disclosure, governance and compliance issues based on real, multi-disciplinary experience with similar situations, our vast knowledge of the life sciences industry and an in-depth understanding of the SEC's current thinking on key issues.

We advise on SEC and stock exchange requirements, shareholder proposals, corporate governance practices, anti-takeover defenses, investor expectations, shareholder activism and emerging best practices.

THE WILMERHALE DIFFERENCE

- Core teams dedicated to each client to provide proactive, responsive and efficient service.
- Consistent senior partner attention and strategic insight on every deal and key issue.
- True partnership with clients that fosters a shared commitment for long-term success and industry advancement.
- Access to elite legal talent across a range of practice areas core to clients' operations and growth objectives.

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

We work closely with numerous venture-backed and publicly traded clients throughout their lifecycles, advising them as corporate and deal counsel and drawing on the full capabilities of the firm for a broad range of matters.

