Pan-European Seal
Young Professionals Programme at the EPO
Join us for an extraordinary first employment experience
About the EPO

What we do
The European Patent Office (EPO) examines European patent applications, enabling inventors, researchers and companies from around the world to obtain protection for their inventions in up to 44 countries through a centralised and uniform procedure that requires just one application.

Our mission
As the patent office for Europe, we are proud to deliver high-quality patents and efficient services that foster innovation, competitiveness and economic growth.
The EPO at a glance

34 different nationalities

Our locations:
Munich (headquarters),
The Hague, Berlin,
Vienna and Brussels

2nd largest intergovernmental institution in Europe

3 official languages

6,261 employees, of which around 4,000 highly qualified patent examiners working in all fields of technology
Today ... an area with some 700m inhabitants

39 European member states
Belgium • Germany • France • Luxembourg • Netherlands
Switzerland • United Kingdom • Sweden • Italy • Austria
Liechtenstein • Greece • Spain • Denmark • Monaco
Portugal • Ireland • Finland • Cyprus • Türkiye
Bulgaria • Czech Rep. • Estonia • Slovakia • Slovenia
Hungary • Romania • Poland • Iceland • Lithuania
Latvia • Malta • Croatia • Norway • North Macedonia
San Marino • Albania • Serbia • Montenegro

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Four validation states
Republic of Moldova • Morocco • Tunisia
Cambodia
First job opportunity for the next generation of IP professionals

EPO, via the Pan-European Seal Young Professionals Programme (Pan-Seal YPP)

- co-operates with university partners in fostering IP learning,
- promotes a vibrant IP culture in Europe for knowledge and innovation-based growth,
- offers an attractive/competitive first employment opportunity for young professionals at the EPO,
- grows IP talents and supports the development of IP expertise across Europe.

Every year 100 graduates from partner universities join the EPO, bringing background in different areas:

- Science and engineering
- Information Technologies
- Human resources and business administration
- International relations and communication
- Economics and finance
- Law
Highlights of the programme

First employment experience
Possibility of extension from one up to three years
Coverage by EPO social security scheme (including private health insurance)
Salary conditions (ca. € 2 000 net monthly in the first year, rising to ca. € 3 000 net in the second and third year)
Opportunities for secondments after Yr1
Recruitment criteria

- Nominated by the partner university
- National of an EPO member state
- Excellent in at least one EPO language (English, French, German)
- Bachelor degree or higher
- No previous professional experience required

Interested? Ticking all the boxes? Apply here

For an infographic with further details, please click here: Infographic - Young Professionals at the EPO
Detail on degree requirement

Every shortlisted candidate holding a nationality of one of the EPO member states is eligible to apply if:

- already in hold of diploma degree (Bachelor / Master / PhD)
- or in case of 5-year Master programmes – submitting an attestation from university confirming the bachelor level of so far completed studies (including the number of completed ECTS)
- or candidates who don’t have diploma yet but are in the last year of their Bachelor / Master / PhD studies and expect to receive the diploma at the latest upon the start of the programme (in such case, the application shall contain information on the expected date of completing the studies)
Continuous Development of Young Professionals’ Skills

- **Broaden**: Acquisition of specific and general skills via intensive training and individual tutoring
- **Amplify**: Foster responsibility and a gradual increase in complexity of tasks to amplify contributions
- **Deepen**: Deepen the EPO, IP Knowledge
- **Apply**: Actively share and feedback to the EPO emerging business trends
Timeline

- **DEC**: Programme launch with universities
- **JAN**: Vacancies open
- **28 FEB 15**: Deadline for university shortlist
- **MAR 15**: Deadline for students to submit application
- **APR**: Communication of results to candidates
- **MAY**: Start of programme at EPO
- **JUN**: Communication of results to universities
- **JUL**: AUG
- **15 SEP**:
What do our Young Professionals really think about the programme?

Feel free to embed the video to your info material / website: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqVHwmIVEUc&feature=emb_logo