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Chartered Patent Attorneys

2025/26

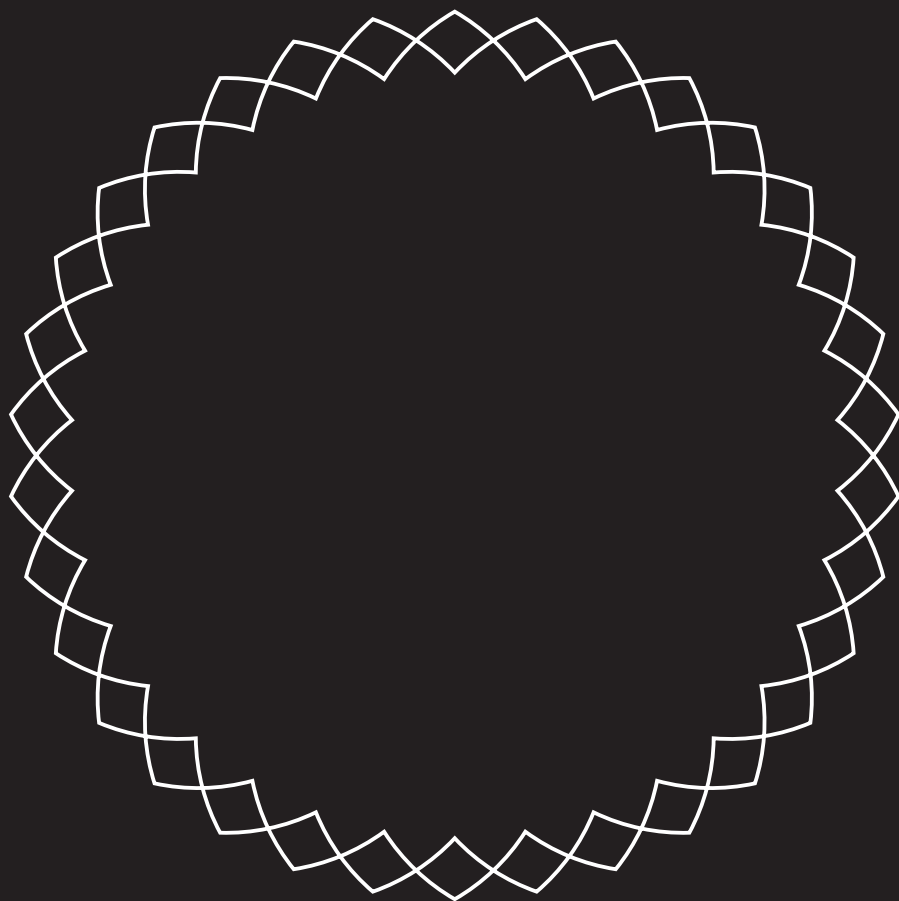
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Award winning. We are one of the world's leading patent law firms, and specialise in high-value and complex patent matters. Our deep expertise and tenacity has led to us being awarded European Patents Disputes Firm of the Year, as well as achieving gold rankings in all six categories in the Financial Times' Europe's Leading Patent Law Firms award list.

High-value complex patents



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Your IP career starts here...

Where science meets law and commerce, working in intellectual property puts you at the forefront of the latest technological development, ideas and inventions, and adds legal skills to your scientific knowledge.

This guide takes you through the basics of becoming a patent attorney, from the minimum requirements needed to join the profession, to the salaries and benefits one can expect at different career levels.

You can also read first-hand reports from patent professionals who are at different stages of their careers, whether it be an Intern, Trainee or Qualified Patent Professional.

There is also an **Employer Directory** and **Job Finder** section at the back of the guide to help you find your future employer - offering you plenty of reasons to join the patent profession before applying for jobs on www.ipcareers.co.uk.

'Should you decide to become a patent attorney, I guarantee you will never be bored.'

Lee Davies, Chief Executive, CIPA

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INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PATENT ATTORNEYS (CIPA)

Introducing the *IP Careers Guide to Chartered Patent Attorneys 2025/26* is CIPA Chief Executive Lee Davies. He tells us of a profession where law, technology and commerce converge, and where the rewards are great for the skillful and diligent practitioner.



Chartered Patent Attorneys are passionate about science, technology and engineering; they are experts in the application of the law as it relates to the protection of intellectual property and they enjoy working with innovators and creatives to take an idea from its most basic concept through to a marketable product which is protected by a well-crafted patent. The patent attorney will have the skills and knowledge to understand the underlying concepts of the original idea and work with the inventor to decide how best to protect the idea to prevent it from being copied.

The patent attorney's work does not end with the granting of the patent. Chartered Patent Attorneys are there to support businesses as they grow and thrive, helping them to defend their IP when others infringe against the protection offered by a patent. There will also be times when businesses are accused of infringing patents belonging to other companies and patent attorneys are the first port of call for expert advice.

Chartered Patent Attorneys are also able to advise on wider IP rights such as the protection of brand identity through trade marks and other rights such as registered designs.

The great 'buzz' about being a patent attorney is the ability to see cutting-edge technological developments as they happen. You will watch businesses grow. You will be there in the thick of it. You will be involved with obtaining patents and other IP rights both in the UK and worldwide, and you will have the opportunity to practice your technological skills, your legal skills and your language skills.

Should you decide to become a patent attorney, you will be joining a profession that has been in existence for more than a hundred years, but which continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of business and industry in the 21st century. I guarantee you will never be bored. ●

Lee Davies is Chief Executive of the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys.



PROFESSION OVERVIEW

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Careers
Advice

WHAT IS A PATENT?

By Mewburn Ellis LLP

A patent is an exclusive right granted by the state allowing its owner to control the commercial exploitation of an invention. The invention can relate to anything from computers and electronics to pharmaceuticals and gene sequences, provided that it is new and is not obvious. The invention must be technical and practical, rather than purely intellectual; methods of playing card games or doing business, however novel and inventive, are not protectable by way of patents.

"A patent is an exclusive right granted by the state allowing its owner to control the commercial exploitation of an invention."

In the UK, someone who invents any of these can ask the UK Intellectual Property Office (IPO) to grant them a patent. However, in return for their exclusive right to use the invention, the state requires that the inventor submits an application describing what the invention is and how to put it into practice. The IPO will then examine the application to assess if a patent should be granted.

Originally, hundreds of years ago, patents were granted directly by the Crown, and the inventor had to petition various courts and other government officials in order to secure the right to stop others using the invention. They did not have to provide much detail of what the invention actually was, though it was necessary sooner or later to provide some sort of description.

Following the industrial revolution, which, of course, produced thousands of new inventions, the system became formalised. Government Patent Offices were set up and the requirements for securing a patent were clarified.

First, one had to make a written submission including a description of the invention and how to put it into practice, as well as some

definitions, these being to define the scope of the patent, i.e. to clarify what others should not do. This would then be examined by officials and, if they agreed that you had an invention and that it was appropriately described and defined, they would give you a patent.

The grant of a patent entitled the 'patentee', for a limited period (originally 14 years, but nowadays 20 years, provided you pay the renewal fees to keep the patent in force), to stop other people using the invention, albeit only in the country or countries where the patent had been obtained.

"The grant of a patent entitled the 'patentee', for a limited period, to stop other people using the invention, albeit only in the country or countries where the patent had been obtained."

In order to render the ability to stop others effective, the description and the definition of the invention needed to be properly drawn up and it was this requirement that led to the development, in the first half of the nineteenth century, of so-called patent engineers, who, rather more than 100 years ago, turned naturally into 'patent agents', that is, agents acting for others to obtain patents and who are now called 'patent attorneys'.

The first and most fundamental requirement, if you are going to write down a description and some definitions of someone else's invention, is to be able to understand it. Most inventions are more or less technically based and accordingly the basic requirement for a patent attorney is technical ability. Almost all entrants to the profession now have a hard science or engineering degree.

The next requirement is to be able to write, not merely to go through the motions, but to

be able to reflect, in language which is clear, unambiguous, and desirably concise, what has been invented, and to be able to draw up a definition which includes within its scope things or processes which make use of the invention or 'underlying inventive idea', but which excludes things that people have done before. This is not so easy to do, but it is a skill which can be acquired by learning and practice.

"The next requirement is to be able to write, not merely to go through the motions, but to be able to reflect, in language which is clear, unambiguous, and desirably concise, what has been invented."

Find out more about what skills are needed to become a patent attorney by reading the **'Essential Skills to become a successful Patent Attorney'** article. ●

Mewburn Ellis is one of Europe's leading Intellectual Property firms. Ranked top tier, they are a firm synonymous with quality and technical excellence. Spread across five offices in Europe, and with over 250 people, their IP experts provide strategic advice about patent, trade mark and registered designs, as well as any IP-related disputes and legal and commercial requirements.

Covering the entire life sciences, chemistry, materials, engineering & electronics fields, their international client base includes large and small companies spanning all industries from iconic international brands to dynamic start-ups.

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WHAT IS A PATENT ATTORNEY?

By Mewburn Ellis LLP

Drafting effective patents requires a unique combination of science, law and language. Working as a patent attorney requires a scientific background to understand new technologies and the ability to explain them to others. Intellectual Property specialists Mewburn Ellis explain more about this interesting and rewarding profession.

“Working as a patent attorney requires a scientific background to understand new technologies and the ability to explain them to others.”

A patent attorney is a member of a specialised legal profession who is qualified to advise clients about patents (and usually other intellectual property rights) and who assists them in obtaining patents granted by patent offices around the world. They may be employed ‘in-house’ by companies or work in private firms (just like solicitors).

If you work in a private firm, you will work for lots of different clients who might be individuals, universities, start-up companies, large corporations or overseas attorneys. A good patent attorney needs to be able to adapt to the different needs of a diverse client base and remain aware of new and emerging technologies.

You do not need a law degree – a degree in a science, engineering, technology or mathematics based subject is strongly preferred. A science/engineering background is required to enable you to understand a client’s invention. You will learn the necessary law on the job. This mix between science/engineering and law is one of the aspects that makes the role of the patent attorney such an interesting career. Training usually takes 4-6 years and you will be required to pass various professional exams to qualify as a Chartered Patent Attorney and a European Patent Attorney.

What does a patent attorney do?

A patent attorney assists their client, or their employer, in obtaining a patent. This includes drafting the description of the invention and the claims, as well as communicating with the patent office to make the case for why a patent should be granted.

“A patent attorney assists their client, or their employer, in obtaining a patent.”

Drafting the description and the claims requires a technical background in order to properly understand the invention and clearly explain it to others. Convincing the patent office that a patent should be granted requires good communication skills and the ability to analyse technical documents to spot what differentiates the new invention from what has already been done. Both require careful, precise writing to ensure that your words convey the exact intended meaning.

Anything else?

There is more to the job than just drafting patents and arguing with examiners. Patents are just one aspect of intellectual property; attorneys also need a good awareness of designs, trade marks and copyright. Knowledge of these other forms of intellectual property is necessary for qualification and attorneys are expected to be able to advise on technical and commercial problems across the whole intellectual property field.

Patents are commercial tools for clients so it is important to develop a knowledge of how they are applied in a business environment. This may include licensing the patent to allow other companies to use the invention, or advising on other contracts, for example developing new technology.

Patent attorneys also need to advise clients on their freedom to operate in a given field. This is done by researching and analysing any intellectual property owned by other

companies and, if necessary, assessing the risk of infringing existing patents. If infringement occurs, or is alleged, patent attorneys may be involved with litigation and can represent clients before the Intellectual Property Enterprise Court.

What about other countries?

Patents are territorial – they only protect the invention in the country concerned. Many clients want their invention to be protected in many countries, and patent attorneys in the UK help with this.

The vast majority of UK Chartered Patent Attorneys are also qualified (by a set of rigorous examinations) to represent clients before the European Patent Office (EPO), which has the power to grant patents in all EU countries and some others. In the future it may also be possible to obtain a single ‘unitary’ patent covering the whole of the EU.

Outside of Europe, UK patent attorneys secure IP rights by instructing foreign attorneys. In return, the UK attorney will assist the foreign attorney in obtaining patent protection for their clients at either the UKIPO or the EPO.

“Outside of Europe, UK patent attorneys secure IP rights by instructing foreign attorneys.”

A rewarding career

Patent attorneys work in a unique space where law, commerce and technology all overlap. One of the really engaging aspects of the job is that you actively utilise both your scientific knowledge and your analytical reasoning every day. A lot of the job involves solving puzzles of one sort or another, which can require creative thinking and makes the job intellectually very stimulating. The variety of work, both in terms of clients and technology, makes being a patent attorney a particularly rewarding career. For a more information, read the **‘Why become a Patent Attorney?’** article. ●

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WHY BECOME A PATENT ATTORNEY?

By Wynne-Jones IP

There are several reasons why you should consider becoming a Patent Attorney. Wynne-Jones IP has put together a list of their top reasons why this is a career path worth pursuing.

Increasing job opportunities

It has been reported that by 2026, 2,975,762 people will work in science, research, engineering and technology roles in the UK. According to Career Smart, STEM jobs will increase by 2.90% from 2022 to 2026. These fields will also grow twice as fast compared to other industries due to the constant evolution of new technologies and the need for progressive medical innovations. With this many new jobs being created and a shortfall of students studying relevant STEM subjects, there will be significant opportunities in STEM industries.

“With this many new jobs being created and a shortfall of students studying relevant STEM subjects, there will be significant opportunities in STEM industries.”

Higher earning potential

Earning potential is at the forefront of any graduate's mind when they embark on their career. As such, it will be welcomed news that graduate entering STEM professions are predicted to earn around £250,000 more on average during their working life than non-graduates, according to the Confederation of British Industry.

“It will be welcomed news that graduates entering STEM professions are predicted to earn around £250,000 more on average during their working life than non-graduates.”

Incredibly diverse opportunities

STEM careers are not simply confined to a laboratory – contrary to widespread belief. STEM affects everything around us, from enhancing driving safety to enhancing educational standards, to transforming medical care and solving global environmental issues. Therefore, a career in the STEM industry is not just incredibly diverse, but also has the potential to transform lives worldwide. Spanning from the entertainment and aerospace fields to sport and fashion, there's a variety of ways that graduates can use their STEM skills.

“A career in the STEM industry is not just incredibly diverse, but also has the potential to transform lives worldwide.”

Career longevity

Career longevity is vital to anyone entering a new career, particularly after undertaking extensive studying at university. In a bid to retain and develop their staff over longer periods, many businesses within the STEM sector will offer long-term training opportunities, with the chance to work alongside industry experts and gain invaluable industry knowledge.

“Many businesses within the STEM sector will offer long-term training opportunities, with the chance to work alongside industry experts and gain invaluable industry knowledge.”

Further training will not only enhance their career understanding and make them more efficient employees, but it will pave the way for further professional development and eventual promotion within the company. For example,

Wynne-Jones IP launched their innovative Training Academy in 2016, which focuses on intellectual property law, finance, business skills, and client relationship management with a view to creating well educated and well-rounded patent attorneys.

Changing the world

STEM careers not only span a diverse range of sectors but also have the potential to change the world. Workers in this sector are at the forefront of medical innovation, they are transforming technology worldwide, and challenging the understanding around global environmental issues. Those working across these sectors not only have the opportunity to embark on innovative careers, but can make a real impact in sectors worldwide. A STEM role promises to be rewarding in every aspect, allowing you to shape the world, and offering an unparalleled sense of job satisfaction.

Now that you know why individuals become patent attorneys, find out more about the entry requirements needed to join this profession by reading the **'Entry requirements to become a Patent Attorney'** article. ●

Wynne-Jones IP a vibrant, dynamic, modern and fast-paced firm with an enthusiastic, talented and highly motivated team of positive and like-minded individuals.

They are passionate about innovation and believe that their job is to enable clients to take their ground-breaking ideas to the market and be confident that they are protected. Wynne-Jones IP believe in forward thinking, quality advice and the same principles are applied within our Training Academy.

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ENTRY REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME A PATENT ATTORNEY

By Georgia Rundle, Trainee Patent Attorney, Marks & Clerk LLP

Those wanting to become a patent attorney should have a desire to be at the forefront of scientific developments. Trainees need a robust understanding of their field and, in addition, the skills to apply this knowledge to new scenarios and new technologies. Patent law sits at the interface of science, law and commercial business and, as such, patent professionals will also need to have an interest in business, as they will be contributing to growing the commercial interests of their business and their clients. Trainees can enjoy a wide variety of work and the opportunity to employ many disciplines of their scientific field.

What are the academic requirements?

Most importantly, you have to have a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) degree, as the job is centred around understanding and quickly grasping new scientific concepts, in order to be able to discuss the technology being developed by clients.

"Most importantly, you have to have a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) degree, as the job is centred around understanding and quickly grasping new scientific concepts."

It is also a requirement of IPREG, the regulatory board for the intellectual property sector, for taking the professional exams.

Most IP firms require candidates to have achieved a 2:1 or above and will accept candidates who have either a Bachelor's degree, Masters, PhD or PostDoc. Individuals who have spent time in industry after academia are also welcomed to apply for roles.

What skills do I need?

Beyond your scientific knowledge, there are a variety of skills you need to bring to the role. Typically, the day-job of a trainee primarily consists of: assisting with case-work, particularly drafting and progressing patent applications. Therefore, a strong reading ability and comprehensive skills, in addition to an extensive vocabulary, are essential. Further, a trainee is expected to draft and revise documents ahead of review; therefore, you should be comfortable working independently, as well as communicating your thoughts on a scientific issue.

For more information on the types of skills needed to be successful as a patent attorney, read the **'Essential Skills to Become a Successful Patent Attorney'** article.

What other considerations are there?

To become a registered patent attorney, you need to be prepared to sit more exams. Taking a professional qualification is very different from studying at university, as you have to study alongside a full-time job.

The professional exams are sat over a number of years, and take approximately 4 to 6 years to complete. Balancing the two components can be challenging. It requires a strong work ethic, excellent time-management skills, resilience and determination.

"The professional exams are sat over a number of years, and take approximately 4 to 6 years to complete."

Trainees undergo a substantial learning curve for a number of years, and continuously receive feedback in order to develop their skills. I would strongly advise that you prioritise exploring firms that actively invest in trainee development and promote a friendly,

supportive training network. There is no doubt that the workload can be intense and the exams challenging, however, you will receive support and guidance from people who have gone through the same process and so understand the challenges you might be facing. I would recommend checking the Chartered Patent Attorney Careers Guide, or asking potential employers what study support is available (e.g. study leave, revision sessions or socials).

"I would recommend checking the Chartered Patent Attorney Careers Guide, or asking potential employers what study support is available."

You can find out more about the qualifications and training to become a patent attorney by reading the **'Professional Qualifications & Training'** article.

Where can I find more information?

A wide range of resources are available to assist individuals considering entering the profession. I would advise using the Careers Advice section of **IP Careers' website** and this guide to start – there are very helpful summary profiles of the firms and businesses with trainee positions in the **'Employee Profiles'** section. ●



Georgia Rundle
Trainee Patent Attorney
Marks & Clerk LLP



Georgia is a Trainee Patent Attorney working within Marks & Clerk's Life Sciences team based in Cambridge. Georgia joined the firm in 2022, following working as a paralegal within a Family Law firm in Cardiff, where she is originally from. Georgia graduated in 2021 from Durham University, where she completed an Integrated Masters in Biosciences. Georgia studied along the biomedical route, reading a range of classical and contemporary disciplines. Her Master's research project explored the contribution of the macrophages, a key player of the innate immune system, in regenerative systems within mammals.

Since joining the firm in Autumn 2022, Georgia's work has focused on the prosecution of patents, particularly of AgriTech inventions.

For more careers advice visit:
www.ipcareers.co.uk

PRIVATE PRACTICE VS. IN-HOUSE

By Adam Tindall, Partner, Appleyard Lees

The majority of patent attorneys work in patent firms (private practice) while others work directly for industrial firms (corporate or 'in-house'). I trained and worked in-house for a huge engineering firm, then moved into private practice, giving me a relatively balanced view of both camps. However, more often than not, a career in IP starts in private practice and a career in-house most frequently begins post qualification, or at the very least when you have had a few years' experience.

"Some IP lawyers work in specialist law firms (private practice) while others work directly for industrial firms (corporate or 'in-house')."

While the core skills are the same, they can be very different jobs. Introduce an attorney who has had a lifetime in private practice into an industrial office and they may be dazzled by the demands of portfolio management, internal networking and decision making. Drop an attorney trained and experienced in industry into private practice and they may be astonished at the demands placed upon them by a constant need for timeliness, speed, customer care and business development.

Private practice

An attorney in private practice is expected to advise and educate clients and then, regardless of whether it's the right thing to do in the view of the attorney (within limits), the attorney must then carry out the instructions of the client.

"An attorney in private practice is expected to advise and educate clients."

Private practice attorneys see a wider range of technology and brands than those in industry, and control of work flow is less easy to achieve as any client may contact you at any time

with a need for immediate action. They may also become embroiled in infringement and enforcement issues more often than their industry colleagues.

"Private practice attorneys see a wider range of technology and brands than those in industry, and control of work flow is less easy to achieve."

Career progression in private practice firms starts at trainee level, which lasts until you pass the requisite number of exams. The level of trust and autonomy given to you will depend on competence and the policy of the firm. Some companies do not let you talk to a client until you are qualified, whereas some expose you to the outside world provided you can present the right image and harvest the right information.

Post-qualification, responsibilities grow in terms of the extent of the challenges attorneys are expected to deal with, the volume of work they should complete and also their responsibilities regarding business development (e.g. bringing in new work for the firm and/or managing existing clients). Being good at these is standard for achieving partnership level, if this is your goal, but this can mean very different things depending on which firm you ultimately end up working in. In some firms, there are levels within partnership one must work through before reaching the very top of the tree.

In private practice, one's relevance to the success of the firm is far more obvious than in industry. The amount of money you bring in and the clients you introduce to the firm provide and show obvious benefits, and this can be very satisfying. Of course, it also carries the risk that any failures will likewise have an impact on the firm and your career development.

In-house

The industry is more IP savvy now than ever before. Depending on where you end up,

corporate IP departments generally require their attorneys to consider the issues of their company as a whole, and to make judgments based on their understanding of what might be best for the company. Hence you may find yourself to be an important part of the commercial stability and development of your employer. This responsibility can be exciting but also overwhelming, but usually there are plenty of people in senior positions in relevant technical areas happy to advise.

"Depending on where you end up, corporate IP departments generally require their attorneys to consider the issues of their company as a whole, and to make judgments based on their understanding of what might be best for the company."

Also, attorneys in industrial departments tend to have a focus on harvesting and evaluating IP in its many forms as much as registering and securing it. This is tremendous fun as you will be working with incredibly clever, creative and passionate people who have interesting things to say and show you. You occasionally have to deal with difficult people and questionable ideas, but probably less often than in most other jobs.

Being an in-house patent attorney can be a very social occupation, and an ability to communicate, establish and maintain relationships is key. However, if you prefer, it is possible to find roles where you seldom have to leave your desk and can churn through work while others do the "people" stuff. Some departments do all of the work themselves, some farm it out to private practice and some do both. For those that outsource, this puts a burden on the shoulders of the attorney to consider the business relevance of what they are doing to justify fees to their private practice colleagues.

"Being an in-house patent attorney can be a very social occupation, and an ability to communicate, establish and maintain relationships is key."

Starting at the bottom, career progression through an industrial department will be from trainee to qualified attorney and then to Head of Department, should such an elevated opportunity arise. Industrial attorneys may spend much of their career performing the same tasks of invention harvesting, drafting, and prosecuting month after month with variation coming from different inventions from (mostly) the same core people in the business.

Infringement and enforcement issues will also be part of the mix, further developing the attorney's advocacy skills. Hence a trainee and a highly experienced attorney may have a very similar diet of work. As an attorney becomes more senior, they may take on more managerial and training roles and ultimately significant strategic responsibility, or specialise in specific areas, subject to business need.

Job security

Private practice firms obviously need qualified people, and few industrial companies that have IP departments could get rid of them entirely. As there are not many IP professionals in the UK, it is relatively rare that you will find yourself without a job, but you may have to move around in order to find one that offers you complete job satisfaction.

Whether you go for industry or private practice, remember that IP professionals are in short supply.

"As there are not many IP professionals in the UK, it is relatively rare that you will find yourself without a job."

Things to consider

Be sure to ask about internal and external training opportunities, as training is going to be a big part of your life for at least the next three years. Read the **'Professional Qualifications & Training'** article for more information on becoming a qualified patent attorney. Ask to go for coffee with current trainees and quiz them. Most likely they will not tell you any negatives about the firm you are interested in, but they almost certainly will be honest about what life is like with their employer.

"Be sure to ask about internal and external training opportunities, as training is going to be a big part of your life for at least the next three years."

Salary and benefits vary widely. It is worth knowing about reward packages, but your real focus should be finding a first job in a supportive firm and getting qualified. After that, many opportunities will be open to you. Read the **'Salaries & Benefits'** article to find out what patent attorneys can earn throughout their careers.

Summary

One sector is not any more valid than the other, and whether you enjoy the job is probably more to do with the people you find there rather than the type of practice. In either sector, this niche area of law has much to offer. If you are curious about the world and enjoy learning new things, I recommend it. ●

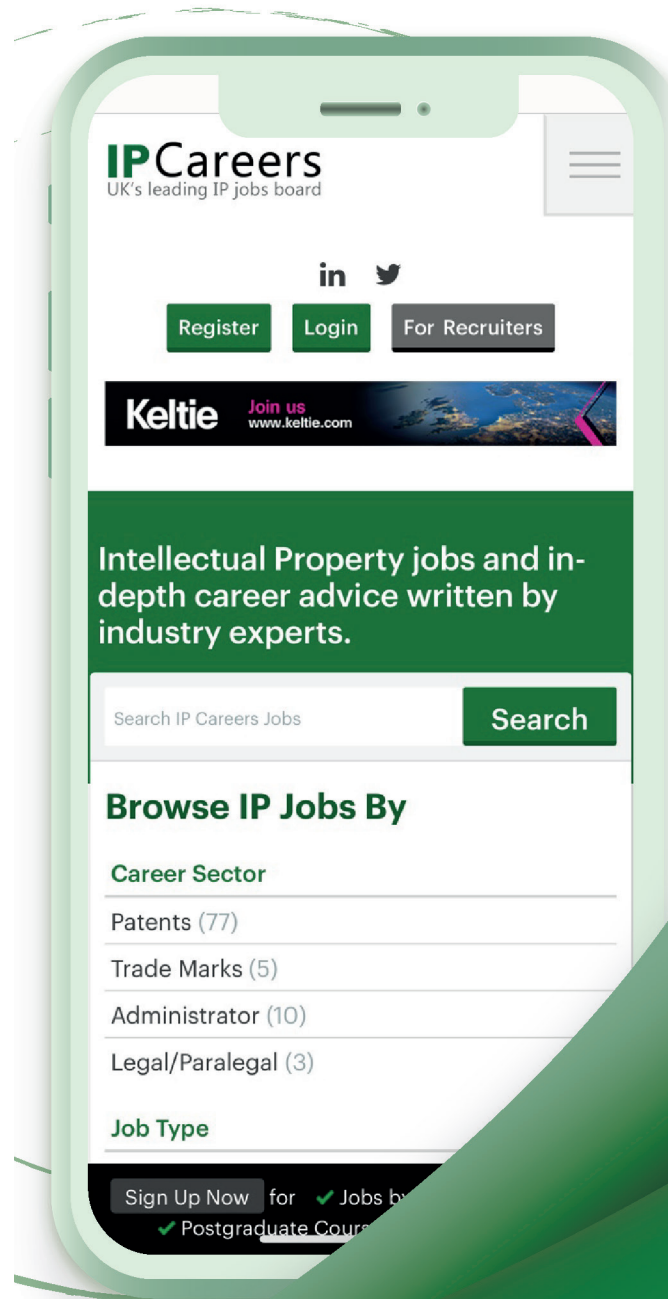


Adam Tindall
Partner
Appleyard Lees



Dr Adam Tindall worked as a mechanical engineer for a prestigious firm before training to become a UK and European patent attorney with the same employer. He now works at Appleyard Lees.

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Find your next
job in IP

THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (IPO)

By Ben Micklewright, Deputy Director, IPO

About the Intellectual Property Office (IPO)

The official UK government body responsible for intellectual property (IP) rights is the Intellectual Property Office (IPO).

The IPO is at the heart of UK IP law. This organisation maintains and builds the framework for intellectual property rights, comprising of patents, designs, trade marks and copyright. Here, we take a closer look at the IPO to help you understand its function.

“This organisation maintains and builds the framework for intellectual property rights, comprising of patents, designs, trade marks and copyright.”

Part of the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), the IPO's role is to help manage an IP system that encourages innovation and creativity, balances the needs of consumers and users, promotes strong and competitive markets and is the foundation of the knowledge based economy.

“The IPO's role is to help manage an IP system that encourages innovation and creativity, balances the needs of consumers and users.”

It operates in a national and an international environment and its work is governed by national and international law, including various international treaties relating to IP to which the UK is a party.

The creation and development of new technologies and industries, and the encouragement and growth of commerce are all essential to the economic wellbeing of the UK. They depend not only on the ingenuity of scientists, engineers and others but also

on the investment necessary to develop and market new ideas.

IP rights are widely acknowledged as an essential ingredient in many successful commercial enterprises. By giving legal owners of new ideas or brand names the right to stop others exploiting their ideas or names, IP rights create for innovators a system through which they can benefit from their creativity.

“By giving legal owners of new ideas or brand names the right to stop others exploiting their ideas or names, IP rights create for innovators a system through which they can benefit from their creativity.”

This may be the invention of a method of making stained glass, the marketing of a new brand of soap, or the creation of a new musical work. These rights can be sold, hired, or licensed to others, or they may be used to safeguard investment in new ventures.

Although the IPO has a role in the formulation of international as well as domestic policy on intellectual property rights, it is only concerned with granting rights under domestic legislation which are effective in the UK.

“The IPO is only concerned with granting rights under domestic legislation which are effective in the UK.”

However, it also plays an important role under the European Patent Convention and the Patent Cooperation Treaty, which provide alternative methods for obtaining or seeking patent protection in the UK and in the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EU

IPO), which administers the EU trade marks and designs rights.

In addition, they are responsible for the role of IP rights in supporting innovation and offer a range of non-statutory services aimed at securing more effective use in the UK of IP and, through the search and advisory service, the technical information contained in patents. This also involves promoting an awareness of such rights, both through an extensive range of literature and by holding regular seminars and workshops.

The clear and accessible intellectual property system that the IPO operates in the UK, helps the economy and society benefit from ideas and knowledge but encouraging innovation. As such, the IPO helps these innovations get the right type of protection.

History

The IPO became an operating name of The Patent Office on 2 April 2007. Whilst the origins of the patent system go back to the fifteenth century, the Patent Office itself was set up in 1852 to act as the UK's sole office for the granting of patents for inventions. The Designs Registry, which was set up in 1839, became part of the Patent Office in 1875. A year later, registration of trade marks also became a Patent Office function.

The IPO also includes policy divisions concerned with the formulation of national and international policy with regard to patents, designs, trade marks and neighbouring rights, including enabling companies and individuals to make the best use of IP rights.

Although no registration of copyright is necessary in the UK, the Rights Policy Directorate of the IPO deals with the formulation of national and international policy with regard to copyright and administers the Copyright Tribunal.

The Enforcement, Business and International Directorate includes an IP Crime Team, which is

responsible for developing a national strategy for the enforcement of rights, particularly in areas relating to copyright and trade marks.

Working at the IPO

To carry out its functions the IPO employs a wide variety of people in a wide variety of roles. These include patent examiners, trade mark examiners, designs examiners, patents formalities examiners and policy experts. Trade mark and designs examiners are responsible for ensuring that valid trade marks and designs are registered. Patents formalities examiners ensure patent applications satisfy certain legal requirements. All receive high quality training to carry out their role effectively. Some are graduates but this is not a requirement for these roles.

A patent examiner is responsible for searching, examining and granting patents that are filed at the IPO. As such, they work to make sure that an application is patentable and can be granted. This differs from a patent attorney, who acts on behalf of the applicant. They are responsible for writing and filing an application and responding to search and examination reports written by a patent examiner at the IPO, with the aim of getting the best possible patent granted for their client.

The basic qualification for a patent examiner is a first or second class honours degree in science, engineering, mathematics, or an equivalent qualification (e.g. corporate membership of one of the major professional institutions or relevant industrial experience).

There are limited opportunities for patent examiners to work in specialised fields such as IP policy. More senior posts involve wider responsibilities such as hearings work. Trade mark and design examiners are civil service administrative grades. A number of these examiners are graduates. ●

Ben Micklewright joined the IPO as an examiner in 1998 with a degree in Mathematics and a doctorate in Mathematical Physics.

SALARIES & BENEFITS

By Fellows & Associates

In the patent profession, you could earn £55,000 before you’ve even finished your exams. Qualification increases your worth further, and can be used as a passport to international opportunities. Fellows and Associates use the data from their annual salary survey to highlight what you could be earning from trainee to Partner level.

Being a patent attorney can be a very rewarding career and the salary increases can be significant as you progress through the examinations. In UK private practice, salaries are by and large linked to qualification status up until the point you have qualified. Although in some instances, there can be inconsistencies in starting salaries for different technical specialisms, depending on supply and demand.

Average earnings

Patent attorneys do not move positions very frequently and salaries tend to increase in bursts. The market rate for a newly qualified attorney is around £80,000 and up but as you can see from the table below, salaries for attorneys who stay within the same firm can lag behind what they may be able to achieve on the open market. However, ‘newly qualified’

is to some extent ambiguous as some firms give a significant increase to their attorneys when they qualify in both Europe and the UK, whereas others when they qualify in just one of the two jurisdictions.

Private practice vs. in-house

Typically, attorneys can earn more in-house than they can in private practice for the years following qualification up until Partner level. However, once attorneys reach Partner status within a private practice their earning potential, in general, far outstrips what can be achieved in industry.

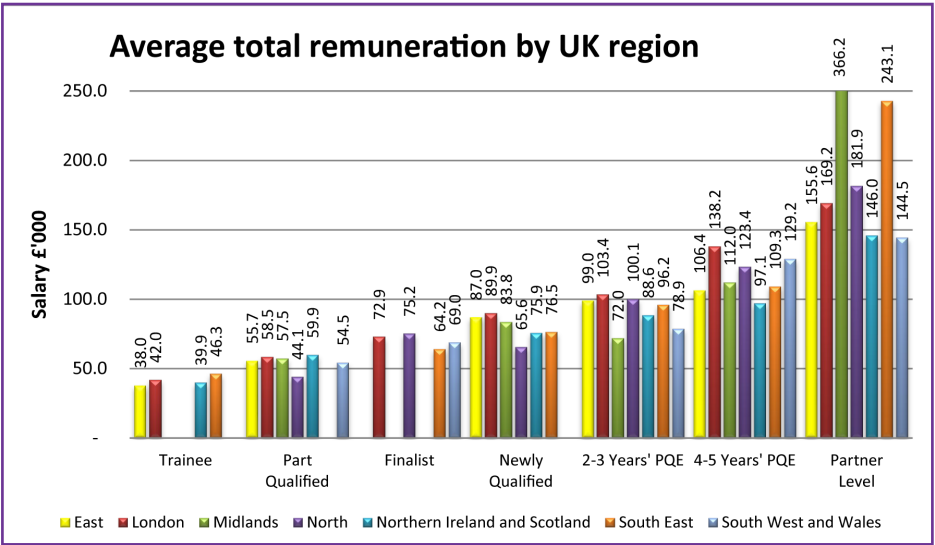
Salary by region

Contrary to popular belief, salaries outside of London are broadly the same as those within London. Certainly, being a patent attorney in another part of the UK would put you at no career disadvantage whatsoever compared with those based in London. In some cases, you may find the experience gained is more well-rounded during training as more opportunities are opened up to you from an early stage, such as client contact, business development initiatives and input on internal business decisions.

PATENT SALARIES BY SENIORITY		
Level	In current firm*	When moving firms*
Trainee	£40,900	£39,000-42,000
Part qualified	£53,600	£50,000-55,000
Finalist	£65,700	£60,000-65,000
Newly qualified	£75,600	£73,000-83,000
2-3 years post qualification	£89,300	£85,000-95,000
4-5 years post qualification	£110,800	£95,000-125,000
Salaried partner level**	£130,100	£135,000 +

*It is inevitable that one will achieve a higher salary when one moves firms, rather than receiving salary increases within a firm as the hiring company will seek to make the proposition of moving as attractive as possible.

** Partners, i.e., those who own a share of the firm could earn salaries/profit shares running into hundreds of thousands of pounds.



Applying for positions in London is highly competitive and it does not always occur to applicants to consider regional offices. As a result, those looking to enter the profession can have a better chance of succeeding when applying to regional firms, or firms with regional offices.

Benefits

In addition to the base salary, patent attorneys often earn bonuses and receive other financial benefits to complete their remuneration package.

Everyone now receives a pension by law but there are many other benefits available. The following are the most commonly received:

- Professional memberships paid for
- Flexible work location
- Private health/dental/eye care
- Training courses paid for
- Exams paid for
- Death in Service Benefit/Life Insurance
- Flexible working hours

Being a patent attorney can be very financially rewarding and the chances of reaching the higher salaries are very good in comparison with other professional services sector positions. There is excellent job security and more often than not, there are more open positions than there are people to fill them (although getting into the profession in the first place as a new trainee remains very challenging).

The above data has come from Fellows and Associates’ annual salary survey completed by those working in the profession and published in the summer of 2024. You can see the full survey on the Fellows and Associates website. ●

Fellows and Associates are a specialist recruitment consultancy focused on the intellectual property sector. They work on positions in private practice and industry both in the UK and overseas.

THE FUTURE OF THE PATENT PROFESSION

By CIPA

There has never been a more exciting time to consider becoming a patent attorney. Innovation, creativity and new technologies are the engine room of the UK's economy, and legislative changes at home and abroad are changing the face of intellectual property protection.

"There has never been a more exciting time to consider becoming a patent attorney."

The UK profession is estimated to be worth more than £1 billion to the UK economy and operates on a global scale. Whilst the basic ingredients for those entering the profession remain the same – recruiting the very best scientists, engineers and technologists to train in this area of law – there are many new challenges and opportunities that will shape the profession in the future.

"There are many new challenges and opportunities that will shape the profession in the future."

International scope

The market in Asia is booming, with more and more technological innovation continuing to emerge from countries such as Japan, China and South Korea. China, in particular, has been filing prodigious levels of patents in recent years. The United States remains a leader in the creative industries although, as a global region, Asia Pacific countries now contribute more in terms of revenue and jobs. Businesses from countries such as these are asserting their IP on a global scale and many rely on the expertise and skills of UK Chartered Patent Attorneys to protect their IP assets in foreign markets.

Seismic political changes are altering the UK's relationship with Europe. However, unlike many other professions, UK Chartered Patent Attorneys will remain largely untouched by them. This is because the European Patent Convention is not a piece of EU legislation

and the European Patent Office is not an EU institution. This means that UK attorneys qualified as European Patent Attorneys (virtually all) will continue to be able to conduct European patent work entirely unaffected by Brexit. It will be business as usual.

There is also a drive to simplify procedures for obtaining IP rights in Europe through initiatives being spearheaded by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the European Patent Office. The use of online central filing systems and data sharing by national IP offices is increasing, whilst search systems are becoming more refined. For businesses with an international footprint, IP is now at the forefront of their strategic thinking.

Patent attorneys are members of in-house teams at the heart of major business decisions. And private practice attorneys increasingly offer wider services to industry than in the past, including commercial and strategic business advice.

"For businesses with an international footprint, IP is now at the forefront of their strategic thinking."

The future of the profession

IP is big business – a global business. The world recognises the strength and status of the UK profession, with UK Chartered Patent Attorneys being held in the highest regard. For example, of the 40,000 European patent applications filed every year by the UK's European Patent Attorneys (EPAs), nearly 90% are for overseas clients. While UK Chartered Patent Attorneys form a fifth of all European Patent Attorneys, they file one third of all European patent applications. As explained above, Brexit will have no effect on this work.

On joining the patent attorney profession in the UK you are entering a global profession which is rightly proud of its heritage and considered among the best in the world.

As the profession and the international IP landscape changes, CIPA changes with it. We will continue to provide effective domestic and international lobbying and new benefits and services to members to help them compete more effectively in the global marketplace.

"On joining the patent attorney profession in the UK you are entering a global profession which is rightly proud of its heritage and considered among the best in the world."

As a student you will receive advice and support throughout your training and will be part of a network of like-minded people working towards their professional qualifications. Once qualified, as a Fellow of CIPA you will benefit from continuing professional development as your career progresses, and a professional body which campaigns tirelessly on your behalf, to ensure that you are represented at the highest level and can influence policy-makers in governments in the UK and around the world. ●



The Chartered Institute of
Patent Attorneys (CIPA)

Innovation is the lifeblood of society. Ingenious inventions, fresh product designs, iconic brands and artistic creativity are not only the building blocks of successful business – they deliver a better world for us all.

These valuable forms of intellectual property (IP) must be protected in order to flourish and our members are the IP protection experts.

We are the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, the United Kingdom's largest IP organisation.

We represent the interests of the UK's 2,645 practicing patent attorneys and others working in IP to stakeholders and policymakers at national and international level to ensure that the UK remains a world-leading centre for innovation.

For more careers advice visit:

www.ipcareers.co.uk

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

By CIPA

Is a patent attorney a type of lawyer?

Yes. However, you do not need a law degree to become a patent attorney. Patent attorneys are a specialist type of lawyer monitored by their own regulator, IPReg. The role of a patent attorney involves advising clients on those areas of law applicable to intellectual property. Consequently, during training you will be required to develop a thorough understanding and knowledge of relevant acts and laws. Find out more by reading the **'What is a Patent Attorney'** article.

Is it necessary to study a STEM subject at university?

A degree in a science, engineering, technology or a mathematics based subject, or equivalent, from a recognised institution is strongly preferred. Most firms also require at least a 2:1 in a first degree. A science/engineering background is required to enable you to understand a client's invention, even if it relates to subject matter you have not previously encountered. This mix between science/engineering and law is one of the aspects that make the role of a patent attorney such an interesting career. Read the **'Entry requirements to become a Patent Attorney'** to find out more.

"A degree in a science, engineering, technology or a mathematics based subject, or equivalent, from a recognised institution is strongly preferred."

For those looking to also qualify as a trade mark attorney, a thorough understanding of UK and EU trade mark law and practice is essential and knowledge of related law and practice overseas can be useful.

Do I need to have a PhD?

The level of understanding obtained through a PhD could be beneficial in some technical areas. However, the case-load of a patent attorney often varies and it is unusual for a patent attorney to be able to concentrate

solely on one specific subject matter area unless they work in-house. Consequently, the benefit of a PhD could be limited in the sense that it would only be of benefit to those cases falling within the narrow definition of the technical area of your PhD. Nonetheless, some private practice firms do require trainees to have a PhD.

What other skills are required?

A patent attorney must be able to communicate effectively with personnel at all levels within an organisation, as well as with people having varying levels of understanding about patents. Therefore, it is important to have good oral and written communication skills. One of the main skills of a patent attorney is to be able to understand an invention on the basis of discussions with an inventor and to then draft a detailed specification of the invention. This process requires an ability to identify the core features of an invention.

"It is important to have good oral and written communication skills."

English, French and German are the official languages of the European Patent Office and a working knowledge of French and/or German can be beneficial. For more information, read the **'Essential Skills to become a successful Patent Attorney'**.

How do you become a patent attorney?

The training occurs, for the most part, on-the-job and generally involves working for one or more fully qualified patent attorneys, and preparing for and sitting a series of examinations.

The examinations include those set by the Patent Examination Board (PEB), which must be taken in order to become a registered (UK) patent attorney. This is a two-tier system involving Foundation Examinations and Final Examinations. Candidates must pass one of the Foundation Examinations before they are eligible to sit the Final Examinations.

University courses are available to obtain an exemption from some or all of the Foundation Examinations. Examinations are also set by the European Patent Office. These must be taken in order to become a European patent attorney.

In addition, since many patent attorneys also handle trade mark work, they may also benefit from becoming a registered trade mark attorney (a UK qualification) and a European trade mark attorney. You can find out more by reading the **'Professional Qualifications & Training'** article.

How long will it take me to qualify?

The examinations set by the PEB are held annually. Consequently, the minimum length of time to become a Chartered Patent Attorney is two years. However, in reality it often takes longer, particularly if it becomes necessary to retake any of the examinations.

Typically, it takes 4-6 years to become a qualified patent attorney. The examinations set by the European Patent Office are also held annually and require candidates to have worked for two years under the supervision of a European patent attorney before sitting the main examinations. For this reason, it is common for people to become qualified patent attorneys before becoming European patent attorneys.

"Typically, it takes 4-6 years to become a qualified patent attorney."

What kind of salary can I expect?

The salaries of patent attorneys compare well with those of other professions such as accountancy and law. Salaries tend to increase gradually through training and increasing significantly following qualification.

For more information on the different salaries a patent attorney can receive, read the **'Salaries and Benefits'** article.

Can I get work experience?

Work experience in the profession is rare, though some firms do offer internship programmes. Due to the varied nature of the work, and the complications associated with client confidentiality, many companies believe that structured work experience programmes do not offer sufficient value to either candidates or the employers that organise them.

For most prospective employers, academic excellence is prized above work experience. If you would like to gain first-hand insight into the operations of patent firms, and be able to demonstrate this experience on your CV, many recruiters host open days. You can find a list of live opportunities on www.ipcareers.co.uk.

"For most prospective employers, academic excellence is prized above work experience."

How do I go about finding a trainee role?

Depending on the subject you have studied at university, there may be certain companies that you would be particularly suited for and you could start off targeting those. You can use the **'Job Finder'** section at the back of this guide for a list of the different opportunities offered by patent firms as well as by viewing at the **'Find Jobs'** section of IP Careers' website.

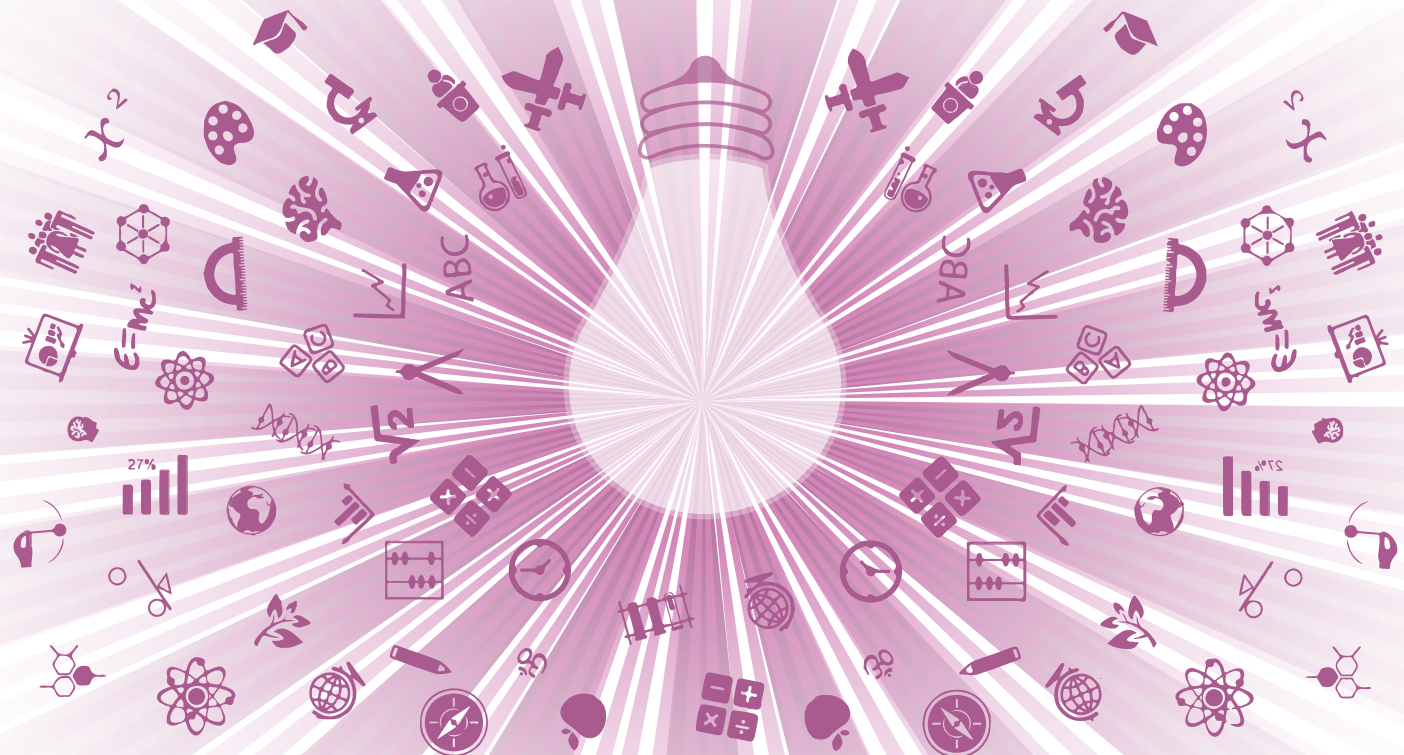
Do firms recruit at particular times of year?

Vacancies for trainee patent attorneys tend to crop up as and when the need arises.

However, many firms find that they have more potential candidates if they seek to recruit towards the end of the academic year, as final year university students are approaching the end of their courses. A number of firms hold interviews early in the academic year, for vacancies to be filled during the following autumn. It is a good idea to **register your interest** or **sign up to email alerts** on the IP Careers website as soon as you have decided to join the profession. ●

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THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PATENT ATTORNEYS (CIPA)



By CIPA

The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA) is the professional body of patent attorneys and other IP professionals in the UK.

Members

CIPA's members include patent attorneys who work in small, medium and large private practices and patent attorneys who work in industrial departments. The Institute has 4,300 members, some 2,495 of those being Fellows with the status of Chartered Patent Attorneys. Other members include trainee patent attorneys and other professionals with an interest in intellectual property law.

"The Institute has 4,300 members, some 2,495 of those being Fellows with the status of Chartered Patent Attorneys."

Purpose

CIPA's Royal Charter covers the entire field of intellectual property: patents, trade marks, designs, copyright and associated areas of law. Whilst patent attorneys focus primarily on supporting innovation through the grant and prosecution of patents, many advise clients on the full range of intellectual property protection needed to run successful and prosperous businesses.

CIPA is the representative body for the profession and works to promote the education, standing, training and continuing professional expertise of its members and to establish, maintain and enforce high standards of professional conduct and compliance with the law. These objectives and all of CIPA's membership benefits and services are delivered through four distinct themes:

- **Status** - Advancing and promoting the professional status of Chartered Patent Attorneys as a global brand. Chartered Patent Attorney is a protected title which can only be used by Fellows of CIPA.
- **Influence** - Working to influence

intellectual property policy in the UK and abroad in the interests of its members and for the wider public good.

- **Learning** - Supporting the learning of its members, during initial professional formation when trainees, as well as through high quality, relevant, continuing professional development.
- **Community** - Providing the infrastructure and resources required for a vibrant community of practice to flourish.

Organisation

CIPA's elected Council is responsible for the direction of the Institute, this it achieves through the setting of a three year strategic plan which is subject to annual review. The strategic plan articulates CIPA's priority activities under the headings Status, Influence, Learning and Community. In arriving at these activities, CIPA's Council strives to consult fully with the membership and to canvass the opinion of key stakeholders such as the UK Intellectual Property Office and partner membership organisations including the Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys, the Intellectual Property Federation, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys and other representative bodies.

Much of CIPA's business is carried out through its network of expert committees and special interest groups. The committees range in activities from specialist technical groups looking at patent law, trade mark law, copyright and design law, litigation and the life sciences, through to more general work such as how CIPA promotes the profession through its media and public affairs work, issuing business practice guidance to members, liaison with CIPA's international partners and its relationship with the world of academia.

CIPA benefits from a highly engaged membership, where many members volunteer to give their time freely in committee work. A team of expert staff support the Council and CIPA's committees.

Education

The Education & Professional Standards Committee provides CIPA's overarching strategy for the initial education and support of trainee patent attorneys, through to the career-long Continuing Professional Development (CPD) needed to excel as a Chartered Patent Attorney. CIPA provides support for the 'Informals', a special interest group of student members who organise lectures, tutorials and, of course, social events for trainees. Find out more about the 'Informals' by reading the '**CIPA's Student Body – The Informals**' article.

"CIPA provides support for the 'Informals', a special interest group of student members who organise lectures, tutorials and, of course, social events for trainees."

In addition, CIPA collaborates with a number of universities and other educational bodies in the provision of training courses for the UK and European qualifications. See the '**Course Provider Directory**' at the back of the guide for a list of universities as well as the **IP Careers website** for a list of IP Law courses.

Qualified patent attorneys benefit from a programme of seminars and webinars designed to ensure that the UK profession is at the forefront of national and international intellectual property law.

CIPA produces a range of students' training manuals in patents, trade marks and designs. CIPA is a recognised centre of excellence for the publication and distribution of practitioners' textbooks for the UK, European and international legal systems and the CIPA Guide to the Patents Acts is highly regarded as it provides an essential resource for IP professionals working in this area. Members benefit from a monthly journal containing articles, law updates and news. ●



The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA)



Innovation is the lifeblood of society. Ingenious inventions, fresh product designs, iconic brands and artistic creativity are not only the building blocks of successful business – they deliver a better world for us all.

These valuable forms of intellectual property (IP) must be protected in order to flourish and our members are the IP protection experts. We are the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, the United Kingdom's largest IP organisation. We represent the interests of the UK's 2,645 practicing patent attorneys and others working in IP to stakeholders and policymakers at national and international level to ensure that the UK remains a world-leading centre for innovation.

For more careers advice visit:
www.ipcareers.co.uk

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & TRAINING

By Catherine Bate, Learning & Development Manager, Mewburn Ellis LLP

To become a patent attorney, you will be required to achieve the relevant professional qualifications and training and complete a number of exams as part of a wider work-based training programme. The rewards for becoming professionally qualified are manifold.

“To become a patent attorney, you will be required to achieve the relevant professional qualifications and training.”

The patent attorney profession is a graduate profession. As a graduate trainee, you complete a minimum specified period of training in a firm, and during that time take professional qualifications. Once your training and qualifications are successfully completed, you may apply to become a registered patent attorney. The UK register is held by the UK Intellectual Property Regulation Board (IPReg); the European register by the European Patent Office (EPO).

Most UK firms require their trainees to qualify to be registered in both the UK and Europe since representing clients before the EPO requires the European Patent Attorney qualification. It is usual for a person entering the profession to take four or five years to dual-qualify. There are multiple routes to gaining the professional qualifications. You can see a diagram that provides an overview of what these are in this article.

Prerequisite qualifications

The UK regulations require that you need to be a degree holder in order to be considered as a registered patent attorney. In order to take the European Qualifying Examinations (EQE) to qualify as a European Patent Attorney you must hold a science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) degree. In reality, potential UK employers need you to hold a degree in a STEM subject.

Professional qualifications

There are two sets of qualifications to be undertaken. The diagram shows the qualifications which must be obtained in order to qualify and gives a broad indication of the time it will take.

UK qualifications

There are two sets of qualifications to be undertaken. The diagram mentioned previously, shows the qualifications which must be obtained in order to qualify and gives a broad indication of the time it will take.

Foundation level

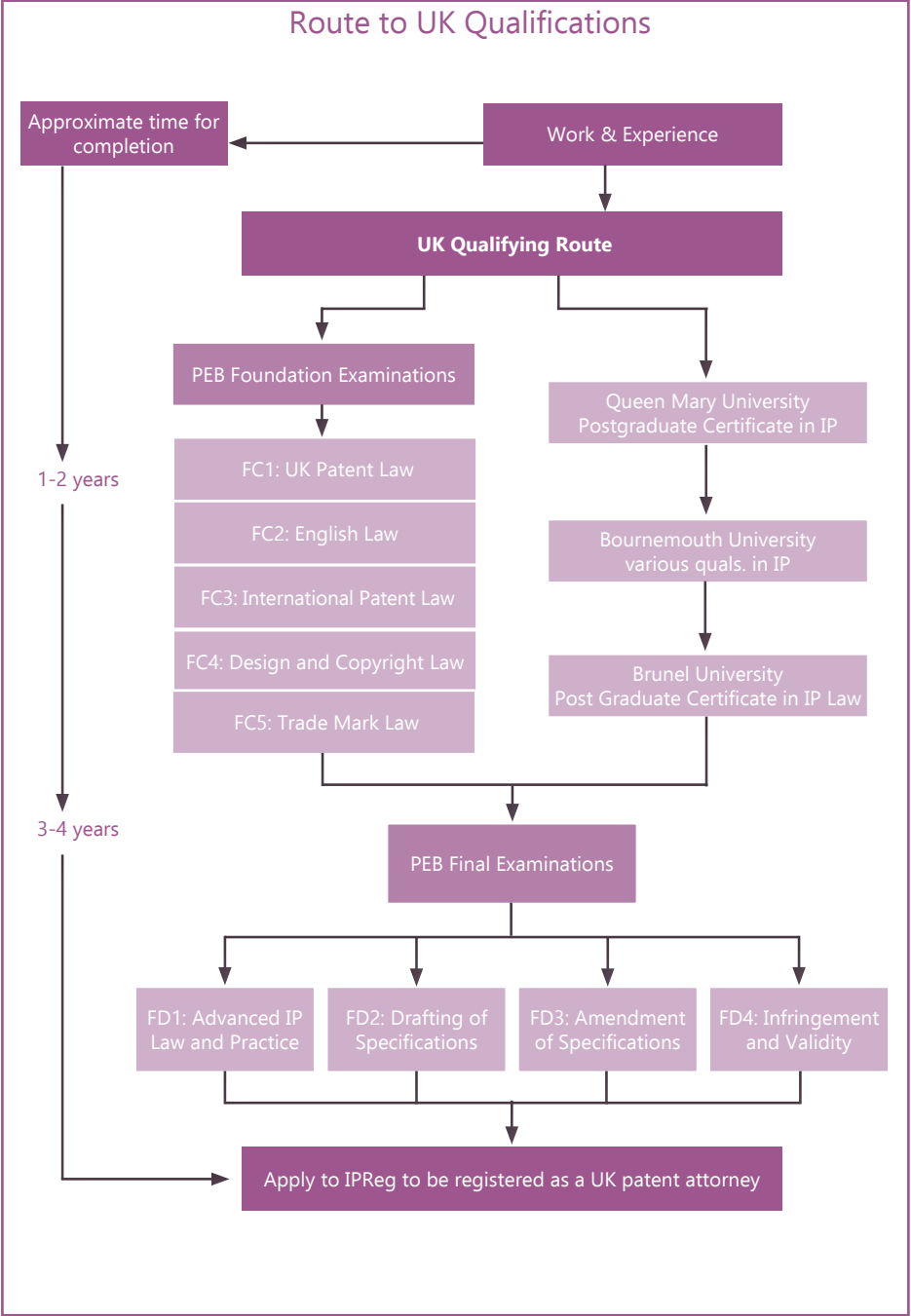
IPReg accredits several examination agencies to provide Foundation qualifications. There is an examination only route provided by the Patent Examination Board (PEB) as well as in person or distance learning University courses. These courses are listed in the IPReg regulation Rules for the Examination and Admission of Individuals to the Registers of Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys 2011, which can be found at: www.ipreg.org.uk. Your employer will most likely have a preferred route that they will support you in undertaking.

Foundation level

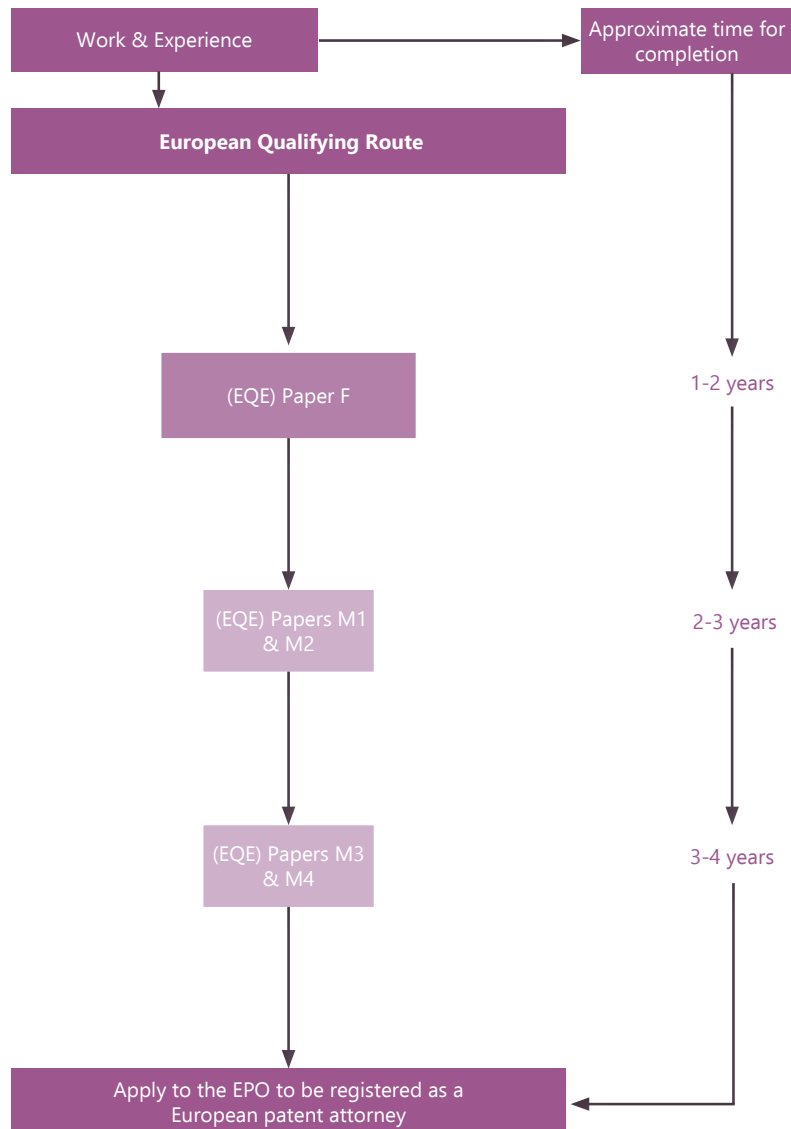
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Final level

There are four Final examinations: FD1, FD2, FD3 and FD4. These papers test knowledge of relevant intellectual property laws, the ability to draft and amend patent applications, and the ability to assess the validity of a patent and the infringement risks it presents.



Route to European Qualifications



European qualifications

Full details can be found on the EQE website at www.epo.org/learning-events

Paper F

This foundation examination can be taken a minimum of one year after the beginning of your period of training.

Other modular papers

The EQE examinations have been recently redesigned to ensure the qualification reflects today's European patent profession. The EPO has adopted a modular approach to examinations, with most candidates opting to take papers M1 and M2 a year after passing Paper F, and papers M3 and M4 two years after passing Paper F. These examinations test the drafting and amendment of European patent applications, the preparation of a formal opposition to a European patent, and the relevant laws and procedures.

Support for studying

In-house training

Most employing firms offer a formal or an informal training programme that develops both the skills you need to work with clients as a patent attorney, and the knowledge and skills required to successfully complete both the UK and European professional qualifications.

Informals

The Informals provide a range of support for the trainee. You can read more about this in the '[CIPA's Student Body – The Informals](#)' article.

Study guides and publications

CIPA publishes a number of books to help students with training and examinations. These include general training manuals as well as specific guides for most of the Final examinations. Full details can be found on the CIPA website.

EQE

The EPO offers a range of online materials to help you prepare for the examinations. Further details can be found on the EQE website.

Private training providers

There are a number of private training providers that provide examination revision courses for both the UK and European examinations. The largest being JDD Consultants.

Continuing professional development

As the career of a patent attorney progresses, there are additional ways to develop further, such as the development of specific areas of expertise appropriate to the practice, the maintenance of a current knowledge base in the face of changing law and the adoption of other skills. Each attorney's continuing professional competence requirements will look different, based on reflective practice to identify individual learning needs.

IPReg and CIPA have a vital part to play in this continuing professional competence. The Institute arranges a large number of seminars and webinars across the year and throughout the country. These seminars address many topics, from recent law and practice changes in the UK to a detailed examination of specialist subjects and an overview of law and practice in other jurisdictions.

Such seminars also cover subjects relevant to the business side of the practice of many UK patent attorneys, aiming to provide knowledge and guidance in dealing with issues that are likely to arise in practice management.

CIPA also provides information to its members by way of monthly newsletter as well as other updates, both on its website and in the CIPA Journal. This information enables members to keep up to date with developments in the UK and across the world. ●

CIPA'S STUDENT BODY – THE INFORMALS

By Tom Bridgwater, Part-Qualified Patent Attorney, Lewis Silkin LLP

Who are the CIPA Informals?

The Informals is the association of student members of the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA). All trainees entering the profession are automatically student members of CIPA, and therefore the Informals, and continue to be until they are qualified (at which point they become fellows of CIPA). However, opportunities provided by the Informals Committee also extend to those who are recently qualified.

What is your role as the Honorary Secretary?

The Informals Committee aims to act as the collective voice of trainees within the profession. As Informals Honorary Secretary, my duty is to oversee the committee and attend CIPA council meetings to present the views and concerns of the student members of the profession to CIPA.

Though a lot of student feedback relates to the route to qualification, particularly exams, it also extends to student wellbeing, DEI and developments in case law, to name a few.

To this end, additional responsibilities include:

- Management of the Informals Committee, including organising monthly meetings, relaying comments from CIPA council and facilitating discussion of topics of interest
- Promoting a diverse range of training topics for the advanced lecture series, including business development, managing relations, and networking
- Reporting on the activities the Informals Committee undertakes and on financial matters to CIPA Council and/or the Internal Governance Committee of CIPA
- Aiding Committee members in fulfilling their roles and providing a sounding board for new ideas
- Facilitating handover between old and new Informals' Committees

What type of activities do the Informals run?

The Informals Committee provides support by: organising lectures and tutorials to supplement

training provided by employers; giving assistance and advice to new and prospective members; and organising events ... but what type of events?

Well, here's a small sample of things we get involved in!

Student Conference

Hosted by the CIPA Executive and the Honorary Secretary, the CIPA Student Conference brings together trainees from across the country for an exciting day full of useful sessions and networking. A highlight of the conference is the "moot court session", where trainees volunteer to represent the interests of two clients in a patent litigation case.

A visit to the UK Intellectual Property Office

We have collaborated with examiners at the UK Intellectual Property Office (IPO) to run a yearly event where trainees will visit the IPO in person. The visits include sessions on how the UKIPO assesses inventive step, a claims drafting workshop, and an informal discussion with a UK examiner.

Observing how examiners approach different cases and hearing firsthand anecdotes from their experiences offers invaluable lessons that extend beyond the confines of any single patent application. These insights contribute to the holistic development of trainee patent attorneys, equipping them with the knowledge and skills needed to excel in their careers.

Sports

In the realm of law, where the billable hour is monarch, the significance of fostering camaraderie among trainee's cannot be overstated.

To this end, we organise a yearly 5-a-side football tournament open to all member's of CIPA (both students and fellows). This is always an adrenaline filled evening, where the inner competitive of the profession is revealed. Alongside this, we facilitate and encourage inter-firm softball matches at Hyde Park. These

matches are a more casual affair, where team captains organise amongst themselves to play ball and have a beer!

Yoga Sessions

Picture a corner of the office transformed into a sanctuary of calm and tranquillity – this is where the well-being officer orchestrates regular yoga sessions for trainee patent attorneys. These sessions offer a precious opportunity to unwind, de-stress, and reconnect with the present moment amid the demands of patent law. Led by a member of the committee the yoga classes cater to trainees!

A podcast: 'The IP Survival Guide'

We have launched a podcast series tailored to the interest and concerns of trainees. From discussions on recent developments in patent law to interviews with seasoned practitioners and wellness experts, the podcast provides a platform for learning, sharing insights, and fostering professional growth.

Conclusion

If you decide to become a patent attorney, the Informals Committee looks forward to welcoming you, and hopes to see you at our educational and social events. The best way to keep up to date with Informals activity, and what roles are available in the profession, is to subscribe to our blog the Yellow Sheet yellowsheet.wordpress.com, and join our LinkedIn group **CIPA Informals**. ●



Tom Bridgwater
Part-Qualified Patent Attorney
Lewis Silkin LLP

Tom is a Part-Qualified Patent Attorney at Lewis Silkin LLP in London. Tom has a background in physics and robotics, with his PhD research focussing on mapping remote areas of nuclear facilities using robotic swarms.

Tom works with a range of clients in technology areas including: artificial intelligence, telecoms, computer software, autonomous vehicles, satellite technologies.

Outside of Lewis Silkin, Tom is the honorary secretary of the CIPA Informal's Committee, where he enjoys engaging student members of the profession.

For more careers advice visit:
www.ipcareers.co.uk

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW COURSES

By Jasem Tarawneh, Senior Lecturer, Queen Mary University of London

This article aims to give a brief overview of the main Intellectual Property (IP) Law Programmes and modules relevant to trainees or those considering entering the profession as a qualified Patent Attorney.

The programmes discussed below will not only allow you to develop your academic and practical skills in the field of IP but will also give you the opportunity to qualify as a registered Patent Attorney with the Intellectual Property Regulation Board (IPReg) – the independent regulatory body for the Patent Attorney and Trade Mark Attorney professions. There are a wide range of IPReg accredited programmes offered by several institutions that are mostly taken by UK based trainees and attorneys. This article will give you some insight into these programmes and their relevance to your career prospects.

“There are a wide range of IPReg accredited programmes offered by several institutions that are mostly taken by UK based trainees and attorneys.”

Qualifying as a Patent Attorney

To qualify as a Patent Attorney, all candidates must successfully complete the IPReg-accredited Foundation Certificate examinations provided by the Patent Examination Board (PEB), as well as the Final Diploma examinations provided by the PEB. However, Queen Mary University of London, Bournemouth University and Brunel all run IPReg accredited courses that lead to a Postgraduate Certificate in Intellectual Property which exempts a trainee from the Foundation Certificate Exams.

“Queen Mary University of London, Bournemouth University and Brunel all run IPReg accredited courses that lead to a Postgraduate Certificate.”

These programmes offer a foundational overview of the UK and European Law and its structures, as well as a detailed explanation of the main types of IP rights, the theory underpinning them and law regulating rights such as Patents; Trade Marks; Copyright as well as Designs. The structure of these courses, their duration and the mode of their delivery differ from one institution to another so specific questions about these issues must be raised with the relevant university.

In addition to the above programmes, Queen Mary University of London also runs a year-long MSc in the Management of Intellectual Property which confers an exemption from the Foundation Diploma certificate. The MSc is designed for those wishing to specialise in Intellectual Property Law, most specifically for those wishing to become a Patent or Trade Mark attorney. Students on this programme receive a profound education covering the core IP disciplines with a focus on UK law (but including a strong European and international perspective). Unlike the courses described above, which are usually taken by trainees once they are employed, this MSc programme is usually taken by students of their own initiative and tends to attract candidates with a wider variety of interests than the Certificate courses.

“The MSc is designed for those wishing to specialise in Intellectual Property Law, most specifically for those wishing to become a Patent or Trade Mark attorney.”

There are some other courses that may confer an exemption from one or more of the Foundation Certificate Exams. For example, a law degree may confer an exemption from the foundational law exam. A list of the various exemptions is available from the PEB website. There are currently no courses that confer an exemption from all the UK Final Diploma Exams, or the European Qualifying Exams.

“There are some other courses that may confer an exemption from one or more of the Foundation Certificate Exams.”

Finally, it is worth noting that to qualify as a Patent Attorney you are required to have undertaken at least two years full-time practice in IP, with substantial experience of patent attorney work in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, supervised by a UK Patent Attorney or a solicitor or barrister who is engaged in or has substantial experience of patent attorney work. Alternatively, you must have completed not less than four years unsupervised full-time practice in IP, including substantial experience of patent. More information on the work experience needed is available from the IPReg website.

“It is worth noting that to qualify as a Patent Attorney you are required to have undertaken at least two years full-time practice in IP.”

Preparation for Examinations

In addition to CIPA's Informals group which provides lectures and tutorials designed to help prepare for the various UK and European examinations, most firms provide in-house training directed at exam preparation and techniques. There are also several education providers that run specific exam preparation courses. The courses most attended by UK trainees include the courses run by JDD consultants, CEIPI and DeltaPatents.

The JDD courses cover both the UK and European exams and typically last a day and a half or two days per exam. The CEIPI seminars, vary in length between a day and a half (papers A and B), two days (paper C) and a week (Paper D). DeltaPatents runs a range of courses at various locations throughout

Europe (including in London). Further information about the courses and enrolment is available on CIPA website.

Litigation Courses

Candidates who apply to be entered onto the IPReg Register of Patent Attorneys on or after 1st January 2013 are required to attend and pass an IPReg-approved Basic Litigation Skills Course (BLSC), either before or upon entry to the register, or within 3 years of the end of the year upon which they were registered.

“Candidates who apply to be entered onto the IPReg Register of Patent Attorneys on or after 1st January 2013 are required to attend and pass an IPReg-approved Basic Litigation Skills Course (BLSC).”

CPD Training and Nottingham University offer the BLSC. The format of these courses varies between different providers. Upon successful completion of this course and application to IPReg, Patent Attorneys will be awarded the Intellectual Property Litigation Certificate (ILPC). This allows you to exercise rights to conduct litigation and rights of audience. There are two higher certificates that can be obtained either pre or post registration which will allow you to undertake litigation and/or advocacy in the higher courts. These certificates are not mandatory.

“There are two higher certificates that can be obtained either pre or post registration.”

Finally, it must be noted that new entrants to the profession will need to undertake an accredited course to obtain rights of audience before the Unified Patent Court (UPC). More

information about these certificates can be found on the IPReg and CIPA websites.

Taking an IP course before joining the profession

Enrolling on one of the programmes discussed in this article prior to joining a firm at your own expense does not necessarily increase your chances of obtaining a trainee position.

Whilst having taken one of the above courses may carry some weight, it is rarely likely to be the decisive factor in obtaining employment. Therefore, it is common practice for trainees to join these programmes once they have started work with a firm. More importantly, it is highly recommended for any prospective trainee to ask before joining their chosen firm about the courses on which the firm sends its trainees on, and the type of support offered by the firm in terms of course fees and accommodation costs.

"It is highly recommended for any prospective trainee to ask before joining their chosen firm about the courses on which the firm sends its trainees on, and the type of support offered by the firm."

Finally, only programmes and courses currently accredited by IPReg will be considered as providing elements of the attorney qualification pathways. Therefore, IP Diplomas, Masters, and other similar degrees which have been obtained from non-accredited institutions are not accepted for IPReg qualification purposes. ●



Jasem Tarawneh
Senior Lecturer
Queen Mary University of London

Dr Jasem Tarawneh is a Senior Lecturer in Commercial & Intellectual Property Law at CCLS, Queen Mary University of London. Jasem worked for several years as a corporate lawyer in Europe and Middle East before joining academia and completing his PhD on the legal and economic justifications for Trade Marks protection under European Law. He is currently the Programme Director for the Specialist Intellectual Property Programmes at CCLS where he teaches Trade Mark Law. His main areas of research are Law and Economics, branding and Globalisation as well as Alternative Dispute Settlement Mechanisms with an emphasis on International Arbitration. Jasem has a number of publications in those areas of the law and his latest project is a book that primarily focuses on brands and their impact on market access, regulation and innovation. Dr Tarawneh worked and continues to work with several distinguished international organisations including the WTO and WIPO.

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TYPES OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES

There are plenty of opportunities out there for those wanting experience in the intellectual property profession, ranging from a couple of weeks to something more long-term. With the wide variety of student and graduate work opportunities out there, it can be difficult to navigate your options.

The summaries below have been put together to help you identify what you should be doing, and when.

Graduate Jobs
Also called: graduate scheme, graduate programme

Graduate jobs are the number one reason that people go to university – to get a job that requires a degree. This has become the foundation of entry-level recruitment in many professions, with many larger employers creating structured training programmes to both entice and induct new graduates.

“Graduate jobs are the number one reason that people go to university – to get a job that requires a degree.”

A trainee position within the IP profession aims to develop talent and initiating recruits into the company culture, whilst preparing them for the professional exams, through a mixture of in-house tutorials and external courses. Typically, this will take between 4-6 years to become a Chartered Patent Attorney and around 2-3 years to become a Chartered Trade Mark Attorney.

Most graduate scheme intakes take place in the September following graduation, with the application process opening – and often closing – during the preceding autumn term.

To make the most of these opportunities, you should do your research and preparation early. Unlike other professions, the intellectual property profession recruits on a rolling basis, depending on the needs of the company - so it is worth keeping an eye out for vacancies on www.ipcareers.co.uk, that have an immediate start date.

Internships
Also called: work experience, Easter/Summer internship

IP firms are increasingly making a point of opening their doors to penultimate year students. Employers often run internships in a bid to source the best candidates for their graduate programmes, which is why the majority are aimed at students in their penultimate year of university.

Unlike other industries where internships take place for 6-8 weeks over the summer, internships in this sector typically last for 1-2 weeks over the Easter or Summer break. They are an opportunity for students to test their suitability for the role and to gain an understanding of the business, sector, and commercial requirements. Completing an internship could give you a competitive advantage in a sector with very high standards, many employers have even gone on the recruit candidates from their internship programmes.

“Internships in this sector typically last for 1-2 weeks over the Easter or Summer break.”

Insight Days
Also called: open day, insight week

Insight days are a relatively new concept in the IP profession and as such are still quite

rare. Insight days involve firms inviting career-focused candidates to spend a day (or week) learning about the inner workings of their organisation. The focus here is more on the company than the profession, but attendance at an insight day is still very much a form of work experience and should be listed on a CV accordingly. Events like these are most commonly found over holiday periods – Easter in particular – with students advised to apply at least a month in advance.

“These are most commonly found over holiday periods.”

The **Job Finder** section at the back of this guide highlights which employer’s provide undergraduate and graduate opportunities. Alternatively, visit our website to find out which firms are currently recruiting. ●

TYPES OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES			
PROGRAMME	WHO SHOULD APPLY?	HOW LONG DOES IT LAST?	WHEN DOES IT GENERALLY START?
Graduate Jobs <i>Or graduate scheme, graduate programme</i>	Finalists and graduates	Typically 4-6 years for a Patent Attorney and 2-3 years for a Trade Mark Attorney	September
Internships <i>Or work experience, Easter/Summer internship</i>	Students in penultimate year of study	1-2 weeks	Easter or Summer
Insight Days <i>Or open day, insight week</i>	Undergraduates, particularly first years	1-5 days	Easter/Spring

THE BENEFITS OF WORK EXPERIENCE

By Laura Collins, Senior HR Advisor, D Young & Co

Deciding upon a career is an important and difficult choice to make. Within the intellectual property profession, work experience can offer an opportunity to gain a real insight into the work of a patent attorney, helping you answer the question – is the IP profession for me? Laura Collins, HR Advisor with D Young & Co, offers her expert advice for both finding and making the most of IP work experience.

Benefits of work experience

Work experience will allow you to obtain invaluable knowledge about the IP profession and take part in a range of activities to give you a taste of the work of a patent attorney.

“Work experience will allow you to obtain invaluable knowledge about the IP profession and take part in a range of activities to give you a taste of the work of a patent attorney.”

You may be asked to draft a claim or prepare an argument for a mock hearing. You will have the opportunity to spend time with and put questions to current attorneys and trainees and you will gain an honest impression of the firm that you visit and a feel for the atmosphere and ethos. All of these elements will ultimately assist you in making a decision about your future career.

Following work experience, some firms may offer subsequent longer internships or even the opportunity of a trainee position with the firm so make every second count!

What will I do?

The specific nature of your work experience will differ greatly from firm to firm. You may have the opportunity to work on real cases as well as across teams and offices. You will almost certainly be able to work with various members of the team, including partners. Some firms will place you in the position of an entry-level trainee patent attorney; here

you could be reading patent applications, corresponding with clients and researching relevant legal documents. Other schemes will offer case lessons, workshops, group exercises, shadowing, mentoring and presentations.

These sessions aim to build your technical knowledge and soft skills by analysing real IP problems with the support of fully qualified attorneys. Though your day-to-day tasks will vary, work experience in this sector will give you an understanding of what a patent attorney does and develop some of the key skills needed to succeed in the profession.

Requirements

IP firms offering work experience opportunities are looking for candidates with a genuine desire to find out about the IP profession and to gain a real perspective of what life as a patent attorney is like.

Candidates will need an exceptional academic record in a scientific or technical discipline.

Some firms may have different work experience opportunities available for different departments so make sure to consider the criteria when applying.

As well as the above, other key skills that firms look for include:

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- The ability to work well in a team as well as autonomously.
- Good time management skills and an understanding of the importance of deadlines.
- Strong analytical skills.
- Meticulous attention to detail.

To find out more, read our **‘Essential Skills to become a successful Patent Attorney’** article.

The application process

Application processes can differ. For the first stage, you may be asked to complete an online application form or send a CV and covering letter. Vacancies are highly sought after and therefore you should try to include something

in your application that will make you stand out. For a second stage, some firms may invite you to an interview, either in person or via telephone. During the whole process, it is important to show why you are interested in the work experience or internship opportunity and why you want to be a patent attorney.

Make sure that you carry out some research into the firm that you have applied to, the work of a patent attorney and the process of training to become qualified.

“Make sure that you carry out some research into the firm that you have applied to, the work of a patent attorney and the process of training to become qualified.”

Some firms may also ask behavioural interview questions that require you to provide examples from your previous experience. You could be asked to describe a time when you have worked well in a team or a time when you have met an important deadline for example. In advance of your interview, consider the key skills that you need to be a patent attorney and think of examples of situations where you have demonstrated these skills.

To find work experience, visit the **Job Finder** section on www.ipcareers.co.uk for a list of the opportunities that each employer offers.

Some firms may advertise at different times of the year so, if an opportunity isn't available when you first look, don't give up. Be sure to **register your interest** or **sign up to job alerts** on the IP Careers' website to receive the latest vacancies. ●



Laura Collins
Senior HR Advisor
D Young & Co



I joined D Young & Co in 2016 and, as a Senior HR Advisor, I am involved in the recruitment for our support, trainee and qualified vacancies. I also co-ordinate the internship and open-afternoon opportunities on offer at the firm. I thoroughly enjoy supporting candidates through the interview process and connecting with those interested in finding out more about the patent profession.

For more careers advice visit:
www.ipcareers.co.uk

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

By Gill McGuire, Professional Support Attorney, Dehns

Securing a training place as a patent attorney is not easy. The profession remains one of the smallest in the UK, yet awareness of this niche career sector is growing, inevitably leading to competition. Your chances will be increased if you have the unusual blend of skills necessary and invest time and effort in the application process. Here, Gill McGuire, Professional Support Attorney at Dehns, offers her advice on how to complete successful IP applications.

When and how to apply

Many private practice patent firms (such as where I work) operate annual recruitment cycles with a scheduled bulk intake of trainees. Usually these firms will still accept speculative applications throughout the year as well, but it is best to check **IP Careers' website**, as well as individual firm's websites, for the latest trainee patent attorney vacancies.

Most firms will now ask you to apply via a bespoke online application process, and some may also ask for submissions of written descriptive work.

You may be tempted to fire off as many of these applications to as many varied firms as possible. However, you will generally need to research each firm to make sure that your approach is correctly tailored to their practice, the type of work they take on and their clients – exhausting! Better to therefore think about what you want from a firm before committing metaphorical pen to paper, as it is always quality, not quantity, that matters most when submitting applications. In this respect, firms will usually try and help you out a bit on their websites by describing some typical aspects of working life there.

Think about key questions that matter to you and whether each firm applied to will cater to your needs and interests. For example, what kind of firm size and culture appeals? Do you want to experience different offices throughout your training, or stay in one place? What kind of clients do you want to work with?

Details matter! You're applying to join those who excel at language and attention to detail. Never

underestimate how much your use of spelling and grammar will affect your first impression.

CV and cover letters

Writing a cover letter or explaining why you are applying to a particular firm? Think very carefully about this. We don't ask for the sake of it. We want to know we are investing valuable recruitment time in people who have researched what we do, how we do it, and why this might suit both parties. Equally, make sure you are not just repeating a firm's own recruitment brochure back to them as part of this. We paid someone to write that – we know what it says.

It can be hard to portray oneself as unique on paper without sounding a little 'out there'. This is a recruitment jungle where it can seem all about the academics, but don't be fooled. It's true that you need to be super capable – we are looking for people that excel at science, can put together logical and articulate prose, grapple with the pace of change and invention, formulate coherent and future-proof arguments, as well as get along with clients to build and retain business.

It can be an impossible task to find someone who ticks all these boxes. Firms know this and are not expecting the finished article to land on their doorstep. It is about promise and potential; finding someone who, when faced with large amounts of information, has the ability to see the wood for the trees. Have a think about the areas of your experience that you can point to which back up your application. Have you won prizes? Published research? Previously involved yourself in presenting? A common pitfall in this career is relying on the science side to get you through – many can struggle applying this in a practical sense to logical and persuasive writing and client relationship building, so consider what makes you ideally suited in principle all-round.

Recruitment tests

You may find that firms have some automated assessment tests as part of their selection process, usually to try and understand your use of language and attention to detail. Such assessments will usually be under timed

submission conditions, and it is important to remain calm and finish the tests. The software will often give you the chance to have a practice go; so take up this opportunity.

You may be asked to submit a description of a particular object in order for your powers of analysis and explanation to be assessed. You are not expected to know everything, but what matters is how you approach describing your object, and the language you use to do so. It is important to be as precise, logical, and clear as possible. Keep in mind the difference between defining and describing an object and you will be on the right track.

Resist the temptation to turn to google to help you with these descriptive tests. Firms are wise to the fact that "model" answers exist on the internet and it's immediately obvious when someone has used these resources. You may be asked in your interview to explain why you chose particular words or turns of phrase – answering those questions is going to be hard if you copied from an AI generated answer on an internet page. It's much better to try yourself and have something to discuss.

The interview

Interviewing style differs from firm to firm. Some will focus on technical questions. Others will ask more about what you know about the profession and why you want to be a part of it and their firm in particular, so remember to mention why you are interested in that firm above others.

Don't be afraid if you don't know an answer, but try and offer a logical alternative to show how you have still engaged with the question and given it consideration. Make sure you have some questions for the interviewer, too. For example, ask them what has kept them at their current firm or what it is like to work there and what the current training culture is like.

If at first you don't succeed...

Patent firms often don't have the same trainee intake as some other professions so don't be disheartened if it is not an immediate success. If it is what you really want to do then ask for feedback and keep trying. ●



Gill McGuire
Professional Support Attorney
Dehns

Gill McGuire is the Professional Support Attorney at Dehns, a varied role with responsibility for learning and development, including training and assisting with graduate recruitment. Gill was previously a partner at a different firm.

For more careers advice visit:
www.ipcareers.co.uk

JDD Consultants is an established name in IP training, having organised short courses on intellectual property since 1983.

Each year we hold revision courses to prepare candidates for:

- The **Foundation Certificate and Final Diploma PEB examinations** for trainee patent attorneys; and
- The **European Qualifying Examinations (EQE)** for Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office.

Our courses for the PEB exams are held mainly in **June, July and August** and our EQE courses in **November and December**.

Many are held at a residential training centre in Milton Keynes and are delivered by patent attorneys. These face to face and/or online courses are supported by a Moodle forum.

The benefits of JDD courses

Attendees have found the courses most helpful in preparing for the exams, providing focus to their revision work and developing techniques to successfully tackle the challenging Final Diploma and EQE exams.

The pass rates for those attending our courses have been substantially higher than for non attendees. And typically, each year a number of CIPA prize-winners have been attendees from our courses.

Our attendees come from a range of small, medium-sized and large patent firms, from industry, and from the UK, Ireland, Germany, Sweden and Asia.

Once you have joined an IP firm, ask your colleagues about JDD and visit our website to find out more about the benefits of attending a JDD course to help you through qualification. We look forward to seeing you on our future courses!

COURSE PROVIDER DIRECTORY

Directory of Intellectual Property course providers

Bournemouth University

Brunel University

Cardiff University

JDD Consultants

King's College London

Nottingham Trent University

Queen Mary University of London

Swansea University

Trinity College Dublin

University College Cork

University College Dublin

University College London

University of Aberdeen

University of Edinburgh

University of Glasgow

University of Hertfordshire

University of Kent

University of Manchester

University of Oxford

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Visit www.ipcareers.co.uk for our:

Course
Directory



Bournemouth University (BU) has a strong national and international reputation in research and education in intellectual property (IP) law, with its excellence spanning 25 years through its dedicated IP Centre – the Centre for Intellectual Property Policy & Management (CIPPM). The Centre comprises a team of world-leading academics and industry experts who teach IP at various levels. Apart from CIPPM, law at BU also has extensive expertise in commercial law, international tax law and international public law.

W: www.bournemouth.ac.uk/law **E:** futurestudents@bournemouth.ac.uk



The Dickson Poon School of Law offers two options for specialisation in the fast-growing field of IP law, providing strong international and comparative focus and taught by leading academics and practitioners. The Intellectual Property & Information Law LLM is studied on campus, full-time or part-time. The UK, EU & US Copyright Law Postgraduate Diploma is delivered online alongside residential weekends.

W: kcl.ac.uk/law **E:** law-enquiry@kcl.ac.uk



Brunel Law School is a diverse and vibrant community where you will be supported in your studies and encouraged to develop your skills for your future career in intellectual property. Our IP courses are taught by a team of prolific academics and industry experts with a strong reputation for specialising in the area of intellectual property.

W: www.brunel.ac.uk/law **E:** enquiries@brunel.ac.uk



A trusted provider in IP training

Our established intellectual property courses are industry-approved and taught by our academics with significant industry expertise. We have a number of internationally recognised experts in a wide range of legal areas, as well as an Intellectual Property Research Group, which has collaborated with CITMA, CIPA, IPREG and the European Patent Office.

W: www.ntu.ac.uk/professionallegaltraining **E:** PLSAdminTeam@ntu.ac.uk



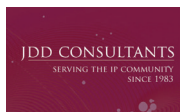
The School of Law and Politics is a leading law school for socio-legal studies and law in context. Our LLM programme in Intellectual Property Law aims to meet the needs of students, lawyers and policy makers who wish to develop the ability to critically assess intellectual property law in domestic, EU and international contexts. As a postgraduate student you can also benefit from our range of award-winning pro bono schemes.

W: www.cardiff.ac.uk/law-politics **E:** law-pol@cardiff.ac.uk



Queen Mary has a long history of excellence in research and scholarship in intellectual property, spanning 35 years through the creation of the dedicated research institute – Queen Mary Intellectual Property Research Institute (QMIPRI). The MSc programme is aimed at those wishing to gain an understanding of the growing importance of intellectual property in the modern economy.

W: www.qmul.ac.uk/law/postgraduate/programmes/ **E:** pglaw-enquiries@qmul.ac.uk



JDD Consultants is an established name in IP training: we have organised intellectual property training courses since 1983. Each year we hold residential and online revision courses to prepare candidates for:

- The **Foundation Certificate and Final Diploma PEB examinations** for trainee patent attorneys; and
- The **European Qualifying Examinations (EQE)** for Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office

W: www.jddcourses.co.uk **E:** jdd.consultants@ntlworld.com / admin@jddcourses.co.uk



LLM in Intellectual Property and Innovation

At Swansea University, you will be part of a globally recognised law school committed to excellence in teaching and research, that offers exceptional employability support and student experience. You will gain the knowledge and skills to develop into a 21st century practitioner, with a specialist understanding of intellectual property and innovation, paving the way to a range of exciting careers in this increasingly recognised field.

W: www.swansea.ac.uk/law/istl **E:** study@swansea.ac.uk



The LLM (Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law)
at the School of Law, Trinity College delivers modules that study the interrelationships between law, science, intellectual property and technology. Modules focus on all facets of IP Law (patent, copyright and trademark law) alongside emerging areas such as artificial intelligence, data protection, regulation of cyber speech and cyber security. Our students have the opportunity to apply for paid traineeships at European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and European Patent Office (EPO) annually.

W: www.tcd.ie/law/programmes/postgraduate **E:** Law.postgraduate@tcd.ie



Law has been taught at the University of Aberdeen since its founding in 1495. Today, we are proud to be recognised as a Top 15 UK Law School by the Times & Sunday Times Good University Guide 2025. Our LLM in Intellectual Property and Information Law offers two dynamic study routes: a traditional dissertation or our Professional Skills route, which forgoes the dissertation in favour of practical skills highly valued by employers.

W: www.abdn.ac.uk/law **E:** study@abdn.ac.uk



Study Intellectual Property and E-Law at University College Cork
The School of Law at University College Cork Ireland is a vibrant and friendly place to study, with leading international experts across a range of exciting legal areas. Consistently ranked among the Top 100 Law Schools in the World, the school is internationally recognised for its expertise and research impact.

W: www.ucc.ie/en/law **E:** lawpostgrad@ucc.ie



LLM Intellectual Property Law, University of Edinburgh Law School
This programme is designed to equip students with an advanced knowledge and understanding of intellectual property law and policy within a UK, European and international setting. The programme covers substantive law on all major intellectual property rights including patents, copyright, trademarks, designs, common law protection of intellectual property rights.

W: www.law.ed.ac.uk/study/masters-degrees/llm-intellectual-property-law **E:** pg.law.enquiries@ed.ac.uk



Intellectual Property at UCD Sutherland School of Law
UCD Sutherland School of Law (Dublin) is the leading centre for legal education and research in Ireland, combining engaging undergraduate and graduate level courses, internationally-recognised research, and world-class educational facilities. The School is consistently ranked in one of the Top 100 Universities in the World for Law.

W: www.ucd.ie/law/study/ **E:** lawpostgraduate@ucd.ie lawdiplomas@ucd.ie



The University of Glasgow attracts students from around the world, from multiple legal jurisdictions. The LLM in Intellectual Property & the Digital Economy provides you with a unique opportunity to specialise in this field, with courses covering the main areas (copyright, trademarks, patents) as well as emerging issues at intersection of technology, innovation, and the creative industries.

W: www.gla.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/intellectualproperty **E:** luis.porangaba@glasgow.ac.uk



UCL is a world-leading university providing an inclusive learning environment. On the Master of Laws (LLM) IP Specialism, you'll join a community of bright, ambitious graduates and enjoy support from reputed IP academics. UCL is home to the Institute of Brand & Innovation Law which offers unique CPD courses for IP practitioners and a stimulating programme of public seminars throughout the year.

W: www.ucl.ac.uk/laws **E:** ibil@ucl.ac.uk



Designed by experts in their fields, our LLM pathway in Intellectual Property and Information Law is delivered in our £10m Law Building inclusive of a full-scale replica Crown Court. Hertfordshire Law School has strong industry connections with top firms and a range of co-curricular activities, including our award-winning Law Clinic. These provide students with excellent networking opportunities and career support.

W: go.herts.ac.uk/llm-ip **E:** lawadmissions@herts.ac.uk



LLM pathway in Intellectual Property Law at Kent Law School

Students come from all over the world to study our innovative Kent LLM, a taught Master's in Law degree with an international and contemporary focus. Our LLM pathway in Intellectual Property Law equips you with the necessary in-depth knowledge to practise intellectual property law or work in creative industries.

W: www.kent.ac.uk/law **E:** study1ssj@kent.ac.uk



The University of Sussex is a leading research-intensive university near Brighton. Sussex Law School provides cross-cutting teaching and research in LLM course in Information Technology and Intellectual Property Law (IT&IP). The future of the law is digital. This innovative LLM offers you critical and intellectual specialisation in this rapidly developing area.

W: www.sussex.ac.uk/law/people **E:** pg.applicants@sussex.ac.uk



Designed to develop your expertise, our LLM Intellectual Property Law explores advanced concepts in IP law and policy across the UK, EU and global landscapes. Taught by leading academics, you will become part of a community of talented graduates. The programme is delivered full-time, on campus.

W: <https://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/courses/list/01061/llm-intellectual-property-law>



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Boult	Hoffmann Eitle	Sagittarius IP
Cleveland Scott York	J A Kemp	Script IP
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ABEL + IMRAY TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Rachel Bocking
University Leeds
Degree PhD in Chemistry
Office Location Bath

Background

From 2016 to 2020 I studied for an MChem in Chemistry at the University of Leeds, where I also undertook a Year in Industry in R&D at Lubrizol. Following this, I completed a PhD in Chemistry at the University of Leeds, working on nanocarbon modified micro and nanoscale electrochemical sensors, which saw me working across Chemistry, Electrical Engineering and Medicine. I joined Abel + Imray in September 2024 as a Trainee Patent Attorney in the Chem/Bio team.

What attracted you to your role?

During my PhD I came to realise that a career in the lab was probably not for me, however, I was keen to find a role that was still involved in cutting-edge scientific developments. I first heard about being a patent attorney at a Women in Chemistry conference. Hearing about the experiences of a senior attorney made me realise that my skillset and my interest in being involved in current research advances, without being the one in the lab, might be suited to a career as a patent attorney.

My PhD was highly interdisciplinary; this also drew me to a career as a patent attorney as I was keen to be able to work in a role which spans multiple subject areas and has varied day-to-day activities. Being a patent attorney is a unique role as it involves scientific understanding, law and a keen attention to detail. I very much enjoy working with a range of clients across a breadth of industries, and from small-scale start-ups to multi-national companies. I enjoy the variety of work and the intellectual challenge that comes with the job, alongside the new challenges associated with learning the associated law.

How did you get your job at Abel + Imray?

To help ensure that the career was for me, I secured some work experience at two London-based firms. This was extremely helpful in

gaining an insight into the day-to-day of the career, and I also learnt some valuable tips for applying for upcoming roles and tackling interviews. I applied for the role at Abel + Imray alongside a few other firms, as many firms tend to advertise at a similar time of year. Most applications required a CV and covering letter, alongside answering a few technical or motivational questions. Abel + Imray invited me for a video call interview soon after applying, which was then followed by an in-person second stage interview a couple of weeks later.

What skills are useful in this profession?

As the Patent Offices that attorneys deal with run on strict deadlines, it's extremely important to be well organised and have a structured way of working. Communication, both verbally and in writing, is also key, as it's really important to be able to express exactly what you mean in a clear and concise manner, with a high attention to detail. The role involves a lot of reading and digesting large amounts of technical and legal information, so it's important to be happy with this style of working, and to also have an underlying interest in understanding how inventions work, alongside an enthusiasm to learn about the new world of IP law.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

As with any career, it's important to do your research into what the role will be like. It's a challenging career, and there are exams to pass in the first few years, but that hopefully shouldn't put you off if the day-to-day role sounds appealing! I found that doing some work experience really helped me to make up my mind before applying for roles. I also spoke to a couple of contacts who were patent attorneys to hear their experiences. Each firm is different, so it's also worthwhile researching which ones might be a good fit for you before applying. ●



APPLEYARD LEES TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Chloe Johnson
University Kent
Degree BSc in Biomedical Science
Office Location Cambridge

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I came into the IP profession after spending (many) years working in academic research. I knew I wanted a career that was still intellectually stimulating and used my degree, without being tied to the lab bench. This is a very common theme among patent attorneys! When I heard about a career as a trainee patent attorney, I really liked the idea of a job that combined science and law. As I learnt more about it, it became clear that the management of a client's IP portfolio is very strategic, so there is also a business/commercial element to the job.

How did you get your role at Appleyard Lees?

When applying for trainee patent attorney roles, there are lots of things to consider. Do you want to work in-house or in private practice? Do you have a preference to work in London or other specific location? Do you have a preference for the kinds of clients you would like to work with, or the sort of technologies you want to work on? There is lots of information available to help you make this choice. When I was offered a position at Appleyard Lees, I was delighted. Appleyard Lees is a very collegiate firm with an inclusive, supportive environment.

What are your main duties of your role?

From day one I was working on client cases and towards deadlines. Whilst this can be daunting, there is lots of support available. No question is too silly (trust me, I've asked them all) and it is encouraged to approach anyone in the firm.

On my first day, I was starting at the very beginning of the career ladder, with no legal training (which is not required to join the profession) or previous knowledge of the patent system. This can take a bit of getting used to, especially if you have previously spent several years becoming an expert in your field, but what is important is your attitude. However,

you should not let this put you off as you are taught the legal aspects on the job, and it is OK to get lots of feedback on your work. If you are willing to take on board feedback and are eager to continuously learn and develop, a career as a patent attorney can be very rewarding.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

Perhaps the most rewarding part for me is speaking with inventors and researchers, who are really excited about their work. Another huge benefit is the variety of technology I work on. I am part of the Life Sciences team, and have worked on cases ranging from antibodies to the microbiome, AI methods for drug discovery to medical devices, to name just a few.

Of course, it goes without saying that a tough part of the job is the number of exams required to become a qualified attorney. It should not be underestimated how much personal time needs to go into passing them. However, there is always lots of support both internally from qualified attorneys and other trainees in the same position, and externally through revision courses. Another aspect is that the job is very deadline driven.

In this career, it is important to have excellent written and verbal communication skills, the ability to work well both in a team and autonomously, good time management skills, strong analytical skills and meticulous attention to detail. These skills are not just for drafting patent applications – the job itself is very varied. There is always something new to learn and it certainly never gets boring.

Overall, a career in IP law is incredibly rewarding. I would encourage anyone thinking of applying to reach out to other trainees or other qualified attorneys and find out as much as you can! ●



BECK GREENER TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Ellen Walkin
University University of Warwick
Degree MPhys (Integrated Masters of Physics)
Office Location London

Explain why you decided to pursue a career in this profession

I had always enjoyed learning about new inventions and developing my knowledge of up-and-coming technology. I especially enjoyed reading research papers and writing about projects I was involved with. The patent profession struck me as a role in which I could continue learning about the technology that interested me, while allowing me to work with a wider range of technologies.

Give a bit of background on your qualifications and the training

I studied physics at university, completing an integrated Masters at Warwick University. I learnt about various areas including electrodynamics, optics and astrophysics. The technical skills I learnt were put to good use in a graduate role with BT where I worked on projects related to cybersecurity problems, which helped me to increase my understanding of areas such as the Internet of Things (IoT) and quantum computing. I have taken the knowledge I gained in my degree and role at BT into my work as a trainee patent attorney.

Explain what your current role involves

I joined Beck Greener just over six months ago, so I have not yet completed any external courses. Most of the training I have received has been conducted on the job. I am generally given work such as letter responses to the UK and European patent offices. I will write a draft response and discuss my draft with a partner who will provide detailed constructive feedback and discuss relevant key aspects of the law. Additional training is provided by working through the patents training manual with my

supervisor and occasionally attending CIPA lectures in the evenings after work. These lectures provide a good foundation on patent law in the UK and Europe.

Future Plans

I am hoping to spend the next few years improving my knowledge of patent law and studying for qualifying exams to become a UK and European patent attorney. I will be attending the Queen Mary's IP course, which will provide an overview of the law I will be learning about for the next few years.

Any advice

My first piece of advice for anyone looking to get into the patent profession would be to research the exams you will need to take – CIPA and the EPI (Institute of Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office) have some resources on this. This will give you an idea of the amount of studying required.

For interviews, patent firms generally want to see someone who has the required technical experience to understand the inventions. However, they are also interested in ensuring that the applicant has the attention to detail and writing skills required to fully describe the inventions and communicate with clients. Firms will often ask you to write a description of an invention as part of the application process – I would suggest having a look at some patent applications online to get an idea of the writing style that is expected. Most firms won't be looking for specific experience in patents because they appreciate that you are applying for a trainee position. ●



BOULT PATENT ASSISTANT

Name Rosie Murray
University Cambridge
Degree MSci Natural Sciences (Biochemistry)
Office Location Cambridge

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

While I was at university I would regularly interact with academics, which contributed towards a feeling that pursuing a PhD was the next logical step after my degree. But during my third year I realised that what I enjoyed most about my degree was not planning and conducting experiments but the opportunity to critically analyse scientific concepts within essays and discussions. Therefore, I started to explore my options for a role that incorporated these aspects of my studies.

During the search for my next steps, I attended a university careers fair. This was the first opportunity I had to interact with Patent Attorneys and to get an initial insight into the profession. I found the idea of mixing a broad range of scientific subjects with law and problem solving particularly appealing. Subsequently, I attended open days and undertook work experience to get a real feel for what the role would entail on a day-to-day basis, and I quickly became confident that this was the role for me.

How did you get your job and any advice for joining the profession?

I attended the Voluntary Vacation Scheme run by Boulton shortly after finishing the third year of my degree. The scheme involved a series of lectures about the profession and various workshops intended to get us thinking about the main principles of patent law. We were also given the opportunity to prepare a letter regarding the patentability of an invention. Following the scheme, I was invited to two interviews and very happily accepted an offer for a role as a Patent Trainee to start after the fourth year of my degree.

For anyone looking to enter the profession, I would recommend taking up as many opportunities as possible to speak to those already in the role. It takes quite a while to qualify as a Patent Attorney and there are large time commitments when preparing for exams, so before you start training it is ideal if you are pretty sure that the role is right for you. The nature of interviews will vary depending on the firm, but as part of my interview preparation I found it helpful to try to explain scientific concepts clearly and precisely to someone not familiar with these concepts.

What are your main duties and what skills are useful in the profession?

I am currently in my second year of training. I assist with many different tasks associated with different stages along the timeline of a patent, from drafting and filing an application to grant and opposition procedures. The cases I have worked on so far have been related to a wide range of subjects, such as antibodies, DNA sequencing and devices for biotechnological applications. A large amount of my time is spent constructing arguments in response to comments that have been made by patent examiners and I am also becoming more involved in meetings with inventors.

From the beginning of my job, I was given my own caseload to manage, which was incredibly useful for getting me up to speed with the organisation and time management requirements that are essential for the role. It is necessary to be articulate and conscientious, and to be able to understand new scientific concepts quickly. It is also important to note that the job is generally 9-5, but sometimes you may be required to work longer hours, for example to meet urgent deadlines. ●



CLEVELAND SCOTT YORK TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Name Ela Kucharska
University Durham
Degree Master's in Chemistry (MChem)
Office Location London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I studied Chemistry at University where I really enjoyed learning about the scientific concepts in lectures and their real-world applications.

When it came to considering career options, I quickly realised that the industries which most of my friends were going into didn't really appeal to me. I also found that there aren't many professions where I could continue working closely with Chemistry whilst not being in a laboratory. After completing an internship at one of the firms, patent law seemed like the perfect opportunity where I could leverage my scientific knowledge in a professional environment.

How did you get your job at CSY?

I started by researching firms which I thought I would be best suited to based on several factors including support offered during the qualification process, technology they work with and company values. I made a shortlist of firms which matched my criteria (Cleveland Scott York being one of them) and applied for advertised positions as well as sending some speculative applications.

After submitting my CV and cover letter I was invited to an interview. In the first part of the interview, I was asked to complete a written exercise which involved describing an invention depicted in a drawing. I had to define the invention in a concise way whilst still incorporating all the features essential to the function of the invention.

The second part of the interview was more of a chat with the partner who I now work with. I was asked a mixture of competency and technical questions and asked to describe a piece of stationery. In interviews it seems fairly

common to be asked to describe everyday objects in this industry, so if you are looking for some practice it might be useful to try describing random objects you have at home and extracting functions of the key features.

What are your main duties?

Day to day I have found that the duties do vary quite a lot, especially at the start of my career as I often spend a significant amount of time reading up on sections of the law which I haven't encountered before.

Most of the time my work relates to different aspects of patent applications, starting from drafting all the way up to grant and post grant. This can range from working with clients to understand the invention, drafting applications in a way which maximises commercial value to the client, prosecution before European and UK patent offices, and preparing for oral proceedings in response to oppositions to the granted patent. Working on patents at various stages of prosecution provides an insight into the lifecycle of a patent.

Whilst most of the work is independent, I work closely under the supervision of a partner who provides a lot of feedback on my work.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to get into the profession?

If you think that a career in patent law might be for you, I strongly recommend attending open days which are run by some firms to gain a better understanding of the profession and to demonstrate your interest. Work experience and internships can be very competitive and hard to come by, so I would encourage you to keep an eye out on the IP Careers website – and indeed on the Cleveland Scott York one – for any opportunities. ●



D YOUNG & CO TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Name Eleanor Downing
University Durham
Degree MPhys Physics and Astronomy
Office Location London

Why I decided to pursue a career in this profession

At university I enjoyed research and studying for my masters, and seriously considered pursuing a PhD. However, I decided I wanted to move on from student life and occupy my day-to-day with a wider variety of topics, whilst still making use of my background in Physics. I wanted to learn about new, interesting technologies and continue to be challenged. Additionally, I noticed throughout my degree that I particularly enjoyed technical writing tasks such as lab reports and research papers, diving into details in particular subject areas. I thought a career in patents would be a good fit, with the added appeal of exploring legal and commercial aspects. I was right!

Some background on my qualifications and the training I have completed so far

Before entering the profession, I completed an integrated masters in Physics and Astronomy at Durham University. My main areas of study in my final year were laser physics, quantum computing, and theoretical and practical astrophysics.

Generally, training as a patent attorney mostly consists of learning on the job, working closely with supervisors and building your knowledge and expertise through feedback. In my role at D Young & Co, I started work on real cases from day 1. This was a little daunting at the time, but there is an abundance of support along the way and seeing my work go out to real clients was extremely satisfying.

My current role

Much of your day-to-day as a trainee is working on patent prosecution, which involves amending applications and preparing arguments to move patent applications towards grant in response to objections from the relevant patent office. This involves lots of reading and assimilating technical information

to gain an understanding of a new topic, and applying this to the legal situation. As a trainee, all responses are supervised with a qualified attorney who will read your work, answer any questions you may have, provide feedback, and help you to improve the piece of work.

In addition, I have now begun to learn patent drafting which involves meeting with inventors to discuss their ideas and crafting this into a patent application. This is a challenging but fulfilling aspect of the role and allows you to deeply engage with inventors and the forefront of technology.

Even as a trainee, you are given responsibility over your deadlines and workload right from the start. Time management and organisation are therefore very important in this career.

My future plans

The next steps for me are to continue learning and prepare for the next set of exams. There are a number of exams you must pass in order to qualify as a UK and European patent attorney, spread over a period of approximately four years. These are difficult and involve studying in your spare time, but qualifying will be worth it!

My advice

In the early stages of this career, the learning curve is very steep. It can be disheartening to see a lot of "red pen" on your work as adjustments are made, however my advice would be to know that this is not only normal but expected, and to trust the process. Over time, it will pay off! Additionally, you should be aware of the exams and that you will need to give up free time over revision periods to prepare, especially around the third and fourth years of training. If this career profile resonates with you, I would strongly recommend pursuing a career in patents. ●



DEHNS TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Edidi Olanrewaju
University Bristol
Degree MRes, Cellular and Molecular Medicine
Office Location Oxford

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I heard about intellectual property during my undergraduate degree at a careers fair where Dehns had a stall. I was quite interested and went away to do some more research. When I understood the industry a bit more, I was intrigued by a role that allowed me to combine law and science. Patents are an extremely important aspect of science and I knew working on the frontline of inventions would be challenging and intellectually stimulating which is exactly what I wanted in a career.

What attracted you to Dehns?

Dehns has a great reputation in the industry and has a really extensive in-house training programme. I also really liked the clear career progression which makes it easy to see where you could be in the future – I find it very inspiring. Additionally, the firm has a great reputation for friendliness and is a really supportive place to work; this is super important when choosing a company and I was instantly keen on applying. There are also lots of great benefits, including annual Summer and Christmas socials and a flexitime working system which means you are able to maintain a great work-life balance.

What was the application process like?

The application process is a few rounds long and involves a couple of online assessments and some interviews. My advice would be to be yourself in the interviews and make sure you have a good grasp of relevant topics in your desired field of work. It's also important to be up to date with new developments in the field too as you never know what will come up and in intellectual property, on a daily basis, you always need to be dealing with different aspects of science – the interviews might reflect this so being knowledgeable in a wide range of areas is really essential!

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

My advice would be to make sure you have a love of your field of study as you will need to be reading around many areas every day; there is such a great diversity in the work. You also need to be able to pay keen attention to detail and enjoy reading and writing. Finally, you need to be prepared to keep studying. There are lots of difficult exams but as long as you are motivated and have a drive to succeed, you shouldn't be concerned! ●



EIP PATENT SCIENTIST

Name Simona Misakova
University Oxford
Degree MEng Materials Science
Office Location Bath

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

When looking at my options, this profession very clearly stood out as a nice career combining my existing technical expertise with some new legal challenges. The technical subject matter is, by definition, brand new and this was also enticing.

What attracted you to your role?

The role at EIP was particularly attractive due to the fantastic reputation of the firm, especially the reputation for great training. Once I got to interview here, I knew the fit was great as I got on well with the people I met and felt the culture was relaxed and friendly – I felt at home instantly!

What are your main duties?

Each day, I work on various cases. These can be at various stages of the lifecycle of a patent application such as preparing the application, drafting, or corresponding with patent offices and foreign attorneys to get patent applications to grant (a process called "prosecution").

Both drafting and prosecution involve communicating with clients and inventors over emails and on calls. I also engage in discussions with the senior attorneys responsible for the cases I am working on. Lots of my time is spent on independent work preparing and refining documents and arguments.

With the rest of my day, I complete administrative work. This may be keeping accurate and timely records or arranging billing on the cases I have worked on.

Last but not least, training is still a big part of my time. 2 years into the profession I still have a lot to learn.

Is it a 9-5 job?

It is mostly, yes. There is some expectation of working outside of the 9-5 in preparation for exams as, though some exam leave is given, the exams are very rigorous and require months of preparation. It is very rare that I need to work longer than the usual hours on a case, in my personal experience.

What skills are useful in this profession?

We all come into the profession as experts in a technical discipline with very little legal knowledge. I think the most important skill is to be willing and able to learn and be comfortable being a complete beginner once again. It can be discouraging but fear not – all patent attorneys know this feeling well and have gone through the same thing!

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

Take every opportunity you can to speak with people in the profession, at various levels, types of company ("private practice" and "in house"). Gain an understanding of how different firms operate, what kinds of clients they have, what work do they do most of, what is the culture like etc. and select where you wish to work based on that. These are great things to ask, or observe, in your interviews, too. Figure out where you can truly envisage yourself training and working for the next few years and beyond! ●



FORRESTERS TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name
University
Degree
Office Location

Ekow Abankwa
University of Bristol
MEng Mechanical Engineering
Birmingham

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

During my penultimate year at university, I had the opportunity to complete an internship as a mechanical engineer in the building services industry. While I enjoyed the experience, I felt that this was not the right career for me. I first heard about the patent profession during a university lecture. My lecturer aptly described patent attorneys as “scientists and engineers who get paid to protect inventions”. After this, I began researching the role and had the opportunity to speak with many attorneys and trainees. I attended open days to gain an understanding of the profession. What I found interesting from the beginning was the mix of technical, legal, and communication skills required for the role. I found the prospect of continuously learning new legal and technical concepts exciting. Also, the chance to work on a variety of inventions in a variety of fields appealed to me.

What was the application process like?

Forresters’ application process consisted of submitting a CV and cover letter before having the chance to attend an interview. The interview stage included an exercise in which I was given two patent documents to review followed by an extract with the examiner’s opinion. I was required to discuss with my interviewer whether I agreed or disagreed with the examiner’s opinion and why. This was a very interesting task as it gave me some insight into what I would be doing day-to-day as a trainee.

What are your main duties/roles?

A typical day for me usually includes reviewing and responding to examination reports from patent offices. These are usually from the UK or European patent offices, but I also sometimes instruct agents in other countries. To respond to an examination report, I’d first review the patent application along with the examiner’s report and any documents the examiner cited in their report. Then I’d argue and/or amend the application to

address the examiner’s objections. I really enjoy this part of the job as it gives me an opportunity to understand a variety of inventions and think critically and creatively when constructing arguments. My other duties include writing client communication, conducting freedom to operate searches, and claim drafting. I also attend training tutorials in which I learn about the legal aspects and the skills that I need to know to do my job and pass the UK and European exams. From time to time, I also attend networking events, where I’m able to meet other trainee attorneys as well as people from a range of fields to grow my professional network.

Do you have any advice for someone wanting to enter the profession?

My advice would be to learn as much about the profession as possible by talking to attorneys and trainees. Try and talk to people at a variety of firms to find out which firms would be a good fit for you and be sure to speak to people at different stages in their career. There are also so many online resources for you to explore which can give you a better understanding of the role. Personally, I’d recommend engaging with the Careers in Ideas, Summer of IP as well as the IP Careers website. I’d recommend getting to know the route to qualification and understanding that it takes years and requires a lot of studying. Not only is it good for you to know this, but interviewers will also want to know that you know this.

What would you like to achieve in future?

Currently, I’m fully focused on improving day to day and working towards becoming a qualified patent attorney. That being said, this career offers a clear route for progression with many attorneys going on to become Senior Associates and Partners, which is something I’d like to do. I’d also like to contribute to the community more in future, through IP inclusive and the CIPA Informals. ●



GJE TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name
University
Degree
Office Location

Krishna Lall
Imperial College London
BSc in Chemistry
London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

While studying chemistry at university, I had the opportunity to take a law course as an additional module for my degree. This course explored the relationship between science and the law, which I found fascinating and I particularly enjoyed the section about intellectual property law. After exploring some careers in science and law, I decided that I wanted to be a Patent Attorney, as it would allow me to use my degree while working in law. The theory side of my degree was my favourite part and being a Patent Attorney allows me to use that part of my degree every day to understand new technology.

What are your main duties?

One of the great things about working at GJE is the variety of work that I am given. This means that I don’t spend too long doing just one thing and have gained experience in lots of different areas, in varying jurisdictions. My typical responsibilities include drafting new patent applications, prosecuting applications worldwide and meeting with clients. I have also had the opportunity to get involved with some opposition work, which has been a great experience for me at this early stage of my career. At GJE there is also an opportunity to get involved with things outside of patents, such as the Diversity and Inclusion group which I am a part of.

What skills are useful in this profession?

An ability to pick up new concepts quickly is always helpful, as Patent Attorneys work in lots of different technical fields. For example,

while synthetic and organic chemistry was my preferred topic at university, I now work in a range of areas from batteries to pharmaceuticals, to detergents and beyond. Being able to adapt and learn quickly is a useful skill to have, especially as the technology might be something that you have never seen before! Additionally, much of the work of a Patent Attorney requires you to be precise and meticulous, and so the profession suits someone who is detail-oriented.

What does the training /qualification route look like?

At GJE, Trainee Patent Attorneys start their training from day one with a comprehensive induction programme. Since starting, I have received lots of internal training in the form of regular “claim drafting” tutorials, know-how sessions as well as day-to-day training on real cases. About a year and a half into the profession, trainees will study towards their Postgraduate Certificate in Intellectual Property. After this, they will start studying towards the European and UK qualifying exams. Typically, the UK exams will be sat three or four years after training begins. One change for trainees who start from now on is that the European Qualifying Exams will look different. Candidates now have the opportunity to spread the exam load out more by taking the foundation “F” paper one year into training, the “M1” and “M2” papers 2 years in, and the “M3” and “M4” papers three years in. GJE helps trainees throughout their exams with their own programme of exam tutorials and support. ●



HALEY GUILIANO TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Name Phoebe O'Logbon
University UCL
Degree BSc (Hons) Physics
Office Location London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

While studying Physics, I realised that I wanted a career where I could continue applying scientific knowledge but in a setting that emphasised communication and analysis over laboratory work. The patent profession provided the perfect balance, allowing me to engage with scientific ideology, while focusing on critical thinking and writing.

What attracted you to your role?

Since secondary school, I've enjoyed subjects that involve applying complex information, particularly Physics and History. Patent law practice is unique in that it combines both scientific and literary skills, as the role demands an in-depth understanding of technical subject matter and the ability to articulate that clearly in writing. It was the ideal intersection of my academic interests.

How did you get your job at Haley Guiliano?

I applied through the IP Careers website. The recruitment process involved two interviews. The first interview focused on a technical written test based on an invention and the other consisted of questions relating to the profession and patent law.

What was the application process like?

I found the application process engaging and mentally stimulating. I particularly enjoyed the written test component, which examined both inventive thinking and concise communication. My background in scientific writing proved to be a strong asset, so I would advise prospective applicants to develop a portfolio of technical writing to showcase both clarity and accuracy in communicating scientific ideas.

What are your main duties?

My responsibilities include drafting patent applications, responding to examination reports, and preparation of infringement

analysis. In drafting, I work with clients to describe their inventions in a way that captures various embodiments, ensuring broad protection. In responding to Office Actions, I write arguments to persuade the European Patent Office (EPO) of the patentability of the invention detailed in the patent application. As part of my infringement analysis work I am gaining exposure to patent assertion, which involves analysing the claims of patents in the context of enforcement and licensing.

What skills are useful in this profession?

Attention to detail is crucial, particularly when drafting patent claims because even a small punctuation error can impact the scope of protection. Analytical thinking is also essential when responding to examiner objections or distinguishing an invention from prior art. Creativity plays a key role in identifying and articulating multiple embodiments of an invention. Lastly, excellent time management is fundamental, as the role is a highly deadline-driven and often requires balancing multiple tasks simultaneously.

What would you like to achieve in the future?

My goal is to become fully qualified as a UK and European patent attorney. Beyond the qualifications, I'm interested in expanding into the litigation side of intellectual property, particularly working on infringement and validity disputes.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

Start by developing your writing skills, particularly in a scientific context. Contributing to student journals or scientific magazines is excellent preparation and provides valuable experience in communicating complex ideas clearly. Having a portfolio of technical writing can really strengthen your application and demonstrate your suitability for the profession. ●



HASELTINE LAKE KEMPNER TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Marie-Alexis Mezin
University École Polytechnique
Degree Bachelor of Science, Mathematics & Physics
Office Location London

As a Trainee Patent Attorney at HLK, I am currently completing a compulsory period of practical law training at HLK whilst sitting a series of exams to become dually qualified in the UK and EU.

Why did you decide to pursue a career in this profession?

I was introduced to patent law in secondary school when my science teacher mentioned it during a parent-teacher meeting. "I enjoy science," I said to my teacher, "but I also like literature and languages." "Have you considered patent law?" he responded. Years later, as I was set to graduate with a degree in Mathematics and Physics, I would recall his comment.

What were the motivations behind this decision?

During my studies, I conducted research on microrobots at CNRS (the largest fundamental science agency in Europe), explored Quantum Machine Learning at IBM, and created apps in class and at J.P. Morgan, among other technical pursuits. But ultimately, patent law would indeed reveal itself to be the best fit. Patent law satisfies my drive to work on a variety of intellectually challenging and cutting-edge technologies. It speaks to my desire to engage with a diversity of people in the scientific and business realms. And it fulfils the humanist in me who likes to advocate, read, write, and study foreign languages.

Training and experience to become a patent attorney?

I made the firm decision to pursue the path of patent law after taking an online course on intellectual property law, conducting a

series of informational interviews with patent attorneys and trainees, and interning at a patent law firm in London for a couple of weeks. To broaden my experience and gain an in-house perspective, I worked for PARC (the Palo Alto Research Center, now part of SRI International) on market and IP analysis and recommendations for early-stage technologies and innovation projects.

Key takeaways from this career path?

I am thrilled that patent law allows me to apply diverse facets of my background, including my technical skills in physics, mathematics and computer science honed during my studies and internships, my business experience gained working on diverse professional teams and projects, and my global perspective and communication skills garnered from living and working in the UK, France and USA.

HLK has provided diverse and enriching learning experiences, including tailored training and support for passing the rigorous CIPA and EPO exams, opportunities to attend industry conferences and pen thought leadership articles, and the chance to work on secondment at Helsing, a security and artificial intelligence startup seeking to protect and serve democracies.

My secondary school science teacher was right after all: patent law is a perfect fit. ●



HGF TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Joseph Todd
University York
Degree Physics
Office Location Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I studied Physics at the University of York and after graduating I initially pursued a PGCE and spent a year training to become a teacher. While I gained a lot from the experience, I realised that teaching wasn't the right long-term fit for me.

That year, however, helped clarify what I was looking for in a career – problem-solving, working with complex ideas, and staying connected to science and technology. When I came across the patent attorney profession, it felt like everything clicked. It wasn't part of a grand plan, but it turned out to be exactly the kind of career I was searching for.

What was the application process like?

The first stage of the application process was being invited to an in-person half-day interview. The second stage involved a shorter interview conducted online. The first stage was very interactive, it included group exercises with two other candidates, a claim drafting task, a short presentation, and some more traditional interview questions. It was clear that HGF were looking beyond academic credentials and previous IP experience; they wanted to see whether candidates aligned with the firm's values and had a genuine interest in the profession.

One thing that stood out was how transparent they were about the realities of the role. They emphasised that the training process takes a minimum of four years, and that exam failures are not uncommon. It was important to them that applicants understood the long-term commitment involved and weren't applying just for the sake of it. While the format may not have been entirely conventional, the underlying message was clear: know what you're signing up for, and be prepared for setbacks along the way.

What My Role Involves

As a trainee at HGF, my day-to-day work includes drafting patent specifications, responding to examination reports, and conducting prior art searches. There's a strong emphasis on learning, and I'm constantly building my legal and technical expertise.

I also attend client meetings and have been gradually gaining more responsibilities. One of the most rewarding aspects of the job is seeing how our work helps clients protect their innovations and bring them to the market. It's a reminder that what we do has a real-world impact.

Is it a 9-5 job?

Generally, yes – but there are times when deadlines require flexibility. HGF is supportive of work-life balance, and I've found that good time management and communication with the team, goes a long way in keeping things under control.

Looking ahead

In the near term, my focus is on passing the qualifying exams (there are lots of them!) and continuing to build my legal expertise. Long term, I hope to become a trusted advisor to clients and contribute to the strategic direction of the firm. I'm also passionate about mentoring future trainees and promoting awareness of the profession, especially in regions like the North East where the IP sector is growing.

Advice for Aspiring Patent Attorneys

If you're considering this career, my advice is to be curious and persistent. The learning curve is steep, but the profession is incredibly rewarding for those who enjoy problem-solving and continuous learning. Don't worry if you don't have a legal background; many of us come from STEM degrees and learn the legal side on the job. I didn't really know what a patent was until I was preparing for the interview! ●



HINDLES TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Maeve McCrossan
University Warwick
Degree MPhys
Office Location Edinburgh

What skills are useful in this profession?

A patent attorney needs to be able to quickly pick up new concepts and ideas across a wide range of fields and understand them to a high level. Attention to detail is key, as well as being able to clearly articulate arguments and ideas, both to clients and in official communications. Having a creative mind and the ability to think outside the box are also valuable skills for both drafting patent applications and responding to examination reports.

What are your main duties?

Every day is different, and you will likely be handling a large number of cases in a variety of technological fields, each of which may be at a different stage in the application process. On any one day I may find myself: meeting with a client to discuss a new invention, drafting a new patent application, responding to client queries via email, forming arguments in response to an examination report, meeting with a client to discuss future strategies, putting together an opposition, or attending a networking event.

Is it a 9-5 job?

In terms of the job itself, the answer will likely depend on the firm, but at Hindles we have quite a flexible work culture with a flexitime

model for work hours. This means that if, for example, you find yourself wanting to stay late to finish up work on a case, you can take back those hours at a later date, which allows you to maintain a healthy work-life balance. Outside of the job itself, as a trainee, you will likely be dedicating many evenings to studying in the run-up to exams. With two exam periods, one for the UK exams and one for the European exams, each roughly half a year apart, it is important to find a balance that allows you to work and study while still retaining a healthy personal life.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

Don't be discouraged if you don't get a job offer straight away. This is a highly competitive sector, and there are limited job opportunities available for new trainees. Keep trying! Once your foot is in the door, you will have access to so many more opportunities. When applying, make sure there are no errors in your cover letter or CV - attention to detail and excellent written communication skills are imperative for this job, after all. Good luck! ●



HOFFMANN EITLE TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Mark Gallagher
University Edinburgh
Degree Chemistry (MChem)
Office Location London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

Admittedly, I was not familiar with the world of intellectual property until my third year of university, when I spotted a sign which read "Scientists can be lawyers too!" at the university careers fair. After speaking with the responsible company's representatives and doing some further research into the job profile, I realised it may be a good fit.

What was the application process like?

The application process at Hoffmann Eitle involved an initial submission of a CV and cover letter, followed by a video interview with two partners of the firm and a subsequent in-person interview and accompanying written assessment in the London office. The interviews tested general chemical knowledge and went more in-depth about research projects undertaken at university.

As trainee patent attorney positions are highly sought after and advertisements garner applications from many top-level candidates, it is very common to apply/interview with several firms before being offered a position. The key message is that you shouldn't become disheartened throughout the process – learn from your application/interview experiences and things can eventually go your way!

What are your main duties?

One of my favourite aspects of the job is that every day is different. My tasks range from formulating arguments for, and writing responses to, Search Reports from the European Patent Office, drafting patent applications, and working on opposition statements against granted patents. The technologies I have worked on span a wide range of chemical sectors not limited to batteries, polymers, petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals; this breadth of subject matter makes every day interesting!

At Hoffmann Eitle, trainees have the advantage of engaging with clients from an early stage, and I have been involved in numerous calls with clients and external counsel in my short time at the firm.

What skills are useful in this profession?

My case work relies heavily on document analysis, and the main output of my work lies in writing up client letters and submissions to the European Patent Office. As such, some key attributes for the job include having a keen eye for detail and good written communication skills. As the work is very deadline-driven, you often find yourself working on multiple files at once, so being able to manage your time effectively and organise your workload is certainly another key to success.

What would you like to achieve in the future?

At this early stage in my training, my focus is on qualifying as a UK and European patent attorney. This will involve several years of intense study in order to pass both the foundation and qualifying exams for both regions, but I am certainly looking forward to the challenge.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

If you are interested in applying to trainee positions, I would recommend reading trainee profiles on the IP Careers website and reaching out to trainees at your firm(s) of interest in order to get a sense of whether the job is for you.

When you start your trainee position, I would stress that you shouldn't beat yourself up if you don't grasp the work immediately. As trained scientists, we are all new to this type of job and it certainly takes a while to get to grips with specific aspects of the law. Your supervisors/trainers understand this and don't expect you to hit the ground running – they are always on hand to help! ●



J A KEMP TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Ekaterina Kaliteevskaya
University Cambridge
Degree Natural Sciences
Office Location London

One of my favourite aspects of studying materials science at university was the breadth of different topics that were covered by the course. Now, this is something that I get to enjoy in my day-to-day job as a trainee patent attorney. After just over two years of being in this role, I have encountered a variety of fascinating patent applications relating to cutting-edge solar cells, digital displays, car engines, and so much more.

I am really happy that my role allows me to use what I have learned in my degree, while nurturing new knowledge and skills. As a trainee patent attorney, one of the main goals is to learn how to navigate within the legal system that governs patent law. While this is a steep learning curve, the firm offers a lot of support by providing in-house tutorials, organising presentations on the latest case law, as well as having many friendly colleagues who are always keen to help. Also, going through the training process with the cohort of fellow trainees has made this experience incredibly enjoyable.

Most of my work so far has involved preparing written arguments to persuade a patent examiner that the invention of our client is novel and inventive in view of the prior art. Typically this work is done independently, with

a few rounds of discussion with the partner on the case. I have also done some work on drafting new patent specifications, as well as engaging in some business development activities. This field of work is highly deadline-orientated, however, the firm has plenty of systems in place to ensure all deadlines are monitored properly which is of great help.

While some aspects of the job can be demanding, I would say that it is definitely possible to maintain a good work-life balance. There is no strict expectation of working the 9-to-5 Dolly Parton lifestyle, meaning that it is possible to structure your day in a way that allows you to meet friends, go to the gym, etc. while keeping on top of your work commitments.

The people at the firm are very friendly and supportive. I really appreciate there is a culture of people having lunch together, as well as going on the occasional pub trip after work.

This career is intellectually stimulating and rewarding. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to stay connected to scientific and technological developments, while building an appreciation for the commercial element of innovation. ●



KELTIE PATENT ASSISTANT

Name Christopher O'Reilly
University TU Dublin
Degree Mechanical Engineering
Office Location Galway, Ireland

Mine was a somewhat alternative entry into the patent profession as I was working as a Chartered Mechanical Engineer in the Automotive and Motorcycle industries for ten years before starting as a Patent Technical Assistant with Keltie. I first heard of the patent profession during my time as an engineer, where I routinely worked to design around competitor patents relating to the components or systems for which I was responsible.

Towards the end of my stint in engineering, I worked for an engineering consultancy. I particularly enjoyed the varied work that consultancy brought and being at the technological forefront. After some research into the patent profession, I realised that it offered similar opportunities to be involved in a wide variety of interesting things.

I chose to apply to Keltie as it is regarded as one of Europe's leading IP firms and they have offices in Ireland. Being Irish myself and having had to leave my home country in pursuit of my engineering career, I decided to change career and return to Ireland.

I am delighted to say that my decision has paid off. I now work for Keltie as a Patent Technical Assistant and live in the wonderful city of Galway situated on the west coast of Ireland. The West of Ireland is an attractive location for an IP firm such as Keltie as it is a thriving innovation hub, particularly in relation to medical devices, pharmaceuticals, engineering and software.

I get to work alongside my colleagues in our London, Cambridge and Cotswold offices on a regular basis, which allows me to learn from their experience and the wide range of technologies and clients in the Keltie portfolio.

The aspects of the job I love are the problem-solving nature of drafting and prosecuting patent applications, the sheer variety of work, being at the cutting edge of fascinating technologies and working with inventors to help turn their ideas into reality. I am being exposed to technical fields and commercial situations that I would never have experienced in my work as an engineer.

Keltie is incredibly welcoming, and trainees receive wonderful support as they develop their careers in IP. I have had the opportunity to work with multiple supervisors and across a range of engineering disciplines.

I am currently training to become a qualified UK, Irish and European Patent Attorney. In this respect, there are various paths that lead to qualification. Keltie has a very open and inclusive approach to supporting its trainees in their qualification journey. Our firm recognises that the best way not merely to qualify but also to become an excellent patent attorney is to experience a wide variety of interesting work in a supportive and enjoyable environment. ●



KILBURN & STRODE TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Alessandro Sona
University Eindhoven University of Technology
Degree MSc Science & Technology of Nuclear Fusion
Office Location London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I have a Master of Science and Technology of Nuclear Fusion, but I am also interested in law, argumentation, logic, and writing. Working with intellectual property and training to become a patent attorney allows me to combine my technical knowledge and my other interests in a challenging but rewarding career.

What attracted you to your role?

I am interested in all subjects related to energy production and distribution, such as electromechanics, power systems, and high-voltage technology, and studying nuclear fusion engineering has allowed me to expand my technical knowledge in a field that is developing extremely advanced technologies which are relevant not only for the energy generation sector, but also find application in medicine, power transmission, and defence. My job involves working on a multitude of inventions in my areas of expertise, with new ideas and technologies reaching my desk every day, and I find this more stimulating than a career in R&D.

What skills are useful in this profession?

Sometimes I work on 4 or 5 different cases during my day, quickly switching between them, therefore attention to detail and keeping my work in good order are extremely important to cope with this fast-paced aspect of the job. Further skills I think are important

in my role are the ability of argumentatively selling and defending an idea and the ability to work under pressure in a team. Speaking a few languages is a good plus if you want to join a firm with many European clients; I speak English, Italian and Dutch, but any language will help.

Is it a 9-5 job?

Yes and no. It is often a 9-5 job, but some days you will have to put in some extra effort to meet a deadline, while other days will end early. Also, Kilburn&Strode gives us great flexibility to organise our work, compatibly with our responsibilities towards our clients and colleagues. Sometimes attorneys start and end their day a bit earlier, sometimes a bit later. We are also given the option to work from home some days during the week and I find that this improves my performance in my job.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

Work experience is not necessary to enter the profession, but it can offer a valuable insight. Some firms offer internship programmes, so keep an eye out for any adverts and try to apply. Alternatively, most firms host open days where you can get information on the work patent attorneys do, especially trainees, and I suggest you attend one or two, especially if you are interested in a particular firm and would like to know more about them. ●



MARKS & CLERK TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Helen Wright
University Durham
Degree MSci, Chemistry and Biology
Office Location London

Career Decision: Explain why you decided to pursue a career as a patent attorney

As I was nearing the end of my university degree, I realised that while I enjoyed learning, discussing, and writing about science, I didn't enjoy spending hours each day in the lab, restricted to one particular area of chemistry. I wanted a career that was intellectually stimulating, where I would be constantly learning new things and solving complex problems.

I considered becoming a solicitor and attended an insight day which encouraged graduates with science degrees to enter the legal profession. However, I quickly realised that even as an intellectual property solicitor, I wouldn't be able to apply the chemistry knowledge I'd found interesting and worked hard to gain. I spoke to a patent attorney who had similar thoughts after finishing university, and I realised that their career offered an unusual and special combination of the things I enjoyed.

Qualifications & Training: Provide some background on your qualifications and the training you've undertaken

I have an MSci in Chemistry and Biology from the University of Durham. I enjoyed the interdisciplinary nature and found that it has provided a good foundation for understanding the varying inventions I come across in the job. I took a year out and then started at Marks & Clerk in September 2024.

I am due to take my UK Foundation exams this year (October 2025). The training at Marks & Clerk is done in-house through the Training Academy, involving regular lectures to learn the content for the exams and interactive classes to work through past paper questions. This is alongside the day job, where I work closely with my supervisor to learn and develop the practical skills of a patent attorney.

Current Role: Describe what your current role involves

As a first-year trainee, most of my work involves responding to examination reports, where I assess the examiner's objections regarding the patentability of the invention, review the relevant prior art, and propose a strategy to the client. Each response is different, and I often work on applications from all over the world. For instance, one day I might be prosecuting a Japanese application, and the next, a Brazilian one.

This, combined with the range of technologies we work with, means that each task is different and there are lots of learning opportunities. I've also had the chance to be involved in drafting a patent application, which is a completely different skill set to develop. I also handle tasks such as providing cost estimates to clients, forecasting when examination reports may be issued, and requesting updates on application statuses.

Advice: Share any advice you have for aspiring professionals

The patent attorney profession is a unique combination of science and law, so I think being able to demonstrate the main skills required is really important, as all applicants will have a similar science-based degree. Strong verbal and written communication skills are key, so consider preparing examples of where you have demonstrated this previously as this is tested at interview stage. For example, you may be asked to explain how an invention works in a clear and concise manner. Also, make sure to proofread each application thoroughly to check for any grammatical and spelling errors, perhaps ask someone else to review it as well.

Aside from this, I would recommend familiarising yourself with the training and exams involved, as it's a challenging process that takes several years. I think firms want to see that you're prepared for the commitment! ●



MATHYS & SQUIRE TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Name Tammy Sembi
University Oxford
Degree BA Computer Science
Office Location London

After 18 months working as a consultant, I realised I wanted to pursue a career that aligned more closely with my academic background. Becoming a trainee patent attorney has provided me with the opportunity to apply my technical knowledge, whilst still involving the client-facing work I had enjoyed.

I joined Mathys & Squire earlier this year and have spent my first months immersed in on-the-job training. There is a steep learning curve, but the firm offers 'enrichment sessions' to learn the basics of patent law, and practice claim drafting. In addition to this, I am fully supported in my development by the Partners I work for, including one-on-one sessions which have assisted with the progression of my work. I am looking forward to building on this foundation through formal training at Queen Mary University of London during the PGCert Intellectual Property Law course.

So far, I have been involved in drafting responses and contributing to the technical descriptions of newly drafted patent applications. The subject matter of work has been varied – sometimes directly related to my specialism, and other times more broadly mechanical in nature. This has been both challenging and engaging, and it really does feel like I am learning new things every day!

One of the highlights has been joining a large cohort of trainees, who are friendly and supportive and make Mathys & Squire a great place to work. Across all levels of experience at the firm, people are willing to help you learn and answer questions, which has made a real difference in my early experience. There is also an active social calendar including casual pub trips, bake sales, and more formal Summer and Christmas parties! ●



MAUCHER JENKINS TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name
University
Degree
Office Location

Arjun Grewal
University of Nottingham
Electrical and Electronic Engineering
London

What was the application process like – any advice?

I found the job listing on IP careers, and applied to the company through the website. I sent my CV and cover letter to the company through the company website. Within a couple of weeks, I was contacted back, and I was asked if I could attend an in-person test and interview. On the day I was presented with a test that needed to be completed within an hour. The test consisted of several questions that cover different skills needed in the job. Some of the questions were related to my knowledge of telecommunications and electronics, whilst other questions were directed to more general concepts. The aim of the test appeared to be to see how knowledgeable you were in the field you applied for (i.e. I applied for telecommunications, so most of my questions were based around telecommunications), but also how you could explain a concept or an item in an easy and understandable way. After the test, I was then interviewed by a partner (who would go on to be my supervisor). The first part of the interview revolved around my answers to the test. We talked through some of the answers I had given, and the discussion went more into depth into each of their respective fields. The next part of the interview was spent discussing me. Topics that were discussed were what I studied at university and why I wanted to be a patent attorney. The interview was very relaxed (as far as interviews go!), and it felt more like a friendly chat. It also helped that the interview was held in person rather than online, as it allowed me to see the office and actually meet the people I would be working with. If I was to give any advice, it would be to be to relax and be yourself, but just make sure you know information and theory about the field you are applying to.

Explain why you decided to pursue a career in this profession

I first came across patents in my final year of university. After reading into it a bit more, I came

across the role of a patent attorney. I figured out that I wanted to pursue a career in this profession when I found out how this job was more theory heavy, and maths was not really required. At University I studies a lot of different modules, with some of them being maths heavy, and some being theory heavy. I knew that I enjoyed the theory side of the course more than the maths part. This profession allowed me to continuously apply the theory that I learnt, whilst continuously learning about what is being developed and how it is being applied in the real world. I thoroughly enjoy seeing how inventors are continuously innovating, and how these inventions may be impacting our day to day lives. Another reason why I was drawn to this profession is the working environment. This profession has given me the opportunity to spend a lot of time working by myself whilst also allowing me to work with different colleagues and teams. I get the best of both worlds – time to work by yourself and time to be work with my team.

A day in the life

My day usually starts off with the joy of checking emails! As boring as it may be, the content of the emails may shape the day ahead. When I first work on a case, it will start with a lot of reading. I have to read the Examiner's report, and then the description of the patent, and then any other prior art (other patents or documents) cited by the Examiner. An Examiner may object to your application, as they may believe that the invention is not novel or inventive over another invention. I will sometimes have meetings with inventors in clients. In these meetings we may discuss upcoming inventions and plans, or we may talk about work we have prepared for them and what adjustments are needed. As a trainee, it can be quite intensive at times, but for the most part it can be relaxed... given I am on top of my deadlines! ●



MEWBURN ELLIS TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name
University
Degree
Office Location

Bhakti Mistry
Imperial College London
PhD in Virology
London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I very much enjoyed my PhD, but as it came to an end I wasn't sure that a future in academia was for me. I wasn't sure exactly what I wanted to do, but what I did know is that I didn't want to leave science completely. A career as a patent attorney seemed like a good fit for me. It allowed me to use and build upon my scientific knowledge but with a different focus to academic research.

What are your main duties?

As a trainee at Mewburn, I have been involved in case work from the start. My main duties are to help clients during different stages of the patent prosecution process. Often when a client applies for a patent, the patent examiner raises several objections to the patentability of it. Most of my work involves trying to persuade patent examiners that the client's invention is patentable by preparing arguments to the objections that they have raised. The arguments are based on technical aspects as well as law. I work on multiple cases at any one time and each case is about something completely different. This is one of the things that makes this job so interesting.

I have also had the chance to help prepare for oral proceedings. Since many oral proceedings now take place via video conferencing, there are lots of opportunities to watch how these are carried out. As a trainee, I am supervised by a partner in the firm. The partners set you work and give you feedback.

During the training programme we move offices at least once which I've found invaluable to my learning. Under the new placement scheme, we are supported to do this with time off and offered £10,000 to help with the cost of re-location, which really helps!

Is it a 9-5 job?

On the most part the job is 9-5. However, there are times where you need to work longer

hours in order to meet deadlines. Occasionally instructions from a client can come in last minute and this will need to be dealt with.

What skills are useful in this profession?

Good communication is key to many aspects of the job such as writing persuasive arguments, talking to clients to understand their inventions and explaining legal concepts to them in a digestible manner. An analytical and creative mind will also be helpful when responding to objections from examiners and during oral proceedings. As you've probably heard, having good attention to detail is also very important.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to join the profession?

Try and get as much information as possible before applying e.g. by attending open days, talking to people in the profession and looking online. When applying, ensure you proof-read your CV and cover letter...attention to detail is key as a patent attorney. Getting into the profession is competitive so apply for advertised roles but also send out speculative applications.

When preparing for interviews make sure you can clearly explain any research you have previously conducted. Also practice describing everyday objects in one sentence, trying to identify the key features which differentiate it from other similar objects. It can be daunting applying for a position as a trainee patent attorney without knowing much about law, but don't let it put you off.

Finally, there are exams to pass and these go on for a few years. They do take a lot of time to study for and are not easy, so you will need to be committed. Ask the firms you apply to about their training programme and how they support you through the exams. Hopefully this will help you towards deciding on a firm that is right for you. Good luck! ●



PAGE WHITE FARRER TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Name Emma Berry
University Leeds
Degree MPhys Theoretical Physics
Office Location Leeds

Why I chose to become a patent attorney

After graduating from the University of Leeds with a Master's in Theoretical Physics, I explored a range of jobs that would apply the skills I acquired throughout my degree. When searching for jobs, I wanted to find something that used the knowledge gained from my degree whilst being able to continue to learning. I knew that staying in academia wasn't for me and training as a patent attorney allows me to apply my physics knowledge whilst also learning on the job. Not only are you learning the law, you are actively interacting with and learning about new technologies that you will not have encountered before.

Training to be a Patent Attorney requires a strong scientific background that can be applied to a range of areas relating to science and technology. The job allows you to interact with and learn about a diverse range of subjects. So far, I have worked on topics such as driverless cars, accelerator processor architecture and cybersecurity.

Training and Qualification

Page White Farrer offer a mix of external courses and in-house training to help prepare

trainees for the qualifying exams. I completed the PGCert in Intellectual Property Law at Bournemouth University in 2023. The course allowed me to learn the fundamentals of intellectual property law whilst building my own network of trainees from different firms that are at the same stage in their career.

The firm provides guidance and support when choosing which exams to take, there is no pressure to take the exams until you feel ready. Qualified attorneys also provide tutorials in the months leading up to the exams however preparing for the exams requires a lot of self-motivation as the majority of studying for the exams is performed outside of working hours.

The Firm

I find the firm to be very friendly and sociable. The firm is continuously growing, and we have offices in London, Leeds, Munich and a new office in Exeter. We have monthly office socials and as part of the social committee, I am heavily involved in the planning of these socials as well as the whole firm Summer and Christmas parties. Flexible working hours and a mix of working from home and in the office also creates a good work/life balance. ●



POTTER CLARKSON TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Nancie Bowley
University Oxford
Degree MBiol Biology
Office Location London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

After my undergraduate degree in Biology, I undertook a Research Masters investigating the use of parasitoids as biocontrol agents in agriculture. Whilst I enjoyed being part of a lab group and putting research skills into practice, I missed the variety of subject matter I was able to learn about as an undergraduate. Patent law allows me to continue to learn about a huge variety of biological disciplines and use my technical background to translate the work of scientists into valuable IP assets.

What are your main duties?

As a trainee my main roles are responding to office actions issued by the European Patent Office and UK Intellectual Property Office, as well as contributing to invention capture and drafting of applications. I get to work for many different people at Potter Clarkson, whilst also having two managers that I work for most often. This creates a good combination of seeing how different people choose to approach problems but also continuity in frequent feedback from the same people.

At Potter Clarkson I have also been given the opportunity to attend and present ideas in client meetings and attend events in various Biotech sectors at an early stage of my career.

What skills are useful in this profession?

As a translator between patent examiners who are experts in patent law, and inventors who are experts in their area of science, patent attorneys must have excellent communication skills. This includes capturing an invention clearly in the form of a patent application and creating persuasive arguments during

prosecution through to explaining legal concepts to scientists who may not have come across patent law before.

The ability to problem solve is another important skill. The role requires you to apply legal knowledge to new and complicated science, and the solution reached must provide a commercially favourable outcome for your client. Additionally the profession often involves multiple competing deadlines and therefore great organisation is another valuable skill.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

When I first considered becoming a patent attorney, I used the IP careers guide to gain an initial understanding of the profession. I then found that attending open days at various firms was very useful for learning more about the role, understanding differences between firms and understanding what firms were looking for in applicants.

There is very limited opportunity for work experience in the profession. I had no prior experience in law or IP law before starting at Potter Clarkson. Instead during the application process I gave examples of where I had shown the skills required for patent law throughout my degree and various forms of part time work. I also worked as an analyst at a biotech consulting firm after university which, although not direct experience in patent law, allowed me to understand the challenges faced by the types of companies who are the clients of IP law firms and understand how science can translate into a profitable business. ●



REDDIE & GROSE TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Grace Tang
University Cambridge
Degree PhD in Physics
Office Location London

How did you get into the profession?

Stemming from a general interest in law, I found this career at the intersection of technology and law, which suits both my technical background as a physicist and my desire to argue and persuade others. Towards the later stage of my PhD, I also witnessed many friends and university researchers trying to commercialise their research, seeking business opportunities to bring their excellent ideas into real-world application. Protecting these ideas with patents was always one of their first considerations. Seeing this process gave me a deeper appreciation for the importance of patents (or rather intellectual property in general), and I have since then wanted to become a patent attorney to help these people.

Your main roles and responsibilities

- Handling real patent prosecution cases from day one, including reporting official actions to clients and writing responses to patent offices.
- Conducting marketing and patent landscape research to understand how others are using patents and to identify trends and opportunities across different industries.
- Researching case law and attending CPD talks to stay up to date with ongoing developments in patent law.

What drew you to R&G

One of the main things that drew me to R&G was the variety of subject matter and the opportunity to work with a wide range of clients. This ensures great exposure to different technologies and industries, which I believe is very important for developing a skill set fast, especially at an early stage of my career.

Another key factor was the training offered at the firm. We start with a two-week boot camp, followed by weekly training sessions during the first three months, and then fortnightly sessions for the next three months. These training sessions are designed to give us hands-on practice with real case scenarios, prosecution work, and exam preparation. We also receive feedback from senior patent attorneys, which helps us to improve and apply these skills in our day-to-day work.

Life at the firm so far...

I definitely experienced a very steep learning curve, with great help and support from the firm, especially through meetings and discussion with my training partner. There is also a clear plan in place to help me improve my skills across various levels and topics.

The trainee cohort is very supportive – facing exams can be intimidating as these papers are incredibly tough, but having someone to go through it with really helps ease the pressure. ●



SAGITTARIUS IP TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Name Emily White
University Durham
Degree BSc in Biological Sciences
Office Location Cambridge

Explain why you decided to pursue a career in this profession.

Mine is quite a standard story in this profession; I had not particularly enjoyed the laboratory environment I experienced at university and felt my skill set lay outside of the lab, but still within the life sciences. I had been exposed to patents during an internship in a biotech company and, after some more independent research, found that the career of a patent attorney appealed to me.

What I enjoy about this career is that you are constantly intellectually stimulated, while providing a service necessary for the protection and continuation of innovation.

Give a bit of background of your qualifications and any training you have completed.

After graduating from Durham University with a BSc in Biological Sciences, I joined Sagittarius IP in November 2023 as a trainee patent attorney in the Cambridge office. I am currently part-qualified, having recently completed the Intellectual Property Law PGCert at Queen Mary University of London, and being in the first cohort to sit (and pass) the foundation module of the reformed EQEs. While the exams form an integral part of the qualification process, your day-to-day tasks are more reflective of the actual practice of an attorney and provide you with exposure to the tasks that exams are unable to test, such as good client and deadline management.

Explain what your current role involves.

The work is varied in both the area of technology and the type of task. One morning you may be working on a response to a communication from a patent office regarding cell reprogramming, and the same afternoon you could be helping conduct a freedom to operate search on an antibody. Sagittarius IP excels at involving trainees in all areas of work,

including opposition and appeal hearings, one of which I was able to attend in Munich during my first year of training. However, the highest volume of work does tend to be prosecution-based, i.e. getting a patent application to grant, which involves liaising with the client and the relevant patent office. You have to be aware of the prior art, the prosecution history (if any yet) and the client's interests to develop a strategy for the best way forward. Each communication is also a good chance to revisit relevant articles, rules, guidelines, and/or case law, both to refresh your knowledge and to help bolster or support your arguments. Attorneys at Sagittarius IP are very good at providing detailed feedback on any completed work, which provides further learning opportunities and helps identify areas for improvement.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

Patent law bridges science, law and business, so make sure you give attention to all three in your application. Make sure that your application documents are proofread multiple times by yourself and ideally somebody else – when you spend a long time on something it is easier to miss small errors, but the hiring team will not!

Because competition is so high, persistence is key. You should not take rejections personally but rather ask for feedback on how to improve and, if given, incorporate this into your next application.

Becoming a patent attorney is a demanding process that requires hard work and dedication over multiple years, so make sure you are in a firm that has good exam support. Sagittarius IP is very hands on with exam preparation, offering in-house tutorials and external courses to set you up in the best way possible for exam success. ●



SCRIPT IP TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Beth Dean
University Bristol
Degree PhD in Dynamic Molecular Cell Biology
Office Location Bath and Eastleigh

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

My desire to become a patent attorney originated from my role as organiser of a Life Science Careers beyond Academia (LSCBA) seminar series at university. During these sessions, external professionals from different career areas talk to students about their career and career journey. Listening and speaking to patent attorneys from different firms cemented intellectual property as the career path I wanted to pursue.

As a patent attorney, the opportunity to continuously learn and develop across existing and emerging biology fields and to regularly talk with colleagues and inventors about science is something I found particularly exciting and stimulating. Having undertaken a PhD, and knowing that lab work wasn't for me, the role of a patent attorney enabled me to keep up to date with current science affairs whilst continuing to develop and improve my professional practice through on-the-job-training.

How did you get your job at Script IP? What was the application process like – any advice?

I applied to Script IP through email, following an advert on their website. The company really appealed to me due to its size and client focused approach. Not long after the closing deadline, I received an invitation to complete an online timed technical test. Following successful completion of the test, I was invited for an online interview with two of the partners. This interview consisted of general questions about why I was interested in the profession, in addition to questions relating to my skills and attributes. I then found out I had made it through to in person interviews, which consisted of various tasks testing my scientific knowledge, analytical and problem-solving skills to determine if I had the aptitude for the job.

What really stood out to me throughout the whole application process, was how friendly everyone was at Script IP. From the initial application, Script IP kept me updated and in the know about the interview process. The in-person interview really highlighted what a welcoming and supportive culture the firm has. Therefore, when I got the call to tell me I had received a job offer, it was a resounding yes!

What are your main duties?

My days are very varied depending on what deadlines are coming up. From my first day I was working on actual cases with real deadlines (a very scary thing when you have no legal training!). Since working at Script IP, I have been very fortunate to be involved in multiple different stages of the patent process. I have sat in on initial client meetings to determine if an idea is patentable, been involved in patent prosecution and more recently been able to attend opposition oral proceedings.

The great thing about this job is that two days are never the same. I think it's also important to remember that the job is a training experience; you're not expected to know everything from day 1 and as part of that you will continuously learn and develop multiple skills. It's a huge learning experience, so ask questions and get feedback on all your work.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

My biggest advice would be to just go for it! It's a very competitive profession so don't be disheartened if you don't get a job offer in the first year that you apply. It's important to do your research; look at the IP Careers website and speak to as many people you can about the profession. I reached out to numerous attorneys on LinkedIn, and they were all very happy to share their experience. Finally, and most importantly, just be yourself! ●



SECERNA TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Ella Hudson
University Sheffield
Degree PhD Biomaterials
Office Location York

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

Like most people who join the profession, I was seeking a career which used my scientific knowledge and kept me at the forefront of scientific advances, but didn't involve laboratory-based research. I organised work experience in a number of office-based scientific professions and found that Intellectual Property was the most interesting and aligned to my strengths and skills. I also found the challenge of learning the law appealing.

What attracted you to your role & how did you get your job at Secerna LLP?

I attended Secerna's Taster Day in 2022 which gave me first-hand insight into their people and working ethos. Everyone I spoke to on the day was friendly, enthusiastic and patiently answered my questions. I also got to meet the partners, who again were friendly and approachable, and generous with their time. Secerna was exactly what I wanted in terms of firm size, client base and location. Because they are purely an IP firm, I knew I would be exposed to a large variety of work and client types. I also knew I would have opportunities to learn from a number of qualified attorneys, rather than training under only one partner. When the position was advertised I simply applied with my CV and covering letter. I was then invited to an online interview followed by an in-person interview with the partners, and was shortly afterwards offered the job.

What would you like to achieve in the future?

Ultimately, my aim is to be a confident UK and European qualified attorney. I therefore plan to undertake the exams needed to qualify in both jurisdictions. I will shortly start a university course which will give me an exemption for the first set of UK exams. Fortunately, there are a couple of courses Secerna supports for their trainees, so my first step is to decide which of the courses best suits me.

What was the application process like?

I found that the application process for the profession as a whole is fairly straightforward and, for the most part, is similar from firm to firm. Most firms simply ask for your CV and a covering letter initially. Some may ask for written work at this stage too. This is followed by a first interview, usually online, and then an in-person interview.

Your application is an opportunity to demonstrate your written communication skills and attention to detail. Use clear, concise language and make sure your application is free from errors.

I recommend practising describing typical household objects, such as a screwdriver or a sieve, in a manner that identifies the essential features and optional features of the object. Tasks similar to this came up in the vast majority of applications and interviews, in either a written or verbal capacity.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

The main piece of advice I give to people thinking of pursuing a career as a patent attorney is to engage with as much work experience as you can. I think it is important to try the profession and be confident that it is for you before committing to several years of training and exams. This is especially true if you are transitioning from a research-based role. Several firms offer formal work experience schemes, but I also reached out to partners at firms to shadow them for a couple of days. Most partners will have their email addresses on their firm's website.

If you already know that IP is the profession for you, taster days and open evenings are a great way to learn about specific firms and to meet some of their partners and trainees to see if that firm is a good fit for you. ●



SLINGSBY PARTNERS TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Jack Binning
University Oxford
Degree MEng Engineering Science
Office Location London

When I came across the role of a patent attorney, I was particularly drawn to the unique convergence of law and technology, as well as the commercial importance that intellectual property can hold. The opportunity to apply technical knowledge in a legal context appealed to me, and I saw the role as both intellectually stimulating and strategic.

Following the completion of my final year at university, I began applying to several IP firms while also undertaking a summer internship. The internship gave me an eye-opening introduction to the profession and a better understanding of what a role as a trainee patent attorney would involve. Interacting with a patent attorney during this time proved especially valuable, both in confirming my interest in the field and in preparing for the application and interview process.

The recruitment process at Slingsby Partners was concise and personal. After submitting a CV and covering letter, I was invited to attend a single interview which took place over the course of a morning. The interview included a series of discussions which culminated in a claim drafting exercise. Although the interview was thorough, my interviewers had a friendly and relaxed approach. I also had the opportunity to speak with a current trainee, which gave me a great insight into day-to-day life at the firm and what to expect in the profession.

From my first day as a trainee, I was made to feel welcome and supported. I worked closely with a variety of partners and senior attorneys from the outset. This creates a collaborative and open environment that has exposed me to different approaches to tasks, allowing me to develop my own style, informed by a range of perspectives and experiences.

So far, my work has been mostly focused on the prosecution of patent applications. Primarily this involves preparing responses to exam reports, which is mostly independent work. Typically, I would read an exam report and the relevant prior art independently, before discussing it with a supervisor to ensure that we are aligned on how is best to respond. In addition to prosecution work, I have enjoyed conducting prior art searches and freedom-to-operate searches as they are an efficient way to gain a familiarity with the client's invention as well as the surrounding patent landscape.

I have been encouraged to have an active role in communication with our direct clients, ranging from start-ups to global companies. This has provided me with exposure to different commercial strategies and IP needs, which is reflected in communications with each client.

Being a medium-sized firm, Slingsby Partners is an ideal place to work towards qualification as a trainee. There are trainees and part-qualified attorneys at various stages of their journeys towards qualification that are willing to offer their guidance and support. Simultaneously, the partners and qualified attorneys provide internal tutorials and revision sessions to assist you in preparing for the exams.

Overall, my experience so far has confirmed that becoming a patent attorney was the right decision for me. The work is rewarding and I am continually learning and developing my skills as I work towards qualification as a patent attorney. ●



VENNER SHIPLEY TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Ben Howell
University Oxford
Degree MPhys/Phil Physics and Philosophy
Office Location London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

For a long time I had assumed I would go into engineering. I always enjoyed designing and building things and taking them apart to try to fix them or see how they worked. However, I also found that I loved making written and spoken arguments and wanted to study this as well. I found that working with patents seemed to be a really good way to blend these two interests. Working with patents, I get to learn about all sorts of new inventions, finding out about how (often quite niche) devices work. It is then fun to make arguments about these concepts, trying to persuade someone that the idea is new and clever, and considering the important consequences of seemingly very small changes in the way a device is put together. For someone who is interested in both science and analysing and formulating arguments, this profession provides a great option.

As a trainee patent attorney hours are generally very manageable. The nature of the work means that I am constantly learning about new things, trying to get to grips with each case quickly.

I like that my role makes use of a broad range of skills and knowledge. As well as using things I learned about in my degree, it's not uncommon that I will make use of some knowledge from science A levels or things I learnt about in a science YouTube video. As I am interested in many branches of science, and learn about them for fun anyway, it is really satisfying when information I've learnt comes in handy in my job.

What are your main duties?

My main role is responding to office actions from the European Patent Office. Essentially, a client will have applied for a patent, but the EPO sends it back generally arguing that the idea isn't new or isn't inventive enough. I then have to attempt to explain why the idea actually is new and inventive or amend the application to make the differences clearer between the new idea and what has been done before. Other cases can be more focused on specific legal provisions, and some of my work is with larger cases, such as when someone attempts to get a granted patent revoked.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

I would certainly recommend having a go at the different skills required of a patent attorney and seeing if you enjoy them. For instance, you can try defining really precisely how a given device or mechanism works in unambiguous language – it is much harder than it sounds! If you can, getting some work experience at a firm of patent attorneys can be really valuable. I did some work experience at two different firms, and both reflected the kind of work I do now very accurately. Otherwise, even just reading through some patents relating to things you are interested in, or explanations of inventions works well too. Before I started my role, I read through a lot of the writings of Nikola Tesla in which he explained his new inventions. It doesn't have to be that of course, but spending some time wrapping your head around difficult inventions is very similar to the day job, give it a try and see if it's for you! ●



WILSON GUNN

TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Dominic Hensman
University Sheffield
Degree MPhys Physics
Office Location Manchester

Why did I choose a job in this profession?

During the course of my studies at the University of Sheffield it became increasingly clear to me that a career in a laboratory wasn't going to be for me. As such, I started researching other career paths that a physics degree can take you down. One of the great things about a physics degree is that it can take you down a broad variety of career paths, however I found that there were so many options it was difficult to know where to start.

I reached out to the physics careers advisor at my university who made me aware of the patent attorney profession. This immediately sparked my interest in the role as it is a career that would take the technical knowledge and skills I had developed throughout my degree and use it in a professional environment.

What does a typical day look like?

One of the main things that I find particularly enjoyable about the role is that no two days are the same. The job comprises a broad range of components and you can be working on a variety of these over the course of a day. As a first-year trainee, some of the tasks that I am regularly involved with include performing searches for existing patents and prior art, preparing responses to official communications from the patent office during prosecution of a patent application and communicating with clients. Each task provides it own unique set of challenges to overcome and learning opportunities.

I work closely with a number of partners and associates who provide support and assistance with each piece of work I do. Regular communication between myself and my supervisor is valuable for gaining a better understanding of both the law and of the practical skills it takes to do the job.

Working at Wilson Gunn means that I am regularly exposed to a range of clients from different industries. This provides great opportunities to work on patent applications relating to different fields of technology which is something I find makes the role particularly interesting. So far, I have had the opportunity to work on patent applications relating to mechanical, electronic and algorithm inventions.

What skills are useful in the profession?

The role of a patent attorney is unique; one task may involve gaining an understanding of a complex technical subject whilst the next task may require an intricate understanding of the law. Therefore, being able to adapt to different scenarios and quickly gain an understanding of complex technical ideas and the law is very useful.

Since the role involves adhering to deadlines, whether that be a deadline set by the patent office to respond to an examination report or a deadline set by a client, time management and the ability to prioritise work are particularly important skills. ●



WITHERS & ROGERS

TRAINEE PATENT ATTORNEY

Name Lucy Tedstone
University Lancaster
Degree MPhys, Master of Physics
Office Location London/Warwick

About Me

I studied physics at Lancaster University where I completed an integrated master's degree. My masters project focused on novel infrared detectors for health and fitness monitoring.

While I loved my degree, I knew a career in research wasn't for me. In my search for alternative career options, I came upon the patent profession. I had always had an interest in the law, and it felt like an ideal combination for me which provided secure career prospects while allowing me to work within the field I loved, working with new inventions each day.

Choosing Withers & Rogers

From the moment the interview process began, it was clear that Withers & Rogers values not only technical expertise but also individual character and potential. When interacting with colleagues there is a strong sense of community and support. The variety of clients and inventions encountered daily from telecommunications to medical devices to machine learning algorithms, along with exposure to international work – whether through our German and French offices or by collaborating with attorneys from the United States or Japan – ensures that the work is always engaging and consistently encourages personal growth.

My advice for those applying to Withers & Rogers is to try and be yourself as much as possible. Your technical knowledge and experience will speak for itself but who you are as a person, your motivations and interests, are just as important.

My Career to Date

I have been in the profession for just over a year and a half, and at the beginning of this year, I completed the PGCert in Intellectual Property and took the EQE Paper F, which allows me to proudly state that I am now part qualified. From my first day at Withers & Rogers, I have been encouraged to contribute my technical knowledge and opinions while consistently having opportunities to learn and improve.

I am involved in the MedTech, Materials, and Case Law sector groups, as well as the Prospect Development group. These groups provide me with opportunities to interact with a diverse range of technologies, clients, and new legal developments. Additionally, I have already begun learning about business development and client relationship management, which will become important aspects of my role in the future. ●



ADAMSON JONES SENIOR ASSOCIATE

Name Cory Stobart
University Sheffield
Degree Physics with Medical Physics
Office Location Nottingham

I graduated from university in 2015 with a Masters degree in Physics with Medical Physics from the University of Sheffield. I immediately joined the patent profession as a trainee at another firm, and moved to Adamson Jones in 2017, before qualifying as a chartered UK patent attorney in 2019.

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

The majority of STEM students seemed to leave university and go into research or lab-based jobs. I wanted something different, something more sociable. I wanted a job that enabled me to interact with the outside world, and being a patent attorney offered that in the form of working with multiple businesses and clients.

What are your main duties?

My main workload revolves around drafting, filing, and prosecuting patent applications in the UK and Europe, but also overseas, in countries such as the US, Canada, China, India, Japan and Australia.

Additional duties include identifying potential freedom-to-operate risks for clients, and helping them to mitigate or navigate those risks, where possible, for example by drafting and filing oppositions or observations against competitors' patents or patent applications.

Is it a 9-5 job?

Yes and no. A typical day is 9-5, but the job is deadline-driven, so there can be the odd longer shift where necessary. There's also the need to revise for qualifying exams over the first few years in the job, which naturally takes up a lot of time outside of the standard 9-5 job.

What skills are useful in this profession?

Perhaps the most important skill is to be articulate, both verbally and in writing. Patent specifications need to be clear and well-defined, and bridging the gap between the complexity of patents and the business requirements of clients requires uncomplicated and concise communication.

We work daily with multiple clients, across multiple countries and time zones, and will have many deadlines outstanding at any one time. Time management and good organisation are therefore also key to stay on top of it all.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

Ask questions, don't be afraid of getting knocked back, and wait for the right firm for you! There are so many firms in the UK, one rejection doesn't necessarily mean you're not cut out for the job, and one job offer doesn't necessarily mean the firm is a good fit for you. ●



BRAND MURRAY FULLER SENIOR ASSOCIATE

Name Holly Rice
University Manchester
Degree Chemistry with Patent Law (MChem)
Office Location London

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

Unlike many patent attorneys I know, I had decided to pursue a career as a patent attorney whilst still at school. Initially being interested in pursuing a career in law, I went on a law taster-course at Cambridge University. It became apparent fairly quickly that I didn't find all areas of law that interesting. However, the area which stood out to me was "Intellectual Property", which I had previously never heard of.

When choosing a degree course, I was very much science-minded and particularly enjoyed chemistry, so wanted to keep going with this. My course was fantastic as the optional modules covered all areas of IP and the course included a final year project which involved guidance from a practising in-house patent attorney. The more exposure I had to the profession during my degree, the more certain I became that it was the profession for me. In particular, I liked the idea that I would be able to use my chemistry knowledge on a day-to-day basis, but that the job would also require skills such as strong communication, persuasive writing, a keen eye to detail and commercial acumen.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I really enjoy the direct contact with clients that I have had throughout my training and in my current role. My firm aims to function effectively as an in-house IP team for its major clients, which means you always get to closely engage with R&D directors, general counsel and inventors. Not only am I required to advise on standard patent issues, but also, I have to provide commercial advice, for example on how a client's IP portfolio can be monetised.

The job is varied, both in terms of the type of work and the subject matter involved. I work with clients of varying sizes and in a diverse range of technical fields, who can

have very different IP issues. I do everything from attending the initial inventor meetings and drafting patent applications, working with foreign attorneys to prosecute patent applications around the world, through to preparing freedom to operate opinions and helping draft commercial licensing agreements. Working in IP is mentally stimulating; no two days are the same and there is always something new to learn!

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to get into the profession?

It can be a little daunting once you have decided to enter the profession but are unsure where and how to begin applying. As a first step, try to find out as much as you can about the profession, for example by attending open days, securing work experience placements or just getting in touch with trainees or qualified attorneys to have a chat about the job and what it involves.

Next, have a look through as many company profiles as you can and make a shortlist of those that appeal to you. Make a note of what it is about the company that particularly appeals to you and tailor your covering letter to include this. It is always appreciated when potential candidates have clearly done their research on the firm rather than just submitting generic covering letters. When preparing your covering letter and CV, make sure there are no typos – a keen eye to detail is a crucial requirement for the job and this is the first test of that skill!

When you are called to interview, be prepared for the standard interview questions, but also be aware that some firms may want to test your grammar and literacy skills.

Don't be discouraged if it takes a while to get your "foot in the door", it will be well worth it once you have your training position! ●



CARPMAELS & RANSFORD ASSOCIATE

Name Lileth Rees
University Imperial College London
Degree Biochemistry
Office Location London

When I was approaching my final year, I knew that I wanted a job outside of academia but I wasn't ready to leave science and pursue a completely unrelated career path to my degree. I came across the concept of a patent attorney when attending a talk at university and immediately realised that the nature of the work and the challenges that it would provide, were exactly what I was looking for.

The demands of understanding new technologies quickly, communicating both legal and scientific arguments in a concise manner and switching between multiple pieces of work every day can be difficult to balance at first, but it is incredibly rewarding once you become settled into the job. However, one aspect that I did not consider when I joined Carpmiels & Ransford was the business side of professional services – maintaining strong client relationships is an important consideration, even as a trainee.

At Carpmiels & Ransford, you are trusted to take on real cases from (literally) day one. Although this may seem daunting, it allows you to get to grips with tackling complex issues, in both science and intellectual property, from the

start. You receive a lot of support from your supervisors (which are mainly senior associates and partners) and other trainees, making the transition to a professional job as smooth as possible. This includes a buddy system where you can freely ask more experienced trainees silly questions, creating a support network for new starters. The firm also arranges tutorials throughout your training to ensure you have the relevant background knowledge before taking exams, at both part-qualified and fully-qualified levels.

One of the main benefits of working here is that all staff are based in one London office which creates an invaluable collaborative atmosphere. Although the firm is fairly large, being on one site means we all know each other and it promotes a friendly working environment. My main surprise about Carpmiels & Ransford was the social life – some of my colleagues are now good friends and this is all down to the variety of social clubs and events offered by the firm. There are annual New Year and summer parties, a variety of sports teams, a book club, and even a bee club for our bee hives on the balcony! ●



D YOUNG & CO SENIOR ASSOCIATE

Name Alice Stuart-Grumbar
University Durham
Degree Masters Mechanical Engineering
Office Location London

I joined D Young & Co LLP in 2015 straight from my integrated master's degree in Mechanical Engineering at Durham University. My main areas of expertise include aerospace and automotive engineering, mechanical systems and medical devices.

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I had considered jobs in engineering firms after university but was conscious I didn't want to work in a large engineering firm where I was required to focus on a very small area of technology. Having spoken to a friend from Durham who was training to be a Patent Attorney, I started looking into this as a potential career path. I was interested by the idea of working on a large range of technologies. During my research, I quickly realised that this would be the career path for me.

What was the application process like?

After sending a cover letter and CV to the HR department, I was invited to an interview. This interview included a number of sessions, one of which was a chat with two trainees. Although the chat with the trainees felt very informal, it is important to show to everyone throughout the day that you have a real interest in the profession. Communication is key in our job so it is important you show that you can present in a clear and concise way. I would advise spending significant time preparing for anything you are sent. It is likely to be very different to anything you have worked on before and turning up prepared will always look good.

What are your main duties?

Before qualifying, my job focused on preparing responses to communications from the UK and European patent offices to discuss with my supervisors as well as being involved in occasional client meetings and drafting patent applications. As I became more senior,

the variety of work increased. As well as the prosecution of patent applications, I work on freedom to operate analyses, oppositions, spend time managing trainees and have more of a role in client management.

Is it a 9-5 job?

The job is not strictly 9-5. There are times when I am busy or if I have oral proceedings where I work longer than this. However, in comparison with friends who have jobs in corporate law firms, the hours you work as a patent attorney are very reasonable.

What skills are useful in this profession?

Excellent attention to detail – you will need to read and digest a large number of documents so should be comfortable doing this. You also need to have good written and oral communication. You are likely to be communicating with people who don't have English as a first language and so need to be able to explain inventions in a clear and concise way.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

I would advise trying to seek out people who are patent attorneys and asking questions about the profession.

When considering opportunities, make sure you know what sort of work you would like to do and don't be afraid to ask about this at interview. In our team, we work on a large range of subject matter areas. Part of what I love about my job is the ability to work on such a broad range of technologies.

Finally, the qualifying exams are very difficult and involve a lot of hard work outside of your normal working hours. It is worth it when you qualify but if you are not interested in taking more exams after university, this probably isn't the profession for you. ●



DEHNS ASSOCIATE

Name Jack Hancock
University Manchester
Degree MPhys Physics
Office Location London

Explain why you decided to pursue a career in this profession.

Although I enjoyed labs and carrying out my Master's project, I knew that continuing in academia was not for me – I wanted to learn about a variety of technologies, and I wanted to pursue something entirely new. I chose to become a patent attorney because it would allow me to keep learning about many technologies, whilst exploring a completely new set of skills.

Explain what your current role involves.

Patent attorneys generally work in 'private practice' or 'in-house'. Those working in-house will work in their employer's legal department, and might work mainly with a specific type of technology or a few technologies applicable to a certain class of products. I'm in a private practice, and therefore work for a variety of clients.

I'm lucky to work with a breadth of technologies, including medical devices, autonomous vehicles, offshore wind, HVAC, fire detection, aircraft, and many more. What I work on can change as cases come back around during examination, or depending on my clients' commercial activities. It always keeps me on my toes!

As a patent attorney, you will develop skills relating to drafting and examining patent applications, possibly litigating patents, and you will have a good understanding of patent law. There's lots of hard work involved in fully qualifying as a patent attorney, but the result has been completely worth it.

My day-to-day work often involves the examining of patent applications, which will have me analyse existing patent documents and submit to a patent office why my client's

own patent application is new and inventive. There's plenty of critical thinking and written communication involved getting to that point, and I enjoy how focused the work can be.

I also work on a number of more involved, contentious matters. These often relate to how my clients might enforce their own patents against third parties, or how my clients might be impacted by patents belonging to third parties. These cases can be some of the most interesting and challenging, and offer a good opportunity to work closely with the client and my colleagues in reaching the best possible outcome for the client.

Whatever my day might have in store, it's always engaging!

Any advice

I applied for roles as a trainee patent attorney in my final year of university, and interviewed at a few different places, including Dehns, before choosing to work here. It's a very competitive application process, so get your application in early and to multiple employers.

If you are interested in becoming a patent attorney, also keep an eye out for summer schemes or internships that firms might offer. Dehns offers a summer scheme, for example, where you can spend a few weeks seeing what being a patent attorney involves.

You should also check out some patents to get an idea of what sort of thing you will be working on. Don't just go looking for any old patent! Think about something you have an interest in, and go looking from there. There are patents out there for Lego bricks, the first GameBoy, or even making a pair of Levis. You really won't realise how many things might have a patent for them until you start looking! ●



HGF PARTNER

Name David Selby
University UNSW
Degree Chemistry, Law
Office Location Leeds

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I came to the role of patent attorney by an unusual route for a UK attorney. After completing university with degrees in science and law, my first job was as a solicitor in a large Australian law firm. While I found intellectual property law interesting, I was missing cutting edge science. I therefore switched to scientific research and worked as a post-doctoral researcher in Chemistry and Biochemistry departments in Australia and Europe. After several years of research, it was clear to me that I wanted to combine science and law – and that a job as a patent attorney would be a perfect way to achieve this.

What attracted you to your role?

Patents make a real difference to innovative companies. This is one of the key things that attracted me to this role, and from my previous work as an IP solicitor I knew that you needed a good patent (prepared by a patent attorney) to protect an invention – and had seen what could happen to companies that did not protect their IP. Thus as a patent attorney in private practice I help my clients protect their valuable inventions. It is very rewarding to see a product that you have helped protect.

Another thing that attracted me to the role of a patent attorney in private practice is that you get a good variety of work, dealing with different clients and technologies. Also, when you are a patent attorney the job has life-long learning "baked in" – both the patent law and inventions change over time.

What skills are useful in this profession?

Patent attorneys need to understand technical subject matter, assess it against a legal framework and communicate effectively to clients, patent examiners and others. In order to succeed, you therefore need a good understanding of technical subject matter, the legal framework, analytical skills, as well as good written and oral communication. It is also helpful to be tenacious and have an enquiring mind, so you will persevere when faced with a difficult problem.

The training process to become a patent attorney takes several years and involves formal examinations, so many of these skills are honed by learning on the job and during preparation for examinations. Starting training in the profession with an enquiring mind, solid technical background and good communications skills will be very helpful.

As you gain more experience, more skills become relevant. For example senior attorneys may also be involved in training and management, as well as business development.

Final Thoughts

If you have a background in science or engineering, are willing to work hard and like to solve technical problems, I would thoroughly recommend considering a career as a patent attorney. ●



J A KEMP PARTNER

Name James Egleton
University Oxford
Degree MChem Chemistry & D.Phil Organic Chemistry
Office Location London

The patent attorney profession combines law with a technical understanding of the basic science underlying new inventions. I work with a range of clients, from start-ups to universities to global corporations, to secure patent protection in various jurisdictions worldwide for the inventions that they have created. I specialise in the pharmaceutical and chemical fields, but the profession is open to anyone with an undergraduate degree in science, from mechanical engineering or electronics right through to biotechnology or plant science.

My job allows me to work in a commercially focussed role whilst still having a strong connection to basic science. I particularly enjoy the variety of work that the profession offers – no two days are the same! One day, I might be drafting a new patent application on one of my clients' latest developments, another I may be preparing for a contentious hearing at the European Patent Office (where one of my clients is in dispute with a third party over the validity of a recently-granted patent), and on another I may be analysing whether one of my clients has "freedom to operate" (make or sell a product without infringing a third party's patent rights). The profession also offers great opportunities for career development. Even at a junior level, it is common for attorneys to take on significant responsibility and to work on very interesting projects. Meanwhile, as a

partner with around ten years' experience in the profession, I still regularly encounter new challenges and opportunities to learn.

If you are interested in becoming a patent attorney, my advice would be to find out as much about the profession as you can. Attend careers fairs and sign up for the informative open days that are offered by some firms (ourselves included!) There are also very limited opportunities for internships and work experience. Beyond that, however, just give it a go and apply! Most firms have structured graduate recruitment schemes, but several will welcome prospective applications. The biggest challenge to be aware of when joining the profession is that the qualifying exams are tough and require a lot of hard work; however, the rewards that the profession offers are worth it.

The selection process usually involves a combination of submitting written work, one or more technical interviews and an HR interview. The technical interviews are actually quite fun – I think you really know whether the profession will suit you or not after you've experienced one. A typical task might be to describe the key features of a simple object, or to briefly summarise a research project you've done in terms someone with a basic undergraduate knowledge of your subject could understand. ●



SWINDELL & PEARSON PATENT ADVISOR

Name Oliver McHugh
University Lancaster
Degree MPhys (Theoretical Physics)
Office Location Derby

Why did you choose a job in this profession?

I've always been interested in how things work and I love to learn as much as possible about state-of-the-art applications of science in technology. Therefore, a job where I have to learn about different new technologies every single day is a natural fit for my interests.

This job is not just about technology, however, and the idea of diving into the world of intellectual property law also intrigued me. Being from a scientific background, moving to an entirely new field represented a new and exciting challenge for me.

What are your main duties?

As a newly hired trainee my main duty is to respond to official communications from patent offices with the guidance of senior attorneys.

During the process of prosecuting a patent application, a patent office will issue official examination reports in which they assess the patentability of the application on key points such as: novelty (whether the invention has already been disclosed), inventiveness (whether a non-obvious step has been made in the development of the technology) and clarity (whether the patent application itself is easy to make sense of to a skilled person).

In response to these reports, I have to carefully compare the patent application to existing technology and formulate arguments as to why the patent application should be granted. This involves using fine analytical skills and requires a solid base of technological knowledge. Often, the differences between technologies are subtle and hinge around one or two inventive features. I have to then formulate my

arguments to the patent office in a persuasive manner, which requires a good grasp of written English.

As I progress in my career, I will move towards other things such as drafting patent applications, working even more closely with clients to help to develop and protect their intellectual property portfolios, and developing the business itself by generating interest in our services through networking.

Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to enter the profession?

Be prepared for a tough interview process. The interviews for trainees in this profession involve several stages and will assess you on your technological knowledge, organisational skills, verbal and written communication skills and personality.

Learn as much as you can about the companies you are applying to before applying, and don't be disheartened if it takes some time to find the right fit. This is a difficult profession to enter, but if you have the right skills and determination, you will find a role eventually.

This profession also involves sitting many qualification exams in the first 4-6 years, which in turn involves studying in your free time outside of the office. Make sure you are happy with this commitment before embarking on this career path.

My final piece of advice would be to speak to someone within the profession, especially current trainees. They can provide you a realistic idea of what to expect and will be able to answer any specific questions you may have about what this career involves. ●

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Dehns

Discover your career with Dehns!

At Dehns, we don't just offer jobs – we offer inspiring careers. We are renowned for our top-tier client work and professional services. To maintain our high standards, we are interested in innovative, practical and adaptable problem-solvers. Our diverse team makes our workplace vibrant and ensures we can meet the needs of our clients. If you share this passion, we'd love to hear from you.

As a training firm, we take pride in our structured and supportive approach to nurturing future attorneys. Our dedicated Professional Support Attorney, Gill McGuire, oversees our trainee programme. We provide all new trainees with carefully designed training plans, including, thorough inductions and a structured development path, embedding them into the Firm and preparing them for a successful career at Dehns.

We are committed to attracting and developing the brightest talent in the field. We are always looking for ways to enhance our recruitment processes, most recently, we have introduced dedicated Recruitment Days. This provides candidates the opportunity to showcase their skills and long-term potential.

Dehns promises to offer you:

- **Career growth:** Develop your professional and technical skills through our carefully structured training plans
- **Flexibility & Balance:** Enjoy the flexibility to balance your professional and personal life
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- **Inclusive Environment:** Join a community where diversity thrives, and every voice contributes to our success.
- **Exciting Challenges:** Engage in intellectually stimulating projects and client work that challenges you daily.

We welcome graduates who are eager to join us and kick start their career in Patents or Trade Marks.

Visit our careers page www.dehns.com/careers or contact careers@dehns.com

EMPLOYER DIRECTORY

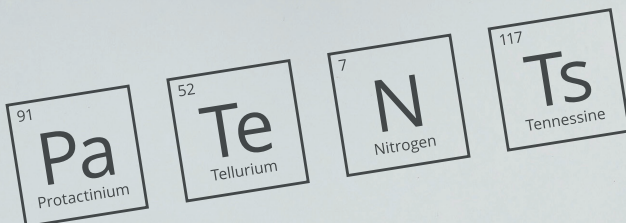
Directory of employers that recruit Trainee Patent Attorneys

Abel + Imray	Haley Guiliano	Potter Clarkson
Adamson Jones	Haseltine Lake Kempner	Reddie & Grose
Albright IP	HGF	Sagittarius IP
Appleyard Lees	Hindles	Sandersons
Barnes IP	Hoffmann Eitle	Schlich
Beck Greener	Intellectual Property Office	Scintilla
Boult	ip21	Script IP
Brand Murray Fuller	J A Kemp	Secerna
Carpmaels & Ransford	Keltie	SH&P
Cleveland Scott York	Kilburn & Strode	Slingsby Partners
CMS	Lawrie IP	Stratagem
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Dehns	Mathys & Squire	Symbiosis IP
Dummett Copp	Maucher Jenkins	Tomkins
EIP	Meissner Bolte	Venner Shipley
Elkington + Fife	Mewburn Ellis	Wilson Gunn
EPO	Mohun Aldridge Sykes	Withers & Rogers
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EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	115
Partners	17
Qualified Patent Attorneys	31
Trainees	13

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	3
Undergraduate Jobs	-

The firm and client services

We are a long-established, medium-sized firm, widely respected for the quality of our training, with thriving offices in London, Cardiff, Bath and Delft. We are large enough to provide a full suite of IP services across all subject matter areas, and work for a wide range of blue-chip clients. Yet we are small enough to retain our ability to customise our services to each individual client's needs whether they are a start-up, which is new to IP, or a sophisticated in-house IP department. The firm punches above its weight as evidenced by our impressive portfolio of clients. We are planning for continued, steady and sustainable growth in the coming years and are regularly on the look-out for fresh new talent.

Academic and other requirements

We recruit outstanding graduates from a range of technical disciplines as required. Candidates will have top grades in English at GCSE or equivalent. Academic talent aside, we look for candidates who will be able to advise on the commercial relevance of IP to our clients and be the sort of people who will win business for our firm. Candidates should have an aptitude

for logical analysis of problems, the ability to communicate with clear and concise English, and have the social skills to get on with client personnel of widely different status, ranging from company chairperson to laboratory assistant. We value equal opportunities for all and are a founding member of the 'IP Inclusive' scheme.

Professional development policies

Considerable importance is attached to the training, supervision and mentoring of our recruits. Our in-house training is supplemented with external lectures and courses, including the Queen Mary Intellectual Property Law Certificate course. Our trainees have an excellent record in the various professional examinations and our firm is recognised within the profession as being one of the best training firms in the country.

We offer an open and friendly working environment, clear routes for career progression, and an emphasis on getting the work/life balance right, which we believe is why so many attorneys choose to continue their careers with us after qualification. ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	23
Partners	3
Qualified Patent Attorneys	7
Trainees	1

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Adamson Jones is a growing firm of patent and trade mark attorneys. We are part of Gateley, a legal and professional services group employing around 1,500 people at offices around the UK. We work alongside Symbiosis IP, who are also part of Gateley and a specialist life sciences and chemistry practice.

As we are a patent and trade mark attorney firm operating within a diverse legal and professional services group, our attorneys have the opportunity to work closely with other professionals in the group, such as solicitors and other business advisers, in a wide range of areas including corporate transactions, IP litigation, commercial agreements and international investment.

Our patent attorney practice is managed through a number of practice groups, which encompass most technical areas, and crossdisciplinary collaboration is common. An enthusiasm for technology is a must, as is an understanding of the commercial and legal issues faced by our clients.

Our trade mark attorneys work in a wide range of sectors, including supporting our patent clients.

Our clients range from small start-ups and established private companies to large corporations. The majority of our work is for UK-based clients, which provides trainees with experience in all areas of attorney practice, including drafting and filing of new applications and freedom-to-operate work. However, we also receive instructions from overseas firms of attorneys across the world.

We are committed to excellence in our work and we have a strong team ethos, with everyone at Adamson Jones, Symbiosis IP and elsewhere in Gateley being led by our purpose to deliver results that delight our clients, inspire our people and support our communities. The working environment is fast paced and rewarding.

We look for high calibre individuals with a record of academic achievement, who have the potential to develop the commercial knowledge and legal skills that set our attorneys apart. Our preference is to train new entrants to the profession and to instil our values in them. When we find the right people, we aim to retain them, with tailored training programmes and individual career support being provided. Long term prospects for those who join our firm are therefore excellent. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South West, Wales and Rest of Europe

LOCATIONS: London, West Midlands and East Midlands

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	35
Partners	8
Qualified Patent Attorneys	8
Trainees	5

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	180
Partners	23
Qualified Patent Attorneys	38
Trainees	19

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About us

Albright IP are a professional firm of British and European Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys. Our UK attorney and European attorney teams have many years of experience in invention and brand protection, and work for clients in the UK and around the world.

We advise on all aspects of IP protection and enforcement, including patents, designs, copyright, and trade marks. This could range from simple advice about keeping appropriate records for the purposes of copyright and design right to full representation in drafting, filing and prosecuting patent, design, and trade mark applications.

Albright IP practices in a wide variety of technical disciplines including mechanical, biomedical, electrical, and electronic engineering, and works to protect inventions ranging from low-cost consumer gadgets to large industrial machinery. We also have strong Design and Trade Mark practices.

Why work for us at Albright IP?

Albright IP is an interesting place to work, and the environment is that of a busy, successful small business. We have an incredible team of people from a diverse range of backgrounds. We are a growing, and above all we are looking for people with enthusiasm for life, for learning and for working together. The quality of our advice matters to us, and we have a culture

of openness and discussion, which provides a powerful learning environment.

We have a good work life balance and have clients in all walks of life, which provide us with interesting work, problems to solve and discussions to have. Every day is enjoyable, even if sometimes the work is challenging. We encourage our teams to develop their technical and legal interests and seek clients that interest them. We run regular in-house training sessions, in-house CPD sessions with internal and external speakers, and have regular team discussions on interesting matters.

Our offices are in the beautiful spa town of Cheltenham in the popular Montpellier area. We also have offices in Cornwall and Bournemouth.

Available opportunities

We welcome speculative applications for both our patent and trade mark teams. On the patents side, we look for team players with an excellent degree in mechanical engineering, bio-mechanical, electromechanical, electrical engineering or similar technical discipline and a keen interest in technical matters.

Our Trade Mark team value people with good communication skills and high emotional intelligence as well as an excellent law degree. You should have an inquisitive interest in brand matters. ●

Appleyard Lees is a leading Intellectual Property Law firm, with approximately seventy Patent and Trademark Attorneys and Litigators.

Our commercially intelligent approach to client service incorporates flexibility and adaptability. We strive to be agile, responding to specific client requirements in a way that suits them.

We help a broad range of IP owners and creators, including in-house teams, R&D specialists, owner-managers and branding professionals, to protect and monetise their intellectual property.

In addition to our catalogue of multinational and multimillion-pound clients, Appleyard Lees is equally proud of the role we have played in the growth of start-up businesses.

Appleyard Lees has a network of UK offices in Cambridge, Leeds, Halifax, Manchester, providing clients with expert strategic IP advice globally.

Specialist areas include:

- Electronics & Software
- Engineering & Physics
- Chemistry & Pharmaceuticals
- Life Sciences & Biotechnology

We are keen to hear from talented individuals who have a passion for work, a love for learning and a desire to be part of a friendly, supportive team.

We value individualism and the ability to develop new skills and expertise. Most of all, we want to work with people who genuinely enjoy diverse, challenging work, and want to help us give quality support to our clients globally.

Our Values:

- Make it happen
- Show you care
- Attitude matters

We have a reputation for our friendly working environment, for investing in our people, and for retaining employees. We pride ourselves on looking after our staff, supporting them throughout their career and providing them with expert training and progression opportunities.

We are an equal opportunities employer and are a member of IP Inclusive, a network of intellectual property professionals working to make the IP community more equal, diverse, and inclusive. ●

LOCATION: South West

LOCATIONS: East Anglia, Yorkshire & Humberside, North East and North West

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	12
Partners	1
Qualified Patent Attorneys	4
Trainees	2

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	1
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About Barnes IP

We are a specialist IP firm that assists a wide range of clients by providing an "in-house" style IP legal service, allowing our clients to replicate having an internal specialist IP team within their business that understands their strategy and delivers the right legal and IP solutions for their business. We work across a range of technology sectors, focussing mainly on patenting in software and electronics, with expertise in artificial intelligence, robotics, fin-tech, med-tech, cybersecurity and space technologies. Our clients are a mix of industry leaders in the respective fields and energetic start-ups and scale-ups, including three "unicorn" start-ups whom we have represented since incorporation, all with clever technology, brands and designs that need protecting and commercialising.

Working At Barnes IP

We pride ourselves on offering a collaborative and innovative working environment that is fully paperless and built from best practice. We encourage professional development in our staff at every level and strive for excellence in our work, speed in our delivery and a common purpose alongside each of our clients.

Your Future At Barnes IP

As a graduate, you'll be able to work on a varied and interesting caseload, liaising with both new and established clients to develop comprehensive patent, design and trade mark portfolios worldwide. In-house training and access to the best external training courses is second to none, with support from experienced attorneys who have been involved in the profession's qualifying exams. We have developed a graduate training programme which aims to teach a new topic/skill approximately each month (for the first 18 months or so) and then provide (linked) actual work over the following month(s) to develop relevant experience working using this knowledge or skill.

Who We Are Looking For

We typically recruit graduate trainees with Physics, Computer Science or Engineering degrees, who have excellent written and communication skills and the ability both to quickly understand and clearly explain new technology, designs and brands. We like people with a keen interest in technology and who are pro-active and want to help us raise the bar for what a modern legal firm can achieve •

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	48
Partners	12
Qualified Patent Attorneys	14
Trainees	6

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Want to make a difference?

Of course you do. And you won't find a better place to do so than Beck Greener. It's not just that the quality of our work is so high, though that's part of it. From early on in your career with us you could be working with some of the world's most innovative companies, protecting and developing patentable inventions in fields as diverse as household consumer goods, business processes, software, games and complex drug formulations. Or you could be working with individual entrepreneurs, helping to evaluate and safeguard what might be ground-breaking inventions, or even supporting clients through complex High Court litigation. We also have a strong trade mark practice.

It's also about our culture. With offices in the heart of London's legal district, and a European office in Malta, we are big enough to win our share of the most exciting, significant work, but small enough to keep that 'boutique' feel clients value so much. At Beck Greener everyone counts; everyone's voice is heard.

A (Beck) Greener world

Culture is nothing, though, unless it's founded on principles. So, at Beck Greener we don't just aim to make a difference to our clients' businesses with a high quality, distinctive service offering robust, commercial advice. We also try to make a positive contribution to our profession, our local community and the environment. That's why we launched our 'Greener Beck Greener' scheme in 2014, since when we've reduced our electricity consumption by nearly half, winning the Camden Climate Change Alliance's 'Cutting Carbon' mark of achievement every year. It's also why we developed our award-winning 'STEM: Branching

Out' project, which seeks to inspire and encourage young people, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to consider careers in STEM sectors. We work to support students and promote STEM careers in general, and in the IP profession in particular with our 'upReach Xperience' project.

What we can do for you

We value our trainees very highly. Training is taken very seriously, and all trainees are directly supervised by partners in a supportive and friendly environment. A number of our most recent patent partners started their careers at Beck Greener.

As a trainee patent attorney at Beck Greener, you will be given full training and support to qualify as both a Chartered and European Patent Attorney. This includes mentoring and supervision from partners, in-house tutorials, external lectures and attending one of the courses to obtain the relevant postgraduate certificate.

And what we need in return

We seek to recruit only the very best graduates who will work to our exacting standards. Obviously, this means that, for patent attorneys, we expect either a first or a 2:1 degree (or postgraduate qualification) in an appropriate technical discipline, such as chemistry, biochemistry or biotechnology, physics, electrical or mechanical engineering, electronics, or related disciplines. Most of all, though, we are looking for enthusiasm – the desire to learn about clients' businesses and inventions, to provide high quality commercial advice, and to make a difference. If this sounds like you then we'd love to talk. •

LOCATION: South East (excl London)

LOCATION: London

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	229
Partners	46
Qualified Patent Attorneys	31
Trainees	18

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Why join us

Are you an inquisitive and driven individual looking for a varied and intellectually stimulating role? Boult are an award-winning, collegiate and inclusive European IP firm offering excellent training, a supportive environment and a clear path of career progression. Our training is exceptional. It is hands on, and you will be researching for pitches, liaising with clients, writing articles and preparing legal documents from the start. Throughout the programme you will enjoy mentoring, in-house courses and complementary business skills to help you excel. Most importantly, the pace of the training is dictated by you. We don't support a timetable approach to qualification but prefer to ramp up or slow down the process to match the individual's preferences and strengths.

Who we are

Our diverse team of talented and passionate individuals includes patent, design and trademark attorneys supporting clients in a wide range of technologies and commercial fields.

As a firm with a global outlook we have 6 offices across the UK and Europe: London, Madrid, Frankfurt, Munich, Cambridge and Reading. Our clients and global peers alike consistently give us excellent feedback making us a leading European IP firm rated in the top tier of legal directories (Legal 500, Chambers and Partners and Managing Intellectual Property.)

Our promise to you

We know it is the talent and passion of our people that make us the successful business we are today, so we are committed to attracting and retaining the very best. As well as a friendly and supportive environment, we offer excellent training and attractive career opportunities including genuine partnership prospects.

Our in-house training is supplemented with external lectures and courses, including the Queen Mary Intellectual Property Law Certificate course.

Opportunities available at Boult

We strongly encourage applications from all walks of life as being an equal opportunities employer is more than just a label for us. We are an active member of IP Inclusive and have partnered with the Sutton Trust to make the IP profession accessible to everyone regardless of their background or characteristics.

Opportunities exist within our Life Sciences, Chemical and Materials, Engineering and Designs, High Tech and Electrical and Trademark and Domain names practice groups. Whilst we particularly encourage applications in the autumn for candidates wishing to join us the following year, we welcome speculative applications at any time throughout the year. •

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	18
Partners	4
Qualified Patent Attorneys	8
Trainees	4

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Brand Murray Fuller is a small full-service IP law firm assisting counsel and in-house R&D directly with strong commercial understanding and a common-sense, practical approach. We are a progressive and developing firm, based in central London.

The structure of Brand Murray Fuller was devised differently from the traditional IP firm from the outset. Our staff operate in a highly interconnected fashion, supporting each other beyond their core functions. Attorneys will also be trained to understand fully the support functions necessary to allow the firm to run effectively, consequently gaining business management understanding alongside professional training and development.

Our employees tend to work from home up to twice a week (and as often as necessary when the circumstances dictate), something that is encouraged to maintain a good work/life balance. Some employees work flexibly and/or part-time to enable them to balance other commitments.

Training will involve working with our senior attorneys and attending qualification courses, plus internal and external seminars and tutorials. We believe the best way to learn is through understanding the client and their business, and to that end trainees will attend

client meetings and hearings from the start. There are excellent long-term prospects for assisting in the future development and expansion of this new firm.

Our clients range from multinationals with head offices in the UK, US and Europe to smaller UK based companies and overseas law firms. For many clients, we integrate with their technical, marketing, R&D, legal and managerial teams to facilitate the role of a member of their in-house legal function, rather than as an external adviser. We are frequently asked by our clients to advise in connection with wider commercial issues such as agreements, acquisitions, toll manufacturing and trade secrets. We also regularly work with clients to prepare them for financings and other corporate events.

As an innovative business, we are constantly exploring opportunities to improve efficiencies in the way we work. We are investigating generative AI offerings to help us review and prepare documents more efficiently while maintaining client confidentiality.

While we work on a wide variety of technology, the firm is primarily oriented around the chemical, biotechnology, medtech, green technology, materials, mechanical, pharmaceutical and techbio sectors. •

CARPMAELS & RANSFORD

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	281
Partners	32
Qualified Patent Attorneys	96
Trainees	30

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	10
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Carpmaels & Ransford is a leading European intellectual property firm, acting for many of the world's most innovative and successful companies, particularly in the healthcare space. Our specialist teams are led by practitioners who have been at the forefront of the industry for years, acting in landmark cases before the EPO and the national courts of Europe.

We are an award-winning firm with top tier rankings in all the industry directories. We were awarded EPO Prosecution Firm of the Year at the IAM and WTR Global IP Awards 2024, received two Europe Impact Case of the Year awards at the 2025 MIP EMEA Awards and most recently took home Patent Litigation Firm of the Year: Biologics & Biosimilars; and SPC Litigation Firm of the Year at the LMG Life Sciences Awards 2025 EMEA.

We hire talented and passionate people who think creatively and enjoy a challenge. Working collaboratively, we share our knowledge and experience across teams, actively learning from each other in a friendly and sociable environment.

We are passionate about creating a diverse and inclusive workplace. Diversity of thought is vital to our business; it's how we approach challenges differently and offer our clients creative and original solutions. Through our

work with organisations such as IP Inclusive, Stonewall and Business in the Community via the Race at Work Charter, we are putting the right steps in place to make sure that all our people feel supported and empowered to be themselves. Further information on our commitment to diversity and inclusion is available on our website.

A healthy work/life balance is very important to us and we run regular wellbeing events in addition to the large number of clubs and social activities that are available to everyone at the firm. We are also enthusiastic supporters of our local community through partnerships with the Social Mobility Foundation and Holborn Community Association.

Each year, we recruit a number of exceptional STEM graduates, supporting them through to qualification as a UK and European patent attorney. As a new trainee, you'll join a practice group relevant to your subject of study. Opportunities exist within our Chemistry, Biotechnology and Engineering & Tech practice groups.

If you are seeking a challenging and intellectually stimulating career using your technical background and experience, we would love to hear from you. •

cleveland scott york

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	60
Partners	14
Qualified Patent Attorneys	15
Trainees	3

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	Varies

The firm

Cleveland Scott York is a firm of patent and trade mark attorneys, with teams in London, Hertfordshire and the Thames Valley. CSY Europe adds an office in Munich specialising in filings at the EUIPO; CSY Germany, also based in Munich, carries out German national filing work.

We provide comprehensive intellectual property services to a wide range of clients, including small and medium enterprises and multi-national corporations. We are a progressive firm with a knowledge-sharing culture and a reputation for excellence in training and professional development. Go to our website to see more information about the sectors we serve, the services that we offer, and the good things that clients have said about us in one or other of the directories in which we are ranked.

We offer trainees a high level of support and encouragement throughout the qualification process, and we have a good record in helping candidates pass exams.

The role

You can expect a challenging and varied role, where your duties and responsibilities will expand in line with your knowledge and as

your skills improve. You will gain experience in all aspects of patents, or trade marks, and related disciplines, working closely with a partner or an associate. We encourage trainees to contribute from an early stage. As a patent trainee you will be involved in drafting and prosecuting UK and European patent applications, opposition and opinion work. Trade mark trainees will be involved in all aspects of UK, EUTM, and international applications, oppositions and searches.

Candidates at Cleveland Scott York

An excellent academic record, including a good honours degree in science or engineering is a prerequisite for patent attorneys. We are looking for team players with a flexible, proactive and confident approach. Excellent written and verbal communications skills are essential, as are high levels of accuracy and an eye for detail. We expect to recruit one or two new patent trainees every year; often these will be recruited from those who have participated in our Summer internship programme, which will be advertised through IP Careers and elsewhere. We may also use IP Careers to advertise trainee trade mark attorney positions. •

LOCATION: London

LOCATIONS: London and South East (excl London)

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	8,000
Partners	5
Qualified Patent Attorneys	19
Trainees	16

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About CMS

CMS is a future-facing, global law firm with a long established patent attorney practice that's band 1 ranked in Legal 500. We put the interests of our clients at the heart of everything we do across 70+ offices in 40+ countries in the UK, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and South America, with more than 1,200 partners and 5,000 lawyers. CMS offers a deep local market understanding with a global perspective. We have qualified patent attorneys working alongside IP, litigation, corporate and commercial lawyers. Our IP clients include blue-chip businesses, universities, research institutes, growth technology companies, law firms, governments and defence institutions.

At CMS, we place Diversity & Inclusion at the centre of our culture and at the heart of our organisation. In 2023 CMS achieved accreditation to the ISO 30415 Standard for D&I which provides a foundation for creating a workplace where all employees are respected and appreciated. CMS received accreditation following a comprehensive review of our processes, governance, and culture. In its report, The Legal Week stated that CMS "walks the walk on diversity & inclusion". Our UK board is 45% female and 75% of our Board are the first generation to go to University.

"A true IP powerhouse, CMS is a "reliable firm with a team of strong practitioners who are

responsive and helpful". Appearing on each of the prosecution, litigation and transactions tables, the outfit distinguishes itself as a true one-stop shop that can service every patent need." – IAM 2024

Opportunities available

We're looking for individuals who are excited at the prospect of using their scientific background in a legal context. These are rare opportunities, offering broad ranging client exposure and excellent training within the infrastructure of a top tier law firm. We are looking for candidates with an excellent track record and a minimum 2.1 (or equivalent) degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering or Physics.

Training

You will be provided with ongoing training and development whilst studying for your Certificate in Intellectual Property (IP), and subsequently your UK and European Patent exams. You'll work alongside experienced colleagues and leaders in their field, who will guide you through the fundamental elements of international patent law and how to apply these to your client's needs. ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	267
Partners	44
Qualified Patent Attorneys	68
Trainees	25

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	6
Undergraduate Jobs	Varies

About D Young & Co LLP

Our reputation for excellence is recognised worldwide; we have been ranked as a top tier European intellectual property firm by all major UK legal directories for more than 15 years. Over 250 staff (including partners, fee earners, paralegals, and business support teams) work across our offices in London, Munich and Southampton. From universities to global mega-brands, our domestic and international client base is diverse and spans all industry sectors and technologies.

Our team of patent and trade mark attorneys, solicitors and Rechtsanwälte work closely together, providing our clients with an integrated service that covers all stages of intellectual property protection across Europe. Our team are at the forefront of changes and enjoy a stellar reputation for work before the intellectual property offices in the UK, Germany and across Europe. We are well known for our expertise at the EPO and we are embracing the opportunities that the unitary patent and the Unified Patent Court bring.

Your career and development

The success of our clients, our firm and everyone who works at D Young & Co is achieved through shared goals. We are committed to supporting and promoting equality within our firm and believe that a diverse working environment is key to creativity and productivity.

Each year we look for candidates wanting to become qualified patent attorneys. You will work with a team of talented colleagues, receiving guidance and mentoring from

your supervisor. We provide a clear, flexible path towards qualification and work with you to ensure the route and pace you take is appropriate for you. As well as support through your professional qualifications, including access to internal tutorials and external revision courses, the firm provides training and development in other commercial skills to enable everyone to deliver the best global client service. Our training has been recognised by The Legal 500: "D Young & Co's reputation for training is second to none" and we are devoted to helping everyone be the best they can be.

Your lifestyle

We hold dear our culture of work-life balance with the opportunity to take advantage of hybrid working from day one. Whether you want to work or live in the city, by the sea or in the countryside, you can fully harness your career potential and enjoy life inside and outside of work by joining D Young & Co. We focus on our people and run a programme of equity, diversity and inclusion as well as wellbeing initiatives throughout the year.

Your benefits & recognition

You'll find a friendly and supportive culture at D Young & Co, where hard work and dedication are recognised and rewarded. As well as a competitive salary, we have a flexible benefits package that you can tailor towards your lifestyle.

In our collaborative and professional environment, people are put first and you will be empowered to see your contribution making a difference. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South East (excl London), South West, Yorkshire & Humberside, North East, North West, Scotland, Rest of Europe and Rest of the World

LOCATIONS: London, South East (excl London) and Rest of Europe

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	280
Partners	48
Qualified Patent Attorneys	104
Trainees	43

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	Varies



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	21
Partners	4
Qualified Patent Attorneys	4
Trainees	2

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Dehns is one of the largest private practice patent and trade mark firms in Europe, with an international reputation for quality of work and service, and a rich history spanning 100 years. Our straightforward, commercially focussed approach to IP, combined with the technical excellence of our professionals, helps us to turn inspired thinking into patents, trade marks and registered designs that are valuable commercial assets for our clients.

Client focused service

We work hard to ensure that every client receives the best possible service, tailored to their individual requirements. Our range of graduate and postgraduate scientists means that we are confident of rapidly understanding a broad spectrum of technology. We are consistently ranked in the top tier by leading IP and legal directories.

Highly talented professionals

We recruit the brightest people with the perfect combination of ability, ambition and personality. This means that we have teams of highly talented individuals, who are driven by a desire to work in the field of innovation and committed to providing an excellent client service.

We also offer a formal, structured work experience scheme. Our two-week summer placement provides prospective patent and trade mark attorneys with an opportunity to gain practical experience of a career within IP.

Professional development at Dehns

We offer a stimulating working environment and, as a progressive firm, we want to invest in the brightest and most talented individuals from all walks of life. We place an emphasis on knowledge and training and are committed to development at all levels. Many of our attorneys have been awarded prizes for exceptional performance qualifying examinations. Trainees are supported throughout their period of qualification via regular in-house tutorials and by working closely with partners. They become involved in many different aspects of patent, trade mark, registered design and copyright work so that they gain a broad range of experience.

We pride ourselves on fostering a friendly atmosphere within the firm, as we strongly believe that this, combined with a shared ambition for professional excellence, is vital to the success of the firm. ●

About Us

Dummett Copp is a respected firm of patent and trade mark attorneys located near Ipswich in Suffolk. Established for over 35 years, we have a long-established and growing client base, both in the UK and abroad.

We pride ourselves on providing clear focussed advice across patents, trade marks and designs for our clients, who range from start-ups to major multinational firms. Our clients are active in a wide range of technology areas, including engineering, software, electronics and chemistry.

We believe that it is essential that we fully understand our clients and their business sectors to provide the highest level of service and the best value for money. We invest in building strong client relationships, working closely with managers, engineers and other commercial team members to build an understanding of their commercial aims. Taking a closer interest in our clients' businesses not only tells us what they need, it tells us how best to provide it. Our attorneys are always approachable and responsive, and place emphasis on providing tailored IP support.

Our culture

We promote a friendly and supportive environment, with numerous whole firm

activities throughout the year. We understand the importance of a good work/life balance, and our out-of-town location close to beautiful countryside and coast allows us to achieve this, while still being within easy travel distance to London and Cambridge. We support hybrid and remote working, but also encourage regular time in the office to build on the strengths of working in a close team.

We offer several benefits to promote wellbeing, including yoga classes, cycle to work scheme, and gym membership schemes. The firm holds regular events to support the local community and local charities, including an annual table tennis charity event.

Opportunities

Our patent and trade mark trainees have direct client contact from an early stage. With a large proportion of direct client work, the firm provides opportunities to meet clients, draft applications and gain an understanding of IP portfolios and strategy from day one.

Trainees are fully supported through courses and examinations to achieve UK and European qualification. Trainees are also encouraged to participate in marketing and business development, helping to build the firm's important client relationships. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South East (excl London), South West, West Midlands, North West and Rest of Europe

LOCATION: East Anglia



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	180
Partners	35
Qualified Patent Attorneys	80
Trainees	15

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	6
Undergraduate Jobs	5



ELKINGTON + FIFE

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	80
Partners	18
Qualified Patent Attorneys	13
Trainees	15

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	3
Undergraduate Jobs	-

EIP is an innovative patent firm with offices in Germany, Sweden, the UK and USA and combines a multidisciplinary team of attorneys, litigators, and commercial lawyers providing advice to clients across the globe.

In addition to specialising in high-value and complex patent matters, we also offer commercial advice on the exploitation and use of the full range of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs). This includes patents, trademarks, design rights, copyright and others, and assists with ancillary issues arising in relation to data protection and rights of privacy.

EIP has consistently been recognised by leading industry rankings and awards. In 2025, EIP was listed as one of Europe's Leading Patent Law Firms by the Financial Times, achieving a gold ranking in all six technology areas listed (one of only six firms in Europe to do so). Over the past six years EIP has won both UK and European Patent Disputes Firm of the Year multiple times at the prestigious Managing IP Awards EMEA. Peers and clients have described EIP as having "a great, wellintegrated team that operates together to provide...great answers almost instantly", and as a firm that "has consistently

shown an exceptional level of competence and professionalism, with everyone proving to be approachable, responsive and detail-oriented".

Every year we look to recruit around 6 Trainee Patent Attorneys to join one of our UK offices and a Litigation Trainee Solicitor to join our London office. We offer trainees the opportunity to interact and liaise directly with clients. The training programme is focused on direct supervision by partners who are leaders in their field, and all trainees benefit from high levels of tuition during qualification. We have developed an ethos of building from within and several of the partners joined the firm as a trainee and have taken advantage of the meritocratic progression philosophy that exists at the firm.

EIP typically recruits candidates with an excellent undergraduate degree and (optionally) a Masters or PhD. The best candidates enjoy the challenge of complex technical and legal work whilst those who have good written and verbal communication skills also tend to excel. The firm operates a focused yet friendly and flexible working environment with smart, open plan offices and a smartcasual dress code. ●

About us

Elkington and Fife LLP are proud to provide a high quality service to our clients in all aspects of intellectual property protection. We have a particular expertise in high-level opposition and contentious work, especially at the EPO. We have also been very successful at delivering drafting services directly for a variety of large corporate clients. These strengths are balanced with work for an interesting variety of national and international clients operating in a wide range of technical disciplines.

The firm was established in 1927 and operates as a limited liability partnership, with offices in London and Sevenoaks. Each trainee can expect to work closely with more than one partner and to be exposed to all aspects of work. We target our recruitment to particular

roles, meaning that successful trainees can expect a long-term future within the firm.

Opportunities available

We seek trainees with an excellent technical background to deal with a broad range of subject matter, the drive to succeed and push our practice forward, together with an excellent command of English. Elkington and Fife LLP welcome applications from new graduates and especially from applicants having research or development experience.

Training at Elkington and Fife LLP

Training is given high priority, both through a close working relationship between a trainee and others in the team, as well as through external preparatory courses and internal seminars. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South West, Yorkshire & Humberside, Wales, Rest of Europe and United States

LOCATIONS: London and South East (excl London)



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	6,300
Partners	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	-
Trainees	-

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	100
Undergraduate Jobs	-



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	121
Partners	23
Qualified Patent Attorneys	35
Trainees	10

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Every invention is unique. So is everyone in our team.

Our 6,300 employees from 35 countries prove that the best results are achieved together.

As the patent office for Europe, we are proud to deliver high-quality, efficient services that foster innovation, competitiveness and economic growth and promote a **safer, smarter and more sustainable world**. A world in which we are committed to helping achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the highest environmental, social and governance standards. Moreover, as an equal opportunities employer, the EPO

is shaped by the diversity of our people's personalities, knowledge and cultures.

Our patent examiners work at the cutting edge of technology, analysing the latest inventions in all kinds of technical fields in order to protect and promote innovation in Europe. Their daily work combines scientific expertise with analytical research and an eye for the legal aspects of intellectual property.

Do you have a Master's degree in engineering or science?

Picture yourself handling inventions daily, ahead of the curve. ●

You've read the careers guide section; you now know what patent and trade mark attorneys do and that lots of firms seem to provide a great place to work. All firms offer similar benefits and training, right?

Think again. In the right environment, being a patent or trade mark attorney is an exciting and rewarding career. Forresters provides that opportunity to all our trainees and attorneys. We strive to keep our values of 'one team', 'excellence' and 'great communication' at the forefront of everything we do; from our interactions with our clients to making Forresters a great place to work for everyone.

One of the things we value most is our supportive and friendly culture. By joining us, you will be encouraged to develop as an individual and valued for the skills you can bring. We provide a wealth of support in terms of your career development, and for your well-being too. You'll have plenty of opportunity to get involved and have a say in different initiatives, including our Mental Health and Wellbeing Group, and Equality and Diversity Group.

You will receive dedicated training from our partners and attorneys, and experience working with a wide range of our clients too. We believe gaining a breadth of experience and exposure to commercial strategy is essential to building a successful career as a fully qualified UK and European patent attorney.

Throughout the year you will be able to participate in training sessions covering a range of topics, from details of patent law to effective client management and communication. When it comes to examinations, we provide study and examination leave, and individual support to ensure you are given every opportunity to succeed. We also host weekly practice sessions with colleagues sitting similar examinations, providing advice on exam technique in the lead up to the examinations.

Who are we looking for?

You will possess an excellent academic record, a keen eye for detail and be as passionate about innovation and brands as we are. You'll need to be a well-rounded person with great communication and problem-solving skills, who works well independently as well as in a team.

In return you will have excellent career prospects and an environment that will help you fulfil your potential. Most of our partners began their careers as trainees at Forresters. We place a high value on quality training, and we fully fund attendance on training courses. We like to play to our strengths, and we will provide you with the support you need to develop.

We encourage applications from individuals from all walks of life. Forresters are chartered signatories of IP Inclusive, an initiative that brings people together from across the IP sector to promote and improve equality, diversity, inclusion and wellbeing within the IP community. ●

LOCATION: Rest of Europe

LOCATIONS: London, West Midlands, North West and Rest of Europe



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	130
Partners	19
Qualified Patent Attorneys	40
Trainees	20

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	4-5
Undergraduate Jobs	-



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	9
Partners	1
Qualified Patent Attorneys	3
Trainees	-

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Committed to doing business the right way, with integrity, expertise and intelligence, GJE is recognised by Best Companies as one of the UK's top 20 law firms to work for. The firm is proud to have been consistently ranked at No. 1 by the Financial Times in its 2025 survey of Europe's leading patent law firms. The firm was awarded the highest "Gold" ranking in each of the six areas of industrial expertise surveyed.

Our success is down to the people we employ, who, above all, are engaged in our business and committed to our success. With roughly 130 of us, we're small and friendly enough for you to get to know everyone – and big enough to offer you a broad range of interesting work and great career prospects.

Why work for us?

Because you will have an interesting and exciting career, right from the start. Our culture is friendly, inclusive, supportive and collaborative: within this environment you will receive excellent training and support and take on real responsibility. Our structured training programme will provide you with a year of on-the-job training before enrolling you for the Postgraduate Certificate in Intellectual Property

Law. Ultimately you will aim to qualify as both a European Patent Attorney and a Chartered (UK) Patent Attorney. We assist you in these studies through in-house training, mentoring and coaching from senior attorneys, while exposing you to a diverse range of cases and clients to help you become a well rounded patent attorney. We challenge our attorneys from an early stage and encourage them to carve out a career that will play to their individual strengths. Alongside a range of great benefits and perks, we have an active diversity and inclusion group, an established wellbeing programme and mental health first aiders. We also offer a competitive salary which is reviewed annually, as well as upon exam success.

What we are looking for

Top academic results, including a first-class or 2:1 degree in a relevant subject, are a must, but we are not just looking for academic success. The ability to think creatively, ask questions, and develop and articulate solutions are just as important. We want graduates who demonstrate a passion for science and can contribute to the continued development of our business. ●

Graham Watt & Co is a busy but friendly practice with a respected and long-established client base. The firm provides a full and comprehensive range of IP services to a wide range of clients from individual inventors, and small/medium start up enterprises to multinational companies. Our range of professional services relate to all aspects of patents, trade marks, copyright and designs, which assist our clients in identifying, protecting and exploiting their IP assets in the U.K and worldwide.

Our team

We have a friendly and supportive culture, with a buddy system in place to guide new recruits and give them the best start possible. Our open door policy reflects our helpful and open environment, where you are able to discuss IP and business matters with any member of the team.

Our attorneys have a wealth of knowledge in disciplines such as immunology, biochemistry, biomedical science, engineering and chemistry, as well as all aspects of trade marks in a variety of sectors. Trainees get an all-round experience, gleaning information and an understanding from experienced and knowledgeable attorneys. Tasks will be allocated with a view to developing the trainees' knowledge, with early exposure to

opposition and other oral proceedings. Meaning our trainees are able to develop quickly into strong and knowledgeable patent attorneys.

The support team, which consists of IP secretaries, a formalities manager, an office manager and an admin team, who all strive to find new ways and systems to support the attorneys. Thereby ensuring the attorneys are doing what they do best and their work is done efficiently.

What we can offer at Graham Watt & Co

You can expect a diverse and challenging role with your responsibilities and duties increasing as we help you expand your knowledge and experience. Your working exposure will be wide-ranging, and you can expect to gain knowledge and interact with all aspects of the business.

At Graham Watt we ensure that you have the best possible chance in passing your exams by giving you supervised relevant work, guidance, external exam preparation courses, study leave and financial support for your professional exams. Once qualified, the support doesn't stop and guidance and mentoring from the firm continues. ●

LOCATION: London

LOCATION: South East (excl London)



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	70,000
Partners	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	64
Trainees	5

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	105
Partners	11
Qualified Patent Attorneys	51
Trainees	17

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

GSK is a global biopharma company with a special purpose – to unite science, technology and talent to get ahead of disease together – so we can positively impact the health of billions of people and deliver stronger, more sustainable shareholder returns – as an organisation where people can thrive. Getting ahead means preventing disease as well as treating it, and we aim to positively impact the health of 2.5 billion people by the end of 2030.

Our IP group plays an integral role in realising our goal by protecting our R&D investment and IP assets. The IP group provides proactive support to research sites in Europe and US, working collaboratively with scientists and senior managers in a fast-moving culture that is ambitious for patients.

Patent trainees at GSK work alongside senior attorneys and can expect to spend their time drafting and prosecuting patent applications, as well as working on contentious issues, such as oppositions and appeals before the EPO. Trainees are also involved in reviewing and advising R&D on IP clauses in contracts and agreements and educating the business on IP law and strategies. A comprehensive training programme is provided, including in-house and external tutorials, seminars and courses.

Trainees are supported throughout their journey to passing both the EQE to become a European Patent Attorney and the appropriate national qualifying examination.

We look for trainees with at least a 2:1 or 1st class degree and prefer new recruits to have had some research or industrial experience. Applicants must be able to demonstrate a desire and commitment to training and qualifying as a patent attorney and be passionate about science and medical innovation. We recruit team players with strong interpersonal, negotiating, analytical and problem-solving skills, who have exceptional written and spoken English and attention to detail.

Our success absolutely depends on our people. While getting ahead of disease together is about our ambition for patients and shareholders, it's also about making GSK a place where people can thrive. We want GSK to be a place where people feel inspired, encouraged and challenged to be the best they can be. A place where they can be themselves – feeling welcome, valued, and included. Where they can keep growing and look after their wellbeing. ●

HG – International IP Excellence

Haley Guiliano (HG) stands as one of the world's premier intellectual property boutique firms, and our London office represents the dynamic intersection of European innovation and Global IP strategy. As an international firm with offices spanning Silicon Valley, New York, and London, we offer unparalleled opportunities for technical advisors and junior attorneys to launch transformative careers in intellectual property law.

Why Choose Haley Guiliano London?

Our London office serves as the European hub for our sophisticated global practice, handling some of the most influential and high-stakes intellectual property matters across diverse industries. We specialize in cutting-edge technologies, including artificial intelligence, biotechnology, semiconductors, telecommunications, emerging digital platforms, medical devices, and automotive technologies. This positions our team at the forefront of the most exciting legal and technical developments shaping tomorrow's economy.

Exceptional Training and Mentorship

At Haley Guiliano, we believe exceptional IP professionals are developed, not discovered. Our London office provides comprehensive

training programs specifically designed for graduates entering the IP field. Our Technical Advisors work directly with leading patent attorneys on complex patent prosecution matters, gaining hands-on experience with patent portfolio development and strategy. Junior attorneys receive intensive mentorship from partners and senior associates while handling substantive work from day one.

Global Reach, Personal Impact

What sets us apart is our unique combination of boutique firm culture with global firm capabilities. Our London team regularly collaborates with colleagues across our transatlantic offices, providing exposure to international best practices and diverse client perspectives. You'll work on matters that span multiple jurisdictions, gaining invaluable experience in both UK and International IP.

Ready to Begin Your IP Journey?

The award-winning London office is committed to excellence and industry leadership. Our attorneys, patent agents, and technical advisors are respected thought leaders who shape IP law and policy. Join us, and you'll be part of a team that combines sophisticated legal expertise with deep technical understanding to solve our clients' most complex challenges. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South East (excl London), Rest of Europe and United States

LOCATION: London and United States



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	204
Partners	37
Qualified Patent Attorneys	54
Trainees	15

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	Varies



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	470
Partners	84
Qualified Patent Attorneys	190
Trainees	38

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	10
Undergraduate Jobs	4

Our priorities

At Haseltine Lake Kempner we are driven by the same principles as you are and are always looking to find 'a better way'. We have an unwavering commitment to always putting people first, which has helped us build trusted, long-term relationships with our clients. We work with many esteemed household and industrial names, delivering top-tier expertise and professionalism. Our passion for intellectual challenges coupled with our excitement about being at the forefront of scientific and technological innovation, drives us to excel.

Our people-first approach is not limited to our clients. We also work extremely hard to ensure that our colleagues feel great, are properly motivated and fully rewarded. We place a lot of emphasis on flexibility and workplace wellbeing. HLK is committed to building an inclusive and supportive working environment based on mutual respect and trust at all levels.

Our culture

We are proud of the strong reputation that we have built up over 175 years. Our work has a significant international element, extending our reach across Europe and beyond, offering exciting opportunities for travel and collaboration with global professionals.

At HLK, the culture is built on support, development, and growth, fostering an environment where colleagues can thrive. We

offer comprehensive training and development programs designed to help employees enhance their skills and advance their careers. Emphasising modern social dynamics and the flexibility of hybrid working models, HLK ensures a healthy work-life balance, providing colleagues with the flexibility they need. The friendly and inclusive atmosphere promotes collaboration and fosters a sense of community, making HLK a place where everyone feels valued. This commitment to a positive culture is central to HLK, creating a workplace where success and personal fulfilment go hand in hand.

Where might you fit in at Haseltine Lake Kempner?

If you are careful, energetic and keen to learn and you have a top degree in a relevant technical field then we are keen to hear from you. HLK Academy, our in-house training provides peer-group learning alongside practical on-the-job training. You will begin your training journey in a cohort of peers, working closely with senior attorneys to develop essential attorney skills. We continue to support your professional development beyond this initial program and provide comprehensive support post-qualification and throughout your career. At HLK we believe in the power of learning and growth, so we hope you will take everything you gain here to not only become a great attorney but also to inspire and mentor the next generation of trainees. ●

HGF is one of Europe's leading intellectual property specialist firms, bringing together patent attorneys, trade mark attorneys, design attorneys, IP solicitors, and attorneys-at-law to provide a full-service IP solution. The firm has 25 offices in seven European countries, including Austria, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

HGF creates and manages IP portfolios for the world's leading companies and research institutes. We advise clients on the creation of strategic IP assets around the world and provide world-class expertise in oppositions, appeals, commercialisation, dispute resolution, and litigation to defend and enforce IP rights.

Professional development

The training process is a challenge (one we hope you'll relish). We offer exceptional support in helping you get there, for example, through our dedicated learning and development platform, which gives you control over your learning, and our exam tutorial support network.

Current success

HGF is ranked gold in The Financial Times special report 'Europe's Leading Patent Law Firms 2025'. The firm is also ranked by

Chambers & Partners, Legal 500, Intellectual Asset Management, Managing Intellectual Property, and World Trade Mark Review. In addition, 39 HGF attorneys are listed as MIP stars, and 31 listed on the IAM Patent 1000 'World's leading patent professionals'.

Commitment to diversity, equity & inclusion (DEI)

At the heart of our values is our dynamic, diverse team – not only do our people enrich our business, but they make it stronger. Through our ongoing people strategy and DEI plan, our leadership and management teams are committed to supporting our people, helping them flourish and reach their full potential. We do this by challenging the status quo to ensure HGF is a place where everyone can be their true self. The DEI strategy comprises continual, objective assessment of where improvements are required, the setting of targets, partnerships with external expert networks, and internal education and development programmes.

Job Opportunities

We recruit Trainees throughout the year across our Patent and Trade Mark teams. Please check our website for the latest vacancies. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South West, Yorkshire & Humberside, Scotland and Rest of Europe

LOCATIONS: London, West Midlands, Yorkshire & Humberside, North West, Scotland, Republic of Ireland and Rest of Europe

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	24
Partners	3
Qualified Patent Attorneys	9
Trainees	1

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	Varies



HOFFMANN EITLE

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	438
Partners	48
Qualified Patent Attorneys	122
Trainees	23

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	-

The Firm

Hindles are a growing firm of patent and trade mark attorneys, based in the centre of Edinburgh. We also have offices in Liverpool and Bristol. We provide a full range of patent, trade mark and registered design services to clients ranging from UK-based start-ups and scale-ups, to SMEs and international corporations in Europe, the USA and Japan.

We work across all major technical disciplines, with particular strength in physics, electronic and mechanical engineering, and chemistry.

We pride ourselves on providing our clients with high-quality, commercially-focused advice with an international perspective. Most of our new business comes to us by way of recommendations, and so we are strongly committed to providing our trainees with the training required to ensure that they become excellent practitioners. Training is predominantly provided in-house and on the job, but our trainees are also encouraged to attend appropriate external courses. Our trainees have had excellent pass rates in the UK and European qualifying examinations.

Working at Hindles

We offer a pleasant, friendly and inclusive working environment and an interesting case

load dealing predominantly with direct clients. We work directly with innovative businesses and so there are regular opportunities to be involved in drafting new patent applications, as well as providing practical commercial advice.

We offer flexible working arrangements, and many of our team members benefit from hybrid or remote working. However, we encourage trainees to work predominantly in the office to begin with, to enable us to provide in person training and facilitate their professional development. As a result of our ongoing growth, long-term career prospects are exceptional.

Recruitment by Hindles

We look for personable candidates with strong analytical and communication skills, attention to detail, and the ability to pick up complex technical ideas quickly. Applicants should have a good honours degree in a major scientific or engineering discipline. Research experience or a PhD is an advantage, but is not essential. We advertise vacancies from time to time but also welcome speculative applications.

Hindles are members of IP Inclusive, the equality, diversity and inclusion organisation for the profession, and we are committed to its principles. ●

The Firm

Founded in 1892, HOFFMANN EITLE is one of Europe's best established intellectual property law firms. With full-service offices in London, Munich, Düsseldorf, Milan, Madrid, Hamburg, Barcelona, and Amsterdam, we are consistently ranked among the continent's leading IP firms, known for delivering top-tier legal services.

HOFFMANN EITLE's clients include major multinational corporations, primarily based in the U.S., Japan, Europe, and South Korea. English is the main working language in both our London and Munich offices.

Armed with our expertise, we offer clients comprehensive counsel across all areas of technology. We also have a strong reputation for advocacy in inter partes proceedings before the European Patent Office.

Career Opportunities

Over the past decade, HOFFMANN EITLE has experienced rapid and continuous growth. We now have 122 qualified attorneys supported by 23 technical assistants in training.

We provide exceptional career development with top-quality training led by experienced attorneys. Trainees may choose to pursue the Certificate in IP Law at Queen Mary University of London or prepare for the Institute's foundation exams. Additionally, London-based trainees spend six months in our Munich office, gaining firsthand experience at EPO hearings.

Our remuneration packages are highly competitive, and the firm's steady expansion reflects our commitment to retaining the exceptional graduates we recruit and train. ●

LOCATIONS: South West, North West, and Scotland

LOCATION: London and Rest of Europe



Intellectual
Property
Office

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	1,700
Partners	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	-
Trainees	-

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	30
Undergraduate Jobs	-

IP
TWENTYONE

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	25
Partners	3
Qualified Patent Attorneys	6
Trainees	2

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	1
Undergraduate Jobs	1

About us

The IPO is the United Kingdom's principal government authority on intellectual property (IP) with responsibility for patents, trademarks, designs and copyright. We are an Executive Agency of the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT). As part of DSIT we are responsible for the role of IP rights in supporting and promoting innovation, helping to protect, define and reward creativity.

Creativity and innovation fuel investment and growth in the UK economy. The role of intellectual property remains crucial to increasing this investment and economic growth. Join our very special organisation and immerse yourself in a career with IP.

Explore the Frontier of Innovation as a Patent Examiner

As a Patent Examiner, you'll be at the forefront of technological advancement, playing a pivotal role in shaping the future of innovation in the world around us. Patent Examiners help companies to innovate and grow by granting high quality, valid patents. They scrutinise both the technical and legal aspects of a patent application, comparing the new invention against those found in patent databases, before considering whether or not to grant a patent.

Patent examining offers an unusual opportunity to combine your scientific and technical knowledge with legal skills. We are seeking people with highly developed analytical and critical skills, as well as the communication skills necessary to express complex technical and legal arguments along with strong oral communication skills to communicate effectively with colleagues and customers. The office

deals with a wide range of subject matter from pharmaceuticals and biotech through to telecommunications and artificial intelligence.

Professional developments

- No exams are required, instead examiners will undergo comprehensive training and mentoring, equipping them with the legal skills necessary to excel in the role.
- Trainees are then assigned to a Senior Examiner who supervises further development and on-going training.
- A technical training programme also provides continual opportunities for development within different areas of technology.

Associate Patent Examiner entry requirements:

- Applicants must hold a 2:2 degree in a relevant science, engineering, computer science or mathematics subject or be on track to receive one by the end of the academic year.
- Alternatively, applicants must demonstrate technical proficiency with 5+ years of equivalent industrial experience in engineering roles.

Unlock your potential with us and discover the career path for you.

Whether you're interested in our Trade Marks & Designs Examiner roles, or you want to work within our Challenge IP & Legal area, we have a variety of opportunities at varying levels.

Check out our many career paths and experience a workplace where your growth and creativity are valued.

Your IPO journey starts with your application to Civil Service Jobs. ●

About ip21

ip21 is an industry leader in client centred, commercially focused Intellectual Property Services. We offer the usual comprehensive range of IP legal services, but we also specialise in ongoing commercial consultancy including licensing negotiation, valuation of IP assets, market/competitor analysis and product commercialisation advice.

Our team includes professional client account managers and expert commercial consultants as well as our top-class legal team of patent, trade mark and design attorneys and assistants. In the UK, we have offices in Norwich, London and Cambridge, although our clients come from all over the UK, and the world.

We embrace modern, flexible working practices and our Company Values are: Service Excellence, Flexibility, Respect, Accountability, and Community Engagement.

What We Are Looking For

We are looking for ambitious, pro-active graduate trainees keen to develop both IP legal analytical skills and the communication, sales and consultancy skills to add value to our clients' businesses and our own. Great interpersonal skills and exemplary written and verbal communication are a must, as is a hard-working and adaptable approach to the trainee role and its development over time.

Trainees can expect a wide variety of client work from an early stage originating from a diverse and often demanding client base, and expect to head out to business networking events, conferences and client meetings on a regular basis. We consider candidate applications from any STEM subject graduate (typically to Masters level) and we are particularly looking for demonstrable experience/interest in general business and technology as opposed to purely academic excellence.

We're particularly focused on recruiting candidates who will embrace and develop our supportive and professional modern working environment built on adaptability, communication and trust.

What We Can Offer

Beyond the attractive benefit package we offer all employees (including up to 30 days' holiday), our trainees will have the opportunity to develop a broad commercial and legal skillset. Our offices throughout East Anglia allow our staff to work in a beautiful region with a stunning countryside and coastline, low crime rate, affordable housing and strong social community. Norwich was recently acknowledged as the 'UK's happiest city to live and work in' by the Guardian Newspaper. ●

LOCATION: Wales

LOCATIONS: London, South East (excl London) and East Anglia

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	251
Partners	49
Qualified Patent Attorneys	69
Trainees	26

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	6
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About Us

J A Kemp is a firm of UK and European patent, design and trade mark attorneys, with expertise across every technical specialism and industry sector. In the UK we have a large and diverse client base and, with our offices in London, Oxford and Cambridge, we enjoy a dominant position in the economically vibrant 'Golden Triangle'. Internationally, we have offices in Munich and Paris, and our reputation at the European Patent Office makes us the first choice for companies and their advisers in the USA, Asia and across the globe. J A Kemp is also a popular choice for trainee attorneys seeking a rewarding and enjoyable career in a globally recognised IP firm.

Opportunities Available

We are looking for bright graduates suited to an intellectually challenging and rewarding career that brings together a unique blend of science, law and business skills.

Trainee Patent Attorney candidates should have an excellent track record of achievement at school and university, with a minimum of a 2:1 honours degree in a scientific or technical subject, preferably physics, engineering, computer science, chemistry or biosciences. We are open to applications from candidates holding or studying for a first or higher degree or doctorate.

Essential skills: Excellent spoken and written English, an enquiring and analytical mind, an eye for detail, motivation, drive, a team player, listening skills, leadership and people skills.

Training at J A Kemp

This profession represents an intellectually challenging and rewarding career option that offers scope to develop and apply your scientific knowledge. It brings together a unique blend of science, law and business skills. The comprehensive training that J A Kemp provides to all trainee attorneys enables them to transition effectively from an academic or research background to a professional and business environment. It equips them with all of the skills they will require to succeed.

At J A Kemp you will have an experienced attorney mentor from day one to expose you to a variety of work, set targets for your performance and development and support you throughout your training. In-house tutorials provide an excellent way for you to learn the basics and mix with trainees and attorneys from other disciplines. We also send you on external courses, such as those run by Queen Mary (Certificate in Intellectual Property Law) and the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys. We maximise your chances of passing your exams.

At J A Kemp our reputation for training and our record of first time exam successes is second to none. ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	132
Partners	23
Qualified Patent Attorneys	30
Trainees	13

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Keltie is an innovative and client-focused IP firm with an award-winning working environment and an enviable mix of clients, who admire our commercial approach. If you join us, you will be welcomed into a modern, forward-thinking firm where a culture of hard work, reward and enjoyment go hand in hand. Your contributions and ideas will be heard, and your personality will be celebrated. We operate as one team throughout the firm.

Experience at Keltie

Keltie's training focuses on gaining knowledge and experience through exposure to real attorney work. Our trainees are included in a wide range of interesting and demanding IP matters from the outset. Qualified attorneys work closely with trainees throughout their training and every job is an opportunity for learning. Trainees are trusted with the responsibility of interacting with clients at an early stage; they are not hidden from view behind a partner's signature and can take ownership of their own work with pride, enjoying the satisfaction of building valuable client relationships from day one.

Variety

Trainees work in different client teams across many specialist practices, and across the IP lifecycle, including patent drafting, patent prosecution, IP strategy and contentious matters. Although one partner has oversight of a trainee's workload and development, trainees will work with many attorneys across the firm, gaining a great breadth of experience.

Support

At Foundation level, trainees can choose between the Foundation examinations or the Bournemouth University course, both complemented by an in-house seminar series. At Finals level, trainees are encouraged to tackle exams at a pace that suits them. Exam-focused tutorials are available in-house and each trainee is provided with a budget and leave for external courses. The combination of early exposure to a wide variety of work, frequent input from qualified attorneys, and tutorial support gives rise to consistently excellent performances from our trainees. ●

LOCATIONS: London and South East (excl London)

LOCATIONS: London, South West, East Anglia and Rep of Ireland

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	246
Partners	38
Qualified Patent Attorneys	70
Trainees	32

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	Varies

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	21
Partners	3
Qualified Patent Attorneys	7
Trainees	1

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Why Kilburn & Strode?

Kilburn & Strode is a leading firm of European patent and trade mark attorneys with offices in London, the Netherlands and the US. We help the most creative companies, protect the most innovative ideas and designs, in the most competitive markets, working for the world's finest organisations – companies like Aston Martin Lagonda, Samsonite, Boeing and Reaction Engines. We have a culture built on diversity and are looking for people who share and demonstrate our ambition and commitment to our clients.

This is an exciting time to join Kilburn & Strode! We work with our clients on their biggest challenges and we need the brightest and most ambitious talent to help us do that. As one of our new trainees, join us as we set ourselves ahead in our field. Seize the opportunity to be part of an exciting firm where you will receive gold-star support as you kickstart and develop your career.

We're known for professional, commercially-minded advice delivered in plain English by expert attorneys. We believe in tailoring our approach to fit each client and we thrive on the challenge of helping them to navigate the complex world of patents, trade marks, designs and copyright.

With many leading science and technology specialists amongst our attorneys, the firm is ideally placed to advise on the legal, technical and commercial interests that come together in this complex area of the law.

Our Patent Attorney Vacancies

We are recruiting for a places on our Patent Attorney training programme to start in October 2026 – where we will support, mentor and develop you into a world class patent attorney working on some of the most exciting new products and ideas from across the globe.

At Kilburn & Strode we offer a quality structured training programme and a dedicated people manager to help guide you through your traineeship. No two days are ever the same, throughout the course of your training you will master the fundamentals of UK and European patent law, learn how to draft patent applications, take part in opinion and opposition work and interact with clients.

Our people at Kilburn & Strode LLP

Our firm is rated as one of the best places to work in patents and trade marks. We keep some very demanding clients happy with advice of the highest standard, all whilst keeping our people happy too. We work closely together, and every member of the team is equally respected – patent administrators, paralegals, attorneys and our business support teams. ●

About us

Our mission is simple – to be the easiest intellectual property team to work with and to make IP a pain-free experience

Lawrie is a rapidly expanding firm of European patent and trade mark attorneys based in Glasgow and with satellite offices in Oxford, Cambridge, Derby and Aberdeen. We offer a comprehensive range of intellectual property services to a range of clients in a variety of sectors. We are a client and employee focussed firm who invest time in getting to know our clients. Our attorneys work with each other as a team, our focus being on giving clients the best possible service.

Lawrie is committed to ensuring that it has all necessary systems, procedures and policies in place to allow it to deliver the best possible service to our clients. We therefore invest significant resource and effort in the quality of our internal processes and procedures and data protection. To exemplify this, we have achieved and successfully maintained ISO 9001:2015 Certification for Quality Management Standards and ISO 27001:2013 Certification for Information Security Management.

We were awarded Firm of the Year Prosecution (UK – Scotland) at the Managing IP Awards in 2023 – a joint award for our patent and trade mark teams. Lawrie has also signed up to the IP Inclusive Charter, which demonstrates our commitment to supporting

and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in the IP profession.

Why work for us?

We're growing but remain true to our core principles: bespoke advice, personal service and genuine care and respect for both our people and our clients. We are a values driven firm, these values being key to the way that we work with clients, and the way that we interact with each other. We value our employees, because they are key to the success of both our clients' businesses and our business. We offer a friendly and supportive working environment and the opportunity to develop your career in line with the growth of the business.

We are committed to providing tailored, high-quality training and encourage our attorneys to express their ideas so that we can continually improve our services. As part of our continued growth, trainees and attorneys are provided with a number of business development opportunities to engage with new and existing clients.

What are we looking for?

The ideal candidate will be motivated, conscientious and diligent, and will take ownership and responsibility for their work. We are looking for candidates who are interested in developing their own client portfolio, while assisting with the growth and expansion of the firm. ●

LOCATIONS: London, Rest of Europe and United States

LOCATION: Scotland

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	380
Partners	56
Qualified Patent Attorneys	60
Trainees	36

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About us

Marks & Clerk is one of the world's leading intellectual property firms. As early as 1911 the British press referred to Marks & Clerk as being "recognised as the greatest firm of its kind in the world". Our world-class reputation continues today, with frequent nominations for awards and top rankings in major legal directories and surveys. Working closely with our associated solicitor firm, we provide a comprehensive range of intellectual property services to a variety of clients, from multinational corporations to the latest startup ventures, in all sectors worldwide.

What we offer

Our extensive network and the strength of our client portfolio gives our attorneys a great platform to develop their careers, and to work on the technology that best suits their experience and interests.

Each year we recruit a group of trainees across our UK offices, who are given the support needed to achieve qualification as Chartered (UK) and European Patent Attorneys. Our comprehensive in-house Training Academy,

combines lectures and tutorials with mentoring and supervision from Partners and other qualified attorneys. The Academy has a strong track record and our trainees regularly receive national prizes for their examination success. In addition, our business skills training supports wider career development. We offer excellent remuneration, benefits and career development so you can enjoy a rewarding career in intellectual property.

What we are looking for

We recruit graduates with degrees in electronics, engineering (all disciplines), computer science and AI, mathematics, chemistry, life sciences, physics and robotics. We also welcome applications from those who are: completing a doctorate, undertaking postgraduate research or working in industry. At Marks & Clerk, we value diversity and welcome applications from people of all backgrounds.

Working as a Patent Attorney is a unique, challenging and rewarding role. If you have the right qualifications, outlook and ambition, we want to hear from you! ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	238
Partners	38
Qualified Patent Attorneys	47
Trainees	31

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	5
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Mathys & Squire is a leading firm of patent and trade mark attorneys, advising clients on every aspect of intellectual property (IP). We combine deep technical knowledge, specialist legal expertise, and commercial awareness to strengthen and secure what most modern businesses today treat as one of their most valuable strategic assets. Founded in 1910, we have over 115 years of experience in the protection and commercialisation of IP rights, which we combine with our forward-thinking approach and progressive culture.

Who We Are Looking For

We are looking to recruit the brightest and best graduates with backgrounds in engineering or science. A natural curiosity about how things work, an analytical mindset, and excellent communication skills are essential. Our work is about delivering real value to clients, so we also look for individuals who understand the commercial significance of intellectual property.

Your Career With Us

Our clients range from global household names to exciting start-ups developing cutting-edge technologies. Our annual early careers intake ensures that trainees can learn

from those further along in their careers whilst also benefiting from the support of a strong peer group.

We are proud of our friendly and informal working environment. We believe that success comes from balancing hard work with enjoyment, and our active social committee organises a wide range of events - from yoga and quizzes to more glamorous occasions.

Training And Support

We have an excellent track record of supporting trainees through their professional exams. In addition to external courses, we offer in-house tutorials and ongoing mentoring. All of our trainees work under the direct supervision of a Partner or Associate, having exposure to clients from the very earliest stage of their career, and taking more personal responsibility for clients and their cases as they develop.

Long-Term Progression

We recruit with the future in mind. Our goal is to nurture the next generation of partners at Mathys & Squire, and we provide a clear and visible career development framework. In short, we offer a stimulating, supportive environment and the opportunity for a rewarding, long-term career. ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS		OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED	
Total Employees	147	Graduate Jobs	2
Partners	15	Undergraduate Jobs	2
Qualified Patent Attorneys	9		
Trainees	8		

Maucher Jenkins is a leading international firm of Chartered (UK) and European Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys, Attorneys-at-Law and IP Litigators. We act for companies setting the pace in science, technology and innovative product design. Our client base includes inventors and entrepreneurs, start-ups, SMEs and multinational corporations. We offer the highest quality of service based on a thorough understanding of the technical and commercial context and forward-thinking project management of cases. We have offices in London, Farnham, Munich and Freiburg. We also have satellite offices in Cambridge, Berlin, Kulmbach and Basel, together with representative offices in Beijing and Shenzhen. We have 15 partners and 147 staff (attorneys and business support), driving our enthusiastic workforce.

Why choose us?

Trainee Patent Attorneys at Maucher Jenkins are given early responsibility and gain experience in a range of fascinating issues. You will have a level of autonomy to complete work, alongside continued guidance from our experienced professionals and Partners. The role will be genuinely varied and may include both non-contentious and contentious matters. We provide training from day one via in-house tutorials and one-to-one supervision from senior Partners and colleagues to enable you to qualify as a UK Chartered Patent Attorney and European Patent Attorney. Maucher Jenkins fosters a culture of mutual respect for the individual and the expression of talent; one that inspires employees to fulfil their own potential. We are a friendly team, and we take pride in our professional and supportive culture. Secondment opportunities to our German and Chinese offices are available.

Graduate Opportunities

A successful candidate will hold a genuine interest in IP and will be committed to enhancing not only the firm's success, but their own development. Due to the high academic requirements for this opportunity, candidates should have a relevant STEM degree with a minimum second-class honour. They must be able to write in concise English. A PhD and industry experience is desirable. We are also keen to hear from candidates with Chinese or German language- enabling effective communications across our international client base. Candidates should have the drive to deliver excellent client service, whilst studying for and passing professional examinations. Our trainees will be interacting with clients, so confidence, together with strong communication and teamworking skills is beneficial. Our standards are high, but we offer the right candidates stimulating work and excellent professional development.

Placement Opportunities

We accept internship applications throughout the year. We are always keen to find talented individuals who can offer their knowledge and insight to the firm. Meanwhile, Maucher Jenkins is committed to upskill and support interns throughout their career development.

Benefits

We offer an attractive benefits package: Competitive salary and generous bonus scheme, Achievable business targets and supportive environment, Hybrid working offering a genuine work-life balance, 25 days' annual leave, Private medical insurance, life assurance, pension scheme, social events and free language lessons.

If you wish to apply for a vacancy or opportunity within our firm, please submit your CV and covering letter via our website or by email. ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS		OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED	
Total Employees	14	Graduate Jobs	1
Partners	5	Undergraduate Jobs	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	6		
Trainees	2		

Meissner Bolte is a Pan-European Intellectual Property law firm headquartered in Germany. We are an award-winning firm, being highly ranked by IP Stars, The Financial Times, and The Legal 500. We provide a complete range of IP services from drafting and filing applications, prosecuting these applications to grant, and enforcement of these rights post-grant.

Meissner Bolte UK is based in Hebden Bridge in West Yorkshire, between the cities of Manchester and Leeds. Hebden Bridge is set in the rolling hills of Yorkshire near various manufacturing hubs. This is an idyllic setting and puts us in the middle of a vibrant area for technological development.

The majority of our clients are medium-sized UK businesses. This means that we have close and direct contact with the majority of our clients. We also are involved in contentious work, as well as working with our German offices to service our international clients. This contributes to an extremely varied workflow.

Training

Our attorneys are very familiar with the UK and European qualification process, and so offer invaluable insight towards becoming a UK and European qualified patent attorney. This is a challenging process and typically takes 4-7 years depending on the speed at which a trainee wants to approach the exams.

Our approach to training will differ for every individual. Our standard route involves a part-time university course around a year after joining us. Once a candidate approaches the UK final examinations we then institute a one-on-one tutorial process.

Who are we Looking For?

We are looking for someone with a background in the physical sciences or engineering who wants to continue to utilise their technological background in a field outside academia. We are keen to hear from applicants who are bright, enthusiastic and good communicators. The successful applicant will find themselves challenged every day working at the boundary between technology and the law. We have a very mixed workload – and we pass this on to our trainees. A trainee at our firm will be exposed to a great variety of work very early in their career. We believe this is the best way to build an appreciation of the role of a patent attorney. At larger UK firms we know trainees often work almost solely on examination report responses– and this is very much the opposite of our more holistic approach.

We are also keen for our trainees to meet their German counterparts, in particular those based in Munich. Our German firm runs an IP conference "The IP Days" around Oktoberfest every year and we aim for trainees to attend this and other events in Germany during their training.

As we are based on the Yorkshire/Lancashire border we have clients in Greater Manchester, Leeds, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Derbyshire, Northumberland, North Wales, Merseyside and Cumbria. If an applicant has a personal connection to any of these areas that would be a benefit but is by no means a requirement.

We welcome speculative applications. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South East (excl London), Rest of Europe and Rest of the World

LOCATIONS: Yorkshire & Humberside and North West

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS		OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED	
Total Employees	363	Graduate Jobs	12
Partners	56	Undergraduate Jobs	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	107		
Trainees	43		

What we do

We are Mewburn Ellis, a top tier European intellectual property specialist working with organisations building the brands and technologies that will define tomorrow, using IP to nurture and protect innovations, ideas and inventions.

Why choose Mewburn Ellis?

We are one of the largest specialist IP firms in the UK, with a strong track record and reputation for providing high quality training for our graduate recruits, we strive for quality in everything we do. Just as we nurture ideas and inventions, we also cultivate careers. We want our people to have careers with us that are long-lasting, that will stretch them and are as rewarding as they are challenging. With support from colleagues within a culture that is open and inclusive, our goal is to help you reach your potential. We'll help you to pass your exams and develop your all-round skills as a patent attorney through our internal and external tutorials with regular input from experienced partners. This is backed up by ongoing feedback on your progress to further assist your development. And because we're a meritocracy, your career progression is truly in your own hands.

Our culture

We are a firm that is committed to diversity of thought, ideas and viewpoints and where all our people, regardless of their background, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, disability or sexual orientation feel they belong. This inclusive approach forms part of our business plan and is being driven by our management board. For us, inclusion and diversity is more than just a tick-box exercise – it is an issue that's long been on our agenda and

is becoming increasingly embedded in our culture. We strive to be leaders in this area, and whilst we have made strong progress to date, there is always more that can be done. We already have strong gender diversity across the firm as a whole with ~1/3 men and ~2/3 women (as of end of July 2023) and are focussed on being a more inclusive firm.

Sustainability and Community

Giving We fully offset our unavoidable carbon emissions with carbon reduction projects. We believe we must play our part in reducing the use of energy, lowering carbon emissions and reducing waste and actively avoid causing environmental damage. Sustainability is a complex area and an ongoing focus for our firm. Our priority is to make sure that the way we operate has as little environmental impact as possible. Community is important to us also. For us this means nurturing our people, helping everyone develop and contributing to the wider communities in which we operate, as well as supporting worthy causes with time and money. Everyone that works at Mewburn Ellis has one community day per year to enable them to support causes they care about. In addition, we operate a Give As You Earn (GAYE) scheme, so our people can donate to charities of their choice in a simple and tax effective way.

What we look for

If you possess a curious, enquiring mind, a strong academic background and excellent communication skills, especially in writing that's a great start. General commercial awareness is also valuable. No prior knowledge of patent law is needed but a STEM degree is essential. Having an open-minded personable approach to learning will also serve you well! ●

LOCATIONS: London, South West, East Anglia and North West

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS		OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED	
Total Employees	6	Graduate Jobs	Varies
Partners	2	Undergraduate Jobs	Varies
Qualified Patent Attorneys	-		
Trainees	-		

About us

Mohun Aldridge Sykes is an established firm of IP professionals based in the Northern Powerhouse city of Leeds. The firm prides itself on providing a consistently high level of service and quality of work across a range of sectors, with the vast majority of its clients being based in the United Kingdom. Whilst covering all aspects of patent and trade mark practice, our emphasis is on understanding the wider business needs of our clients and providing sound commercial advice.

Clients come in all shapes and sizes and ours are no different, from start-ups and spin-outs to long established manufacturers and multinationals. We work with an extensive network of professional firms across the globe to deliver a truly international service.

Leeds is the vibrant unofficial capital of Yorkshire and combines world class arts, sport and entertainment with close proximity to some of the most beautiful countryside in the UK.

Key Requirements

- Excellent communication skills
- Science or engineering degree (2:2 min)
- Analytical approach to solving problems
- Ability to work within a team
- Good with detail.

Opportunities at Mohun Aldridge Sykes From time to time we have openings for talented science or engineering graduates who want to train as attorneys in our Leeds office.

Successful applicants will begin solving real client problems from the very start, under the close supervision of qualified attorneys. Trainees will be supported and encouraged on their journey to qualification and beyond. Client-facing skills and a positive attitude to development feature high on our list of requirements.

As the majority of our clients are UK-based, we are able to offer our trainees plenty of client contact and original drafting work from the outset. In addition, we encourage our colleagues to take a full role in the life of the office and to establish professional networks locally and further afield.

In the very early stages, new trainees are expected to spend almost all of their time in the office. Thereafter, some flexibility can be introduced so that a hybrid working model may be offered, where it is deemed to be appropriate. In addition to a competitive salary, we offer a generous level of annual leave, encouraging a positive work-life balance. ●

LOCATIONS: Yorkshire & Humberside

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	400
Partners	80
Qualified Patent Attorneys	80
Trainees	11

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	2-3

About Us

Murgitroyd is a global firm of European Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys. We have 22 offices globally, enabling us to offer our clients unrivalled expertise.

Our 400 colleagues service a variety of clients, from the world's largest corporations to SME's, to cutting-edge entrepreneurs, universities and research institutions across all industry sectors.

At Murgitroyd we pride ourselves on providing a tailored and excellent global service to our clients. We go the extra mile for our clients, and are dedicated to providing world-class customer service at every interaction.

We are a fast moving and growing business, offering an equal, diverse, collaborative and inclusive culture. Colleagues have clear role expectations as well as learning and development opportunities for career progression.

We firmly believe in nurturing talent and fostering professional growth. Our structured career progression paths offer opportunities for continuous learning and development, providing our team with the tools to grow as people and become leaders in intellectual property and innovation. Our culture thrives on collaboration, respect and professionalism, forming a nurturing environment that encourages both personal and professional growth.

What truly distinguishes us is our unwavering commitment to ESG initiatives. Our internal Impact and Trailblazers teams spearhead

these efforts, pioneering change within our organization and into the wider IP industry. From championing ED&I initiatives and sustainable practices to engaging with our local communities, we are dedicated to making a positive difference.

We offer an attractive benefits package and exciting opportunities to work with fabulous clients in the realm of intellectual property and innovation. Our commitment to your personal development and growth means that you'll be constantly challenged and supported to reach new heights in your career.

We believe in rewarding our employees for their dedication and hard work. Our comprehensive benefits package is designed to support you in all aspects of your life – personal, professional and social.

- Competitive salary and annual leave package
- Employee pension contribution
- Private healthcare
- Career development opportunities
- Involvement in ESG activities

...and more.

At Murgitroyd, we don't just envision the future of the IP industry – we actively shape it. Here, your ideas are valued, your growth is nurtured, and your impact is celebrated.

We produce an annual ESG report and have recently acquired Ecovadis certification. Our latest ESG Report is available on our website. ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	29
Partners	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	10
Trainees	2

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Based in Farnham, Surrey, Openshaw & Co. is a client-focussed firm of UK and European Patent attorneys, applying technical and legal expertise to advise clients on intellectual property matters across a range of practice areas.

Our Team

2024 marked our 20th Anniversary in practice. During this time, Openshaw & Co. has continued to grow, developing a highly experienced, professional, and conscientious team providing world-class intellectual property services to our clients. Today, we have a team of 29 staff members, including 10 qualified patent attorneys specialising in patent preparation and prosecution, with a track record of securing valuable patents at the EPO and UKIPO. We also have a part-qualified patent attorney and a trainee attorney within the team, both of whom are being supported towards full qualification.

At Openshaw & Co., we work to understand our clients' commercial needs and develop tailored IP strategies to help them better protect, manage, and commercialise their IP. The majority of our team focuses on working with patents, but we have in-house specialists to handle design and trade mark registrations. Our attorneys are supported by a dedicated team of paralegals who are experienced and knowledgeable in IP administration and formalities.

Our Clients

We work with a broad range of clients. Technologies that we handle cover many industries, including telecommunications, software, algorithms, blockchain applications, NFTs, engineering, aerospace, defence, energy and renewables, electro sciences, optics, and materials science.

Working at Openshaw & Co.

Openshaw & Co. is believed to be the first, and currently sole, Employee-Owned Trust law firm in the UK. Every team member possesses a vested interest in the company. Our organisational structure empowers and involves the entire team, cultivating a culture of collaboration and continuous improvement.

Our team comes from a diverse range of backgrounds, all contributing towards the unique, supportive, and friendly environment we are proud of. We welcome and actively encourage applications from all backgrounds. Our ethics, diversity, and inclusion policy can be found on our website, along with other information on sustainability practices we have in place. We are very proud of the flexible working environment we provide, empowering our team to support our clients with worldclass IP advice.

Opportunities at Openshaw & Co.

We are always on the lookout for people with the skills required to tackle challenging patent work and engage with clients to deliver clear and effective advice. We offer a number of opportunities for graduates looking to embark on a career in patent law or learn more about the world of IP or for qualified patent attorneys to join a growing, client-facing firm with a flexible work environment.

Your Skills

A successful Trainee Patent Attorney or Summer Intern candidate will rely on a variety of skills to excel at the intersection of technology, law, and business. You will have a passion for learning about new technologies, be inquisitive, and have a strong attention to detail. ●

LOCATIONS: London, Yorkshire & Humberside, North East, North West, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Rest of Europe and United States

LOCATION: South East (excl London)

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	78
Partners	19
Qualified Patent Attorneys	20
Trainees	8

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	-

At the cutting edge of innovation

Page White Farrer is at the cutting edge of innovation. Trusted by some of the world's leading brands and exciting startups to protect the intellectual property (IP) in their latest inventions and designs, we also advise on the role of IP in their commercialisation and growth strategies and help companies to enhance their value through innovation capture.

The work is both varied and interesting – recent examples of our work include AI (Artificial Intelligence), IoT (Internet of Things), fashion and wearable tech, materials science, clean energy and renewables, life sciences, healthcare, and med-tech.

From offices in London, Leeds, Exeter and Munich, we handle intellectual property worldwide and we enjoy a strong working relationship with highly respected firms overseas.

Working environment

We have a friendly and supportive and inclusive atmosphere, with flexible working arrangements. Our working environment is

particularly suited to self-motivated individuals that are looking for a proactive role in both the development of the firm and of new and existing clients.

Training at Page White Farrer

Our trainees at Page White Farrer qualify as both UK and European patent attorneys. Each trainee is allocated a qualified attorney who is responsible for their on the job training and in addition to this they will be expected to complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Intellectual Property Law, gaining exemption from the UK foundation exams. We have a good record in training and passing exams and provide inhouse tutorials, plus CIPA membership.

Graduate applications

We recruit throughout the year, in the field of computer science, electronic engineering, physics, biochemistry and chemistry, and related disciplines. We are looking for candidates in fields of artificial intelligence, machine learning, health-tech, cleantech and renewables. We welcome applications from those with a PhD. ●

PEARL COHEN

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	12
Partners	5
Qualified Patent Attorneys	6
Trainees	1

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Pearl Cohen is an international law firm with offices in London, New York, Boston, San Francisco, and Tel Aviv. Our London IP group focuses exclusively on patent & trademark prosecution. The team includes Chartered Patent Attorneys, European Patent Attorneys, and Solicitors specialising in patent and trademark law. The London patents group members span between them the entire gamut of technical fields: Physics, Electrical & Electronics Engineering, Software, Pharmaceuticals, and Chemistry. We specialise in cross-border patent prosecution and work closely with our overseas offices to provide our clients with truly international legal advice on patent matters.

With over 55 experienced patent attorneys and agents authorised to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), European Patent Office (EPO), UK Intellectual Property Office (UK IPO), the Unified Patent Court (UPC), and the Israeli Patent Office (IPO), and relationships with leading intellectual property firms around the globe, Pearl Cohen helps clients obtain worldwide patent protection. Our clients regularly depend on our reputation for providing innovative and strategic international patent strategies to protect their inventions and commercial products and services, and they benefit greatly from the synergy between our related practice areas, including intellectual property and business law, to acquire, sell, or license patents.

Our patent expertise is enhanced by a significant support staff of scientific advisors. Many of our patent attorneys, patent agents and all of our scientific advisors have advanced degrees from the world's top academic institutions, as well as practical, hands-on laboratory knowledge or industrial experience.

Our global patents group offers complete services that include:

- Drafting, filing, and prosecution of patent applications
- Filing International patent applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)
- Analysis of prior art, patents, and patent applications, for both offensive and defensive purposes
- Counselling and opinion practice, including preparing legal opinions regarding patentability, infringement, freedom to operate, enforceability of patents and competitive analysis
- Oppositions, Re-examinations, inter partes review, and post grant oppositions
- Patent portfolio management, development, analysis, augmentation, commercialization, and litigation
- Patent licensing and transactional practice for collaborations, private placements, public offerings, mergers and acquisitions
- Co-counselling patent litigation at the Unified Patent Court

Related strategic services that we provide include:

- Counselling and advising
- Advising clients on funding and structuring their new business ventures based on their IP
- Aiding manufacturers in the design of non-infringing, competitive products
- Advising clients regarding licenses, patent sales, assignments, and other ownership-related issues
- Patent-related litigation, including patent enforcement to assert our clients' patent rights against infringers, and patent defence to defend our clients from allegations of infringement and unwarranted harassment ●

LOCATIONS: London, South West, Yorkshire & Humberside and Rest of Europe

LOCATIONS: London, United States and Rest of the World



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	232
Partners	41
Qualified Patent Attorneys	57
Trainees	15

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	5
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Potter Clarkson is proud to be one of Europe's leading intellectual property law firms, with a strong presence across the UK, Denmark, and Sweden. With eight strategically located offices and a reputation for excellence, we offer an exceptional environment in which to launch and develop a career as a Patent attorney, Trade Mark attorney, IP solicitor or a Paralegal. We also offer a multitude of rewarding career pathways across our Business Services teams, supporting the firm's operations through expertise in areas such as HR, Marketing, Finance, IT, and administrative roles.

We are consistently recognised in the top tier of prestigious legal directories, including Legal 500 and Managing IP (MIP), reflecting the high calibre of our work and the trust placed in us by our clients. Beyond these rankings, Potter Clarkson has also been nominated for multiple accolades at the Managing IP Awards, including recognition in seven key categories across the UK and Europe. These nominations highlight our excellence in patent and trade mark prosecution, litigation, and our growing influence in the Scandinavian market, where we were shortlisted for Scandinavia Firm of the Year. Our attorneys' dedication to delivering outstanding service has also earned individual recognition, with senior professionals being shortlisted for Practitioner of the Year awards. These honours underscore our unwavering commitment to quality, innovation, and leadership in the field of intellectual property law.

At Potter Clarkson, we deliver a comprehensive suite of IP services designed to help our clients achieve their commercial goals. Our team is known for its approachability, deep expertise, and unwavering commitment to client care. The diversity of our client base—from innovative start-ups to global enterprises—means our trainees gain exposure to a wide variety of sectors and legal challenges.

We are passionate about attracting and nurturing exceptional talent from around the world. Our trainees benefit from a tailored induction programme and a structured, highly regarded training pathway. With our pan-European footprint, we offer exciting opportunities for secondments and cross-border collaboration, fostering both professional growth and cultural exchange. Our commitment to excellence is reflected in our consistently outstanding examination results.

Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion are at the heart of our culture. We are dedicated to creating a workplace where everyone feels valued, respected, and empowered to thrive.

We also prioritise the wellbeing of our people. From flexible working arrangements and healthcare plans to mental health first aiders and a wide range of wellbeing initiatives, we provide a supportive environment that promotes a healthy work-life balance.

If you're ready to embark on a fulfilling and inspiring career in intellectual property, we would be delighted to hear from you. ●

LOCATIONS: London, East Midlands, Scotland and Rest of Europe

REDDIE & GROSE

London | Cambridge | Munich | The Hague



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	181
Partners	25
Qualified Patent Attorneys	50
Trainees	23

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	8
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About Reddie & Grose

Reddie & Grose LLP is an internationally renowned firm of European and United Kingdom patent, trade mark and design attorneys. Our experienced team of over 100 IP professionals based in London, Cambridge, Munich and The Hague includes specialists in a wide range of technical disciplines.

We offer services for a wide range of industries, with particular strengths in electronics and software, mechanical engineering, chemistry, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology. Our trade mark team provides specialist advice on branding and trade mark work; we also have a specialist team handling plant variety protection.

Range of client services

We handle the full range of IP rights for a global client base ranging from SMEs starting to consider IP through to large corporations with rights in over 100 countries. In the UK and Europe we work closely with solicitors, barristers and other members of the legal profession to support clients in litigation before the courts. Our services range from investigating competing rights, handling oppositions, drafting and filing applications, and maintaining portfolios. We resolve disputes about IP, working closely with other leading legal firms if it becomes necessary to resort to the courts.

Benefits

- 27 days annual leave plus bank public holidays
- Remote home working (60% office / 40% working from home for trainees)
- Discretionary Christmas bonus
- Private Pension Scheme (with optional salary sacrifice)
- Semi-annual meetings with a Pensions Advisor
- Group Life Assurance (up to 3x salary)
- Interest free season ticket loan
- Private medical scheme
- Family friendly policies
- Cycle to work scheme (salary sacrifice scheme)
- Active social events calendar
- Eye care vouchers
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Employee Referral Scheme
- Paid Charity Leave Day
- Access to cycle store and shower facilities
- Comprehensive graduate training programme
- Paid study leave leading up to professional exams.
- Positive culture for work-life balance
- Daily delivery of fresh fruit

Minimum academic requirements

At least a 2:1 degree in a scientific or technical subject as, well as excellent English. We also welcome applications from those completing a doctorate, undertaking postgraduate research, or working in industry. ●

LOCATIONS: London, East Anglia and Rest of Europe

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	21
Partners	5
Qualified Patent Attorneys	9
Trainees	4

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	1
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Sagittarius IP is a highly respected firm of patent attorneys specialising in advising the chemical, pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors. Our mission is to offer gold standard intellectual property service for our clients from our offices in Marlow, Cambridge and London.

About Sagittarius IP

We are a team of highly qualified individuals with a passion for helping our clients achieve maximum value from their intellectual property. Our goal is to maintain exceptionally high standards and to continually exceed our clients' expectations. We aim to provide commercially focused, proactive advice drawing on extensive pharmaceutical industry experience. Our client portfolio covers the spectrum of small businesses to industry leading FTSE 100 companies, including start-ups, academic research organisations, university spin-outs and venture capital funds. We offer a full range of patent services, including patent drafting and prosecution, IP portfolio management advice and due diligence reviews.

Sagittarius IP has featured as a leading firm in the Financial Times review of Europe's patent law firms since its inception in 2019 and in 2025 maintained "Gold" ratings for the Chemistry & Pharmacy and Biotechnology, Food & Healthcare fields. We have built this first-class reputation on the results we achieve for our clients and, as a result, much of our new business comes through recommendations.

Why work for Sagittarius IP?

From day one with the firm our trainees are exposed to a variety of work under the supervision of our attorneys, joining meetings with inventors and assisting our attorneys when they participate in hearings. Trainees are involved in drafting new patent applications, corresponding with clients and patent offices, preparing for and attending EPO oppositions and appeals, IP due diligence projects and providing freedom to operate advice. Our trainees are given real responsibility early on in their careers, and they make a significant contribution to client work within their first year. Following qualification, attorneys are given significant autonomy and involvement in client relationship management.

Sagittarius IP is heavily involved in training within the profession. We provide in-house exam tutorials in parallel with placement on external courses to put our trainees in the best possible position to qualify and be successful in their careers going forward. Everyone at the firm participates in tutorials and training which provides a supportive network to help our trainees succeed.

We offer a competitive salary, attractive bonus scheme and hybrid home/office working arrangements across our multiple locations. ●

SANDERSONS

Patent & Trade Mark Attorneys

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	11
Partners	3
Qualified Patent Attorneys	3
Trainees	2

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

A traditional firm with a progressive approach

Sandersons was founded in London in 1956 by Laurie Sanderson. Following a move to Colchester in the 1960s, the firm has continued to grow, becoming renowned for our ability to provide quality services to clients on a global scale.

Now based at the University of Essex Knowledge Gateway technology and innovation park, we are ideally placed to help businesses grow.

Who we are today

Our staff are based in our Colchester office with our London address offering a convenient meeting location for clients if required.

We work across a range of industries, and trainees will quickly learn to adapt their skills to different technologies, all aspects of IP and will aim to become qualified in both patents and trade marks.

At Sandersons we pride ourselves in developing strong partnerships with our clients, and in being knowledgeable and passionate about all aspects of intellectual property. Our highly pro-active service gives us the flexibility to tailor the way we work to meet each client's individual needs.

Why Sandersons?

We are a well-established firm, with a young, forward-thinking partnership. We actively encourage a healthy work/life balance, and

achieve this through our informal atmosphere, varied and interesting client-base and beautiful location.

We are a small, friendly firm with most of our staff members staying with us for many years. As a small firm, our trainees are very quickly involved in all aspects of the process from initial client meetings to assisting partners with complex litigation.

Client cases are assigned to a team of professional staff under the overall supervision of one of our highly qualified and experienced Partners, supported by Associates, Technical Assistants and administrative staff as required; our clients benefit from effectively having us as part of their team.

Opportunities Available

We are happy to receive applications from enthusiastic graduates with a minimum of 2.1 degree in an appropriate technical discipline to train as a patent attorney. We are particularly interested in those with backgrounds in engineering, biotechnology and electronics.

Training

Trainees will work closely with our partners and associates. They will receive support and on-the-job training. They will be expected to work independently under the supervision of their mentor. Training costs will be covered where appropriate by prior agreement. Study leave for exams will be provided where possible. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South East (excl London) and East Anglia

LOCATION: East Anglia



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	29	Graduate Jobs	Varies
Partners	3	Undergraduate Jobs	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	11		
Trainees	4		

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Schlich is an IAM 1000-recommended firm of European and UK patent and trade mark attorneys, supported by a highly experienced and efficient team that includes paralegals, secretaries, and accounts staff. Our collaborative and inclusive work environment underpins the quality and professionalism of our services.

We are particularly well-versed in handling IP matters relating to biotechnology, chemistry, pharmaceuticals, and mechanical technologies. However, our diverse caseload frequently takes us beyond these specialisms, offering our attorneys the opportunity to engage with a broad spectrum of technical fields. This exposure to new technologies complements our attorneys' academic foundations and keeps our work intellectually stimulating.

Our attorneys are experienced in securing and enforcing IP rights both in the UK and internationally. Whether it's managing patent portfolios, navigating opposition proceedings, or securing trade mark protection, we offer a global perspective on IP strategy and execution.

Our client base is similarly diverse, ranging from individual inventors and UK-based SMEs to multinational pharmaceutical and biotech companies, as well as international law firms. The breadth of our clientele ensures

a varied and engaging workload, and for those interested, it can also present exciting international travel opportunities.

While patents are a core part of our practice, our services also extend to trade marks and designs to help our clients identify the existence of unregistered rights and assess the scope and strength of existing rights.

We are well known for our contentious work, with significant expertise before the Opposition Divisions and Appeal Boards of the European Patent Office. In recent years, we have been involved in a number of high-profile oppositions, including successful outcomes in major cases relating to CRISPR gene-editing technologies.

We provide comprehensive training, ranging from in-house tutorials to external courses run by recognised professional bodies. Training is inclusive and continuous - regardless of role. The attorneys participate in monthly meetings to discuss case law, and monthly support meetings are held to discuss new rules and best practice. Regular team meetings foster collaboration and ensure we remain aligned with best practices and new developments.

Schlich is an equal opportunities employer and proud signatory of IP Inclusive's EDI Charter. We welcome candidates from all backgrounds and celebrate diversity in all its forms. ●

LOCATION: South East (excl London)



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	15	Graduate Jobs	Varies
Partners	1	Undergraduate Jobs	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	5		
Trainees	2		

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Scintilla was founded in 2013 by Peter McBride and has since grown to a team of 13 with offices in Glasgow, Manchester and Aberdeen.

We strive to help innovative businesses thrive, empowering them on their IP journey by organising, optimising and monetising their intellectual property.

We work directly with clients to file patents, trade marks and registered designs whilst also providing wider strategic consultancy on how to manage innovation, prepare for investment and build value.

Our clients include a mix of large corporates, startups, spin outs in a wide range of sectors, and we are deeply invested in business and career development and supporting the local technology ecosystem, through local business incubators and trade organisations.

Through our multi-disciplined, diverse team of attorneys, trainees and support staff, we are able to support our clients with clear, consistent communication, throughout their journey with our services. Our attorneys endeavour to keep our clients in the loop, clarifying legal jargon and ensuring prompt official communications. ●

LOCATIONS: North West and Scotland



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	24
Partners	7
Qualified Patent Attorneys	9
Trainees	4

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	Varies

Script IP is a busy and friendly firm. We were founded in 2012 because the directors wanted to do things differently.

In the complex and ever-evolving area of IP law, we're here to tell our clients in clear terms where they stand and what their options are. So not just whether an idea is protectable and how they can go about it, but whether it makes commercial sense to do so. Our services extend from an exploratory chat through to detailed support on areas such as registering intellectual property, managing IP portfolios and enforcing rights in court.

We want to protect the inventions our clients have spent time and money developing. We can also assist clients in selling or licensing their ideas to generate income.

We draft, file and prosecute patent applications worldwide. We can suggest the most effective filing strategy for any situation, whether it's UK-only, European or international

Our patent team is recognised as an authority on a wide range of technical areas including biotechnology, chemistry, electronics, IT & software, life sciences, mechanical devices and physics.

If you work for us, you will be a valued member of our close-knit team. Your work will involve getting hands-on alongside talented and experienced colleagues, helping clients to protect industry-shaping ideas, and being part of a culture where training and work-life balance are taken seriously. Script IP have a long-term view of recruitment and we aim to train patent attorneys who will be the future leaders of our firm.

Script IP handle important and fascinating cases in all areas of technology. Clients appreciate our commercial approach and as a result we are growing.

We have offices in Bath and near Southampton (Eastleigh).

If you want to join us at Script IP, you will have a good undergraduate degree in a relevant science or engineering subject. Research, a further degree, or industrial experience may be an advantage but the right person is more important to us than further qualifications or experience. Essential requirements are a curiosity about how things work, the ability to understand complex subjects and the ability to communicate clearly. Applications are competitive. ●

LOCATIONS: South East (excl London) and South West



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	20
Partners	2
Qualified Patent Attorneys	8
Trainees	5

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	1

About us

Commercially focussed Chartered & European Patent Attorneys providing intellectual property (IP) services to innovative companies worldwide. Our experienced IP professionals deliver exceptional service and tangible results.

Secerna LLP is a progressive and expanding firm of Chartered and European patent attorneys based in York and Newcastle. We represent clients worldwide assisting some of the world's most innovative businesses to protect, defend and enforce their intellectual assets. We build long-term business relationships with our clients, based on exceptional trust, teamwork and our expertise.

Opportunities

Due to the firm's size and expansion, there are great opportunities in personal and professional development. Individuals can expect to be exposed to a range of business situations, clients and technology, from providing strategic advice on validity and freedom to operate to corporate clients, dealing with day to day matters with in-house teams to discussing new technology with inventors. We are a growing firm, which is committed to our recruitment plans and developing bespoke training programmes for each recruit.

What we offer

We have a great depth of technical expertise across a broad range of technologies and in particular in the fields of telecommunications, computer-implemented inventions, renewable energy solutions, and assisted and consumer service solutions. In addition, the Life Sciences and Pharmaceutical groups have considerable experience working in the fields of NCEs, biotherapeutics, nucleic acid-based diagnostics and regenerative medicine. As a trainee patent attorney at Secerna you will be given full training and support as you work towards qualifying as a Chartered and European Patent Attorney. You will work closely with senior attorneys with a track record of successful training. We appreciate you'll be an individual too and will bring your own personal skills, areas of interest and unique abilities to our team. At Secerna you will have an exceptional opportunity to further your career within a supportive and friendly environment.

What we are looking for

We are looking for graduates with a strong academic track record and good interpersonal skills, who are motivated and keen to learn new skills. We are looking for candidates that are keen to qualify as a patent attorney and progress within a growing and successful business. ●

LOCATIONS: Yorkshire & Humberside and North East



EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	40	Graduate Jobs	Varies
Partners	7	Undergraduate Jobs	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	2		
Trainees	-		

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

SLINGSBY PARTNERS

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	52	Graduate Jobs	1-3
Partners	7	Undergraduate Jobs	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	20		
Trainees	8		

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Stevens Hewlett and Perkins is a long established firm of Intellectual Property (IP) lawyers, originating over 100 years ago. We offer a complete range of services related to trade marks, patents and design rights in the UK and the rest of the world. We take great pride in delivering a professional service that is both personable and of high quality. Our approach is commercial and proactive, ensuring we offer exceptional value at a fair price for our clients.

Our Services

- **PATENTS:** Our services include novelty and FTO searches, preparation and filing of patent applications, prosecution of applications all around the world and all related advice such as infringement, enforcement, patent strategy and portfolio management
- **TRADE MARKS:** Our services range from clearance (freedom to use) searches, to filing and prosecution of trade mark applications, filing programmes, recordal projects, trade mark portfolio management and strategy, and handling of contentious trade mark disputes
- **DESIGNS:** Our services include searching, filing design applications in the UK and around the world and all related advice

The Team

Our firm has a dynamic team of 12 trade mark attorneys (including one part-qualified and

one dual qualified) and 2 patent attorneys. They are supported by an expert team of paralegals, renewal specialists and records administrators. It is a testament to the firm that a substantial proportion of our staff have been here in excess of 15 years (some as long as 34 years!). This is combined with team members recruited more recently (from attorneys to administrative support staff), who have brought a fresh perspective to how we operate and serve our clients.

Our Approach

At SH&P, we understand that it takes a lot of hard work and passion to succeed in a challenging world. After all, we are a business too.

We are a friendly professional team of highly experienced IP professionals; we are approachable and can advise in layman's terms, or with deep technical expertise depending on our client's needs. Most of all, we want our clients to succeed and their business to thrive, with SH&P being an integral part of their exciting journey.

We are always interested to hear from enthusiastic and motivated individuals at any stage of their IP career journey!

For more information or to drop a CV, please visit our website or connect with us on LinkedIn. ●

The firm

Slingsby Partners is committed to providing the highest standards of patent advice. The firm's clients are predominantly UK and European technology companies in the fields of engineering, electronics, the physical sciences and chemistry. Client service is the first priority for the business, and we are proud that the great majority of our instructions come through recommendations from existing clients. We are recommended by Chambers and Partners, The Legal 500, IAM Patent 1000 and the Financial Times and members of the firm are listed as IP Stars.

Slingsby Partners has a strong and growing client base of technology companies from across Europe. Our clients range from start-ups to large multinationals. The core of the firm's practice is patent drafting and prosecution. We also have a depth of experience across every area of patent procurement and exploitation, from licensing to patent due diligence and acquisition. We have a growing practice in UK and multijurisdictional litigation.

Slingsby Partners needs to recruit and train the best people to continue building the business. We offer challenging and motivating work and are committed to developing skills at all levels.

Graduate recruitment

Client service is at the heart of our firm. To achieve the highest standards of professional advice and integrity, we have to first recruit and train the best people. This is how we grow our business in the long term – and all our people play their part. We pride ourselves on our firm's welcoming culture and supportive working environment.

We are looking for highly motivated individuals with exceptional communication skills to join our close-knit team. You will need a strong academic background and a collaborative and enthusiastic approach to work. All our partners and associates are involved in training and from day one you will be working on a wide range of IP matters directly with our clients. We take an active interest in our trainees' progress towards qualification as European and UK Chartered Patent Attorneys. The breadth of the firm's work means your day-to-day training will be directly relevant to the professional exams you will need to undertake. We also provide an in-house lecture series tailored at different levels of attorney training and exam-specific tutorials. Our trainees are encouraged to attend external lectures and courses. ●

LOCATIONS: South West

LOCATION: London

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	48
Partners	-
Qualified Patent Attorneys	13
Trainees	3

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Stratagem's mission is to be the strategic IP partner for innovative businesses, enabling them to realise the full potential of their ideas. Everything we do starts with our clients and we build trust through transparency and clarity, ensuring that every decision is in our clients' best interests.

We're fuelled by curiosity and believe in making a positive difference in everything we do. Whether it's for our clients, colleagues or the wider community, we show up with energy, dedication and a commitment to excellence. We see the bigger picture and always look to do the right thing and consider the wider impact of our work.

The world of IP can often feel complicated but we streamline this for our clients, acting as a strategic partner and bringing a collaborative spirit into all our relationships.

Stratagem was formed in 1999, initially to support biotech companies, but we have since expanded to cover all technologies and have two offices, just outside Cambridge and in Bristol.

Training with Stratagem

As a trainee or part-qualified attorney you are given responsibility at an early stage and have plenty of opportunity to meet with

clients directly. Working closely with our qualified attorneys you will develop core skills along with an understanding of how to work commercially with clients. Our career pathway provides a structured framework for your ongoing learning and development and you will have an assigned supervisor throughout your training.

As well as learning on the job, our trainees have the opportunity to attend a foundation course at Brunel University, followed by courses for both European and UK qualifications. Paid time off is given for courses and study days and there is the opportunity to attend in-person training in Europe.

Working at Stratagem

People are fundamental to Stratagem and everyone plays a vital part in our success. We value and embrace the unique things that make us all individuals and believe this truly enhances our work and the firm.

We have a supportive, open culture and strive to do all we can to ensure that everyone enjoys their work in a collaborative and inclusive environment. The well-being of our teams is paramount to us and we offer comprehensive benefits and support for all our employees. ●

LOCATIONS: South East (excl London) and South West

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	38
Partners	6
Qualified Patent Attorneys	12
Trainees	5

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Swindell & Pearson provides a high-quality, client-focused service to companies, academic institutions, government agencies and individuals. Formed 140 years ago, we are one of the UK's leading specialists in patents and trade marks. Some of the world's foremost multi-national companies trust our attorneys with their patent and trade mark portfolios.

Client relationships are very, very important to us and we really care about delivering outcomes our clients want. We are patient, approachable, friendly, responsive and dependable.

We at Swindell & Pearson know that our reputation is only as good as the individuals we employ. We therefore recruit people with potential and help them fulfil that potential. We pay our trainees well and invest very heavily in their training.

You will work under the direct supervision of experienced attorneys and receive one-on-one constructive feedback on your work. Training includes internal courses, regular seminars and external courses. You will work on cutting edge technology and, unusually, be given

early responsibility and your own caseload. A large proportion of your work will be for direct clients where you work directly for the owner of the patent. You will benefit from contact with clients and will be encouraged to become more independent as you develop. You will initially share office space with other trainees, in a friendly and supportive environment and will quickly become a respected and valued member of the team.

Trainees are based in our head office in Derby's professional quarter. Derby has the UK's highest export value per capita and is one of England's fastest-growing cities. It is also an affordable place to live, not far from the Peak District, and just a two-hour train ride from London.

We work on a meritocracy basis where hard work and success are rewarded. The majority of our IP directors trained with the firm, providing proof that we firmly believe that our trainees are our future.

We would welcome speculative applications at any time. ●

LOCATIONS: West Midlands, East Midlands, Yorkshire & Humberside, North East and North West

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	11
Partners	5
Qualified Patent Attorneys	5
Trainees	2

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About Us

Symbiosis IP is a firm of chartered and European patent attorneys that specializes in the protection, enforcement and opposition of intellectual property rights in the fields of Life Sciences and Chemistry. Our clients include several university tech transfer and early research institutions, together with large pharmaceutical companies and SMEs.

Symbiosis also employs specialists in IP commercialisation and valuation, who can advise on any aspects of IP strategy and licensing. This ability to offer a combination of commercial IP consultancy services alongside the patent attorneys and legal professionals at Symbiosis IP and Gateley Legal is unique in the marketplace. We are therefore able to support all of our clients' IP needs, from invention disclosure review, through market assessment, valuation and licensing through to IP strategy, portfolio optimisation and licensing or spin-out company formation.

We were established in 2008 and currently have offices in Sheffield, Cardiff, York, Glasgow and London. Our professional team all possess doctorate degrees in a life science or chemical subject, and we all have post-doctoral research experience, which we believe adds value to our clients' intellectual property.

Symbiosis IP is part of Gateley, a legal and professional services group that employs around 1,500 people at offices around the UK. As a standalone patent attorney practice working within this wider group context, our attorneys are able to work closely with other professionals in the group, such as solicitors and other business advisors, enabling us to offer our clients access to enhanced services in a wide range of areas including corporate transactions, IP litigation, commercial agreements and disputes.

Opportunity

We are committed to excellence in our work, and we seek trainees with higher degrees and ideally postdoctoral research experience. This is to provide an alternative career path to postdoctoral scientists and to provide our clients with a level of technical understanding that adds value to their intellectual property. However, high calibre graduates should not be discouraged from applying.

As a symbiosis IP trainee, you will become part of a closely knit team of patent attorneys and you will be provided with complete support in relation to qualifying as a UK and European patent attorney whilst becoming involved in state-of-the-art life science and chemical technology. ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	41
Partners	8
Qualified Patent Attorneys	9
Trainees	2

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

For almost a century, Tomkins IP has provided professional and commercially astute advice to both domestic and international clients. With a team of highly qualified technical and legal experts, Tomkins IP is recognised internationally for its European patent prosecution specialism, its longstanding and prominent European trade mark practice, and its flexible and technologically advanced client services.

Tomkins IP's patent attorney team of electrical and electronic engineers, physicists, biochemists, molecular biologists, biotechnologists and chemists apply a fusion of technical expertise and strategic creativity to capturing and protecting innovations across all fields of technology.

The Award-winning team enjoy a long record of success before the European Patent Office in examination, opposition and appeal and are regularly called upon for strategic guidance in portfolio management, due diligence and infringement opinions. Tomkins IP highly respected Trade Mark Attorneys consistently deliver cost effective, timely and commercially appropriate Trade Mark strategies for filing, prosecution, maintenance and enforcement of Trade Mark rights directly in Ireland, the United Kingdom, the European Union, and throughout the world.

- We defend the world's best known brands.
- We protect the innovations of the world's biggest technology companies.
- We are the trusted European Intellectual Property partner for NASDAQ and FTSE100 listed companies.
- We support greatness. What can we do for you?

Established in 1930 by Arthur Bellamy Tomkins, Tomkins has been part of Ireland's evolving innovation and business scene almost since the birth of the nation.

Tomkins' fusion of dependable legal savvy, technical expertise and strategic creativity makes capturing and protecting innovative products and processes, tangibles like trademarks and designs, even entire business models – straightforward.

However, for our clients, IP protection is only the start of their journey. Our clients recognise the value IP plays in their business success and benefit from a wealth of counsel on the road leading to it. Armed with strong, defensible IP rights and knowledge of their competitors' activities, Tomkins' clients get to the top – and remain there.

We partner with our clients in a friendly, efficient way, to support them in achieving their goals of greatness. Through Tomkins' unique Web Portal BELLAMY clients enjoy 24/7 access to their entire IP portfolio and avail of bespoke reporting tools, which, they tell us, provide them with much needed clarity; facilitate their business decisions; and allow them financial certainty in uncertain times.

As our client, you will have immediate access to our reliable, top tier IP advisory service, benefiting from our rich experience and trusted knowledge base. Our clients recognise greatness and achieve it with Tomkins by their side. Tomkins: Supporting Greatness. ●

LOCATIONS: London, Yorkshire & Humberside, North East, Scotland and Wales

LOCATIONS: Rep of Ireland

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	229
Partners	46
Qualified Patent Attorneys	63
Trainees	20

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About us

Venner Shipley is a leading European IP firm with a team of patent, design and trade mark attorneys, solicitors and barristers providing a complete IP service. We are based in London, Cambridge, Guildford, Tunbridge Wells, Manchester and Munich. Venner Shipley was joined by AA Thornton, a leading IP firm based in London on 1 December 2024, expanding our physical reach to Oxford and Madrid. The firm's combined headcount is now c230. Our clients range from leading corporations to SMEs, universities and individual inventors. We are friendly and easy to work with; our clients value our straight-forward approach, practical advice, and the clarity we bring to situations. We are a member of IP Inclusive aiming to promote equality, diversity and inclusion throughout the IP profession and have partnerships with Into University and the Sutton Trust to support broadening access to the profession.

What we do

Our multi-disciplinary team deals with a diverse range of intellectual property issues. Our specialist teams in electronics, software, AI, chemistry, biotechnology, materials and engineering work across multiple jurisdictions. Specialists in different technical areas work

together to give our clients the creative and innovative solutions they need.

Life as a trainee

As a new trainee you will be exposed to a broad range of work from the start. This is likely to include meeting inventors for innovation harvesting, drafting and filing patent applications and responding to examination reports issued from patent offices. You will have a nominated supervisor as well as a buddy and be part of a large cohort of trainees across all disciplines within our different office locations who come together for training and social events. There is lots of support to help you as you go through the qualification process and beyond; we have internal training programmes at different stages of your career as well as external courses and exam preparation tutorials.

What we look for in candidates

You will need a STEM degree at 2.1 or above. We also accept applications from students with masters, doctorates or with experience working in industry. You need to enjoy applying your scientific knowledge to practical situations, be good at problem solving, with excellent written skills and an interest in law. ●

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	63
Partners	7
Qualified Patent Attorneys	15
Trainees	7

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	2
Undergraduate Jobs	-

Background

Opening our doors in 1864, we are one of the longest established firms of Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys in the country. The firm was founded in Manchester, where our head office is located, and we also have offices in Birmingham, Chesterfield, Liverpool, London and Glasgow.

Clients and services

We serve a wide range of local, national and international clients, from individuals to multinational corporations across all sectors, and enjoy a high proportion of direct client work. We advise clients in relation to all aspects of intellectual property law including patents, trade marks, designs and copyright. Although we deal primarily with obtaining intellectual property rights for our clients, we also advise on enforcement, licensing and related matters. We pride ourselves on our commercial approach combined with a user-friendly style, and we are consistently recognised by the major legal directories.

Graduate applications

For trainee patent attorneys we seek candidates with a broad based technical background. Most attorneys in the firm deal with a broad range of subject matter. For trade mark trainees we seek candidates with a background in law, science, engineering

or humanities. When recruiting, we look for applicants with a strong academic background and excellent communication skills (especially an excellent command of English) who are prepared to undertake the years of on-the-job training and professional examinations necessary to qualify.

Professional development

The firm has a commitment to training through a close working relationship between trainee and a designated partner, as well as structured in-house training supplemented by external courses and tutorials. Trainees are involved with casework from the beginning, and our high proportion of direct client work means that trainees can expect client contact from an early stage. Trainees can also expect a varied and interesting caseload. We encourage trainees to take on responsibility as soon as they are able. Once qualified, attorneys enjoy a high degree of autonomy.

We will invest in your training and professional development and help you to pursue a long and rewarding career with us.

We operate flexible working arrangements including remote working (although trainees are expected to attend to the offices for a majority of their time to facilitate training). ●

LOCATIONS: London, South East (excl London), East Anglia and Rest of Europe

LOCATIONS: West Midlands, North West and Scotland

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	209
Partners	36
Qualified Patent Attorneys	62
Trainees	15

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	Varies

Withers & Rogers is one of Europe's largest dedicated intellectual property law firms, with offices in London, Bristol, Warwick, Sheffield, Munich and Paris. Established more than 140 years ago, we remain as passionate as ever about making intellectual property work to our clients' best advantage. Today, our clients include many renowned, innovative organisations from across Europe, North America and Asia.

We believe that our patent and trade mark attorneys, support, and operations staff have a breadth of expertise and a depth of specialist sector knowledge that is second to none. Our purpose is building trusting relationships and our vision is to be an independent, responsible, sustainably profitable, and globally focused firm, known for building trusting relationships.

We operate in four principal practice groups: Electronics, Computing & Physics; Advanced Engineering; Life Sciences & Chemistry, and Trade Marks. We also have a number of specialist practice groups including Higher Education, Clean Technology, Medical Devices and Aerospace & Defence.

At Withers & Rogers, we believe in nurturing a diverse working environment where everybody feels included and valued. We are committed to attracting, developing and retaining people from all walks of life and backgrounds. We promise to create a culture of inclusion where all individuals feel respected, are treated fairly, can enjoy a good work-life balance, and have the opportunity to excel in their chosen career.

Your development

When you start your training at Withers & Rogers, from the get-go you'll be given the support and guidance you need to succeed and pass your exams to qualify as a chartered UK and European patent attorney or a chartered trade mark attorney.

Throughout your training, you'll attend courses, lectures and tutorials to give you the very best chance of success. Our own extensive in-house tutorial programme provides regular and structured feedback to trainees as they work towards qualifying.

The main focus of your training, however, will be exposure to a wide variety of work on actual live cases. This is where you will quickly develop your 'real world' skills and understanding of the role, as well as the culture and working practices that have led to our firm's reputation and success. This includes involvement in client meetings, the marketing process, and we encourage membership of networking organisations.

Who can apply?

We hire graduates with a strong academic record in a relevant subject, but above all, we're looking for people who can demonstrate a passion for technology. Trainee patent attorneys will need an engineering or science related degree. All trainees need to be able to demonstrate excellent verbal and written communication skills as well as strong commercial awareness. We also welcome applications from experienced individuals who wish to make a career change into the intellectual property profession. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South West, West Midlands, Yorkshire & Humberside and Rest of Europe

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees	47
Partners	4
Qualified Patent Attorneys	7
Trainees	6

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs	Varies
Undergraduate Jobs	-

About us

WP Thompson is a long-established full-service IP firm committed to assisting its clients build and protect revenue streams from their intellectual creativity relating to patents, trade marks, designs and copyright. The firm has modern open plan offices in Cardiff, Liverpool and London. Amongst its partners are specialists in all matters of patent and trade mark protection and exploitation who, in association with its qualified and part-qualified professional staff, offer a wide range of tailored services to suit the widely varying needs of its national and international client base including a network of professional relationships in every functioning IP jurisdiction worldwide.

The firm provides a friendly and open culture where demanding work can be completed in an enjoyable and fun environment. There is flexible working, the level of which increases as you become established in your role.

Your development at WP Thompson

Our varied national and international client base creates an intellectually challenging environment within which to train and work and offers wide-ranging experience for our trainees from day one. Trainees are exposed

to all stages of the IP life cycle, advising on patent, trade mark and registered designs, as well as any IP-related disputes and legal and commercial requirements. In addition to the day-to-day prosecution of patent, trade mark and design applications, the team has considerable expertise in patent litigation as well as litigious matters, both in prosecuting and defending against centralised oppositions before the EPO and infringement and validity actions before the UK courts.

WP Thompson's philosophy is one of focusing on our client's needs and expectations to serve as a blueprint for the training and development of our professional staff. Our graduate recruits can find themselves exposed to a wide range of technologies as well as forming part of our team at high-level client meetings from an early stage in their career.

What we are looking for

Candidates should have at least an upper second-class honours degree in a technical discipline. They should clearly exhibit an inquisitive mind, clarity of thought and expression and, equally importantly, a personality that will fit into, and complement, our friendly but productive office environments. ●

LOCATIONS: London, North West and Wales

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

Total Employees
Partners
Qualified Patent Attorneys
Trainees

35
6
6
3

OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Graduate Jobs
Undergraduate Jobs

Varies
-

Wynne-Jones IP is a vibrant, dynamic, modern and fast-paced firm with an enthusiastic, talented and highly motivated team of positive and like-minded individuals.

We are a full service firm meaning we cover patents, trade marks, designs, IP strategy, IP licensing, enforcement, IP audits and IP renewals. We work across a broad range of industries and sectors but specialise particularly in materials & nano technology, physics & electrical engineering, automotive & aviation, engineering & sciences, IT & cyber, SME & entrepreneurs, toys & games and licensing.

With offices in Gloucester, Cheltenham, Bristol, Malvern, London, Cardiff and Telford we work with many exciting clients across the world that vary in size from FTSE 100 companies to the entrepreneurs and start-ups that stand at the forefront of innovation.

We are passionate about innovation and believe that our job is to enable our clients to take their ground-breaking ideas to the market and be confident that they are protected. We believe in forward thinking, quality advice and the same principles are applied within our Training Academy.

In addition to our UK offices, we are proud to part-own AIPLEX BV; a pan-European

IP law firm. This enables us to be able to provide opportunities for our trainees to work on AIPLEX's accounts and gain experience working on large IP portfolios. There are also opportunities for trainees to take part in exchange programmes and meet and share best practice with over 250 other trainees and qualified attorneys across Europe.

Training and beyond Wynne-Jones IP

The Wynne-Jones Training Academy is our pioneering training body that offers structured programmes providing training for patent attorneys, trade mark attorneys and business professionals (examples include marketing, HR and other qualifications).

Our approach ensures trainees are well supported and best prepared for examinations and real-life practice. Trainee attorneys are exposed to the commercial and business environment much earlier than is traditional meaning that IP practice management skills are developed and established faster than they are traditionally.

What we're looking for

Candidates can be from a range of disciplines and on track to receive a 2:1 or above. You will be adept at problem solving, have an eye for detail, have excellent communication skills and a proven ability to meet deadlines. ●

LOCATIONS: London, South West and Wales

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UK's leading IP jobs board

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Intellectual Property jobs and in-depth career advice written by industry experts.

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Career Sector

Patents (77)

Trade Marks (5)

Administrator (10)

Legal/Paralegal (3)

Job Type

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Postgraduate Course

Find your next
job in IP

UK REGIONS

London

South East (excluding London)

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
East Sussex
Hampshire
Isle of Wight
Kent
Oxfordshire
Surrey
West Sussex

South West

Bristol
Cornwall
Devon
Dorset
Gloucestershire
Somerset
Wiltshire

East Midlands

Leicestershire
Lincolnshire
Northamptonshire
Nottinghamshire
Derbyshire

West Midlands

Birmingham
Warwickshire
Worcestershire
Staffordshire
Shropshire
Herefordshire

East Anglia

Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Essex
Hertfordshire
Norfolk
Suffolk

North West

Greater Manchester
Merseyside
Lancashire
Cumbria
Cheshire

Yorkshire & Humberside

West Yorkshire
South Yorkshire
North Yorkshire
East Riding of Yorkshire

North East

Tyne & Wear
Northumberland
County Durham

Scotland

Wales

Northern Ireland



JOB FINDER










A summary of job opportunities offered

















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Find Jobs






COMPANY	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS				OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED			UK OFFICE LOCATIONS BY REGION											
	Employees	Partners	Qualified Patent Attorneys	Trainees	Graduate Jobs	Undergraduate Jobs		London	South East (excl London)	South West	West Midlands	East Midlands	East Anglia	Yorkshire & Humberside	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
<div>Abel+Imray</div>	115	17	31	13	3	-		●	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	●	-
<div><div>/</div>ADAMSON JONES<div>part of Gateley</div></div>	23	3	7	1	Varies	-		●	-	-	●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<div><div><div>A</div><div>IP</div></div>Albright IP<div>excellence in intellectual property</div></div>	35	8	8	5	Varies	-		-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<div>Appleyard Lees[®]</div>	180	23	38	19	Varies	-		-	-	-	-	●	●	●	●	-	-	-	-
<div><div>B</div><div>BARNES</div><div>INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY</div></div>	12	1	4	2	1	-		-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<div>BeckGreener</div>	48	12	14	6	2	-		●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<div>boult</div>	229	46	31	18	Varies	-		●	●	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
<div><div>BRAND</div><div>MURRAY</div><div>FULLER</div></div>	18	4	8	4	2	-		●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<div>CARPMAELS & RANSFORD</div>	281	32	96	30	10	-		●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-









COMPANY	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS				OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED			UK OFFICE LOCATIONS BY REGION												
	Employees	Partners	Qualified Patent Attorneys	Trainees	Graduate Jobs	Undergraduate Jobs		London	South East (excl London)	South West	West Midlands	East Midlands	East Anglia	Yorkshire & Humberside	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	
 cleveland scott york	60	14	15	3	Varies	Varies		●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
 CMS law·tax·future	8,000	5	19	16	Varies	-		●	●	●	-	-	-	●	●	●	●	-	-	-
 D YOUNG & CO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	267	44	68	25	6	Varies		●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
 Dehns	280	48	104	43	Varies	Varies		●	●	●	●	-	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	-
 Dummett Copp	21	4	4	2	2	-		-	-	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
 e ^{IP}	180	35	80	15	6	5		●	-	●	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	●	-	-
 E+F ELKINGTON + FIFE	80	18	13	15	3	-		●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
 Europäisches Patentamt European Patent Office Office européen des brevets	6,300	-	-	-	100	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
 FORRESTER'S Clear direction	121	23	35	10	Varies	-		●	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	-

COMPANY	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS				OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED			UK OFFICE LOCATIONS BY REGION											
	Employees	Partners	Qualified Patent Attorneys	Trainees	Gradaute Jobs	Undergraduate Jobs		London	South East (excl London)	South West	West Midlands	East Midlands	East Anglia	Yorkshire & Humberside	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
	130	19	40	20	4-5	-		●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9	1	3	-	Varies	-		-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	70,000	-	64	5	Varies	-		●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	105	11	51	17	Varies	-		●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	204	37	54	15	Varies	Varies		●	-	●	-	-	-	●	-	-	●	-	-
	470	84	190	38	10	4		●	-	-	●	-	-	●	-	●	●	-	-
	24	3	9	1	2	Varies		-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	●	●	-	-
	438	48	122	23	2	-		●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1,700	-	-	-	30	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	●	-	-

COMPANY	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS				OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED			UK OFFICE LOCATIONS BY REGION											
	Employees	Partners	Qualified Patent Attorneys	Trainees	Graduate Jobs	Undergraduate Jobs		London	South East (excl London)	South West	West Midlands	East Midlands	East Anglia	Yorkshire & Humberside	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
	25	3	6	2	1	1		●	●	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
J A KEMP	251	49	69	26	6	-		●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	132	23	30	13	Varies	-		●	-	●	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Kilburn & Strode</u>	246	38	70	32	Varies	Varies		●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	21	3	7	1	Varies	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	●	-	-	
Marks&Clerk LLP	380	56	60	36	Varies	-		●	●	-	●	-	●	-	-	●	●	-	-
	238	38	47	31	5	-		●	●	-	●	-	●	-	-	●	-	-	-
	147	15	9	8	2	2		●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MEISSNER BOLTE	14	5	6	2	1	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	●	-	●	-	-	-

COMPANY	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS				OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED			UK OFFICE LOCATIONS BY REGION											
	Employees	Partners	Qualified Patent Attorneys	Trainees	Gradaute Jobs	Undergraduate Jobs		London	South East (excl London)	South West	West Midlands	East Midlands	East Anglia	Yorkshire & Humberside	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
	363	56	107	43	12	-		●	-	●	-	-	●	-	-	●	-	-	-
 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS	6	2	-	-	Varies	Varies		-	-	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
	400	80	80	11	Varies	2-3		●	-	-	-	-	-	●	●	●	●	●	●
	29	-	10	2	2	-		-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
 Page White Farrer	78	19	20	8	2	-		●	-	●	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
	12	5	6	1	2	-		●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	232	41	57	15	5	-		●	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	●	-	-	-
 London Cambridge Munich The Hague	181	25	50	23	8	-		●	-	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
	21	5	9	4	1	-		●	●	-	-	-	●	-	-	-	-	-	-

COMPANY	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS				OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED			UK OFFICE LOCATIONS BY REGION											
	Employees	Partners	Qualified Patent Attorneys	Trainees	Gradaute Jobs	Undergraduate Jobs		London	South East (excl London)	South West	West Midlands	East Midlands	East Anglia	Yorkshire & Humberside	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
<div>SANDERSONS</div> <div>Patent & Trade Mark Attorneys</div>	11	3	3	2	Varies	–		–	–	–	–	–	●	–	–	–	–	–	–
<div></div>	29	3	11	4	Varies	–		–	●	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
<div>SCINTILLA</div>	15	1	5	2	Varies	–		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	●	●	–	–	–
<div>script</div>	24	7	9	4	2	Varies		–	●	●	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
<div></div>	20	2	8	5	2	1		–	–	–	–	–	●	●	–	–	–	–	–
<div></div>	40	7	2	–	Varies	–		–	–	●	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
<div>SLINGSBY PARTNERS</div>	52	7	20	8	1-3	–		●	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
<div></div>	48	–	13	3	Varies	–		–	●	●	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
<div></div>	38	6	12	5	Varies	–		–	–	–	●	●	–	●	●	●	–	–	–

COMPANY	EMPLOYEE NUMBERS				OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED			UK OFFICE LOCATIONS BY REGION												
	Employees	Partners	Qualified Patent Attorneys	Trainees	Gradaute Jobs	Undergraduate Jobs		London	South East (excl London)	South West	West Midlands	East Midlands	East Anglia	Yorkshire & Humberside	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	
 SYMBIOSIS IP part of Gateley	11	5	5	2	Varies	–		●	–	–	–	–	–	–	●	●	–	●	●	–
 TOMKINS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	41	8	9	2	Varies	–		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
 Venner Shipley	229	46	63	20	Varies	–		●	●	–	–	–	●	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
 WilsonGunn PATENT & TRADE MARK ATTORNEYS	63	7	15	7	2	–		–	–	–	●	–	–	–	–	●	●	–	–	–
 withers & rogers Patents • Trade Marks • Designs	209	36	62	15	Varies	Varies		●	–	●	●	–	–	●	–	–	–	–	–	–
 WP THOMPSON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	47	4	7	6	Varies	–		●	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	●	–	●	–	–
 WYNNE-JONES own thinking 	35	6	6	3	Varies	–		●	–	●	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	●	–	–

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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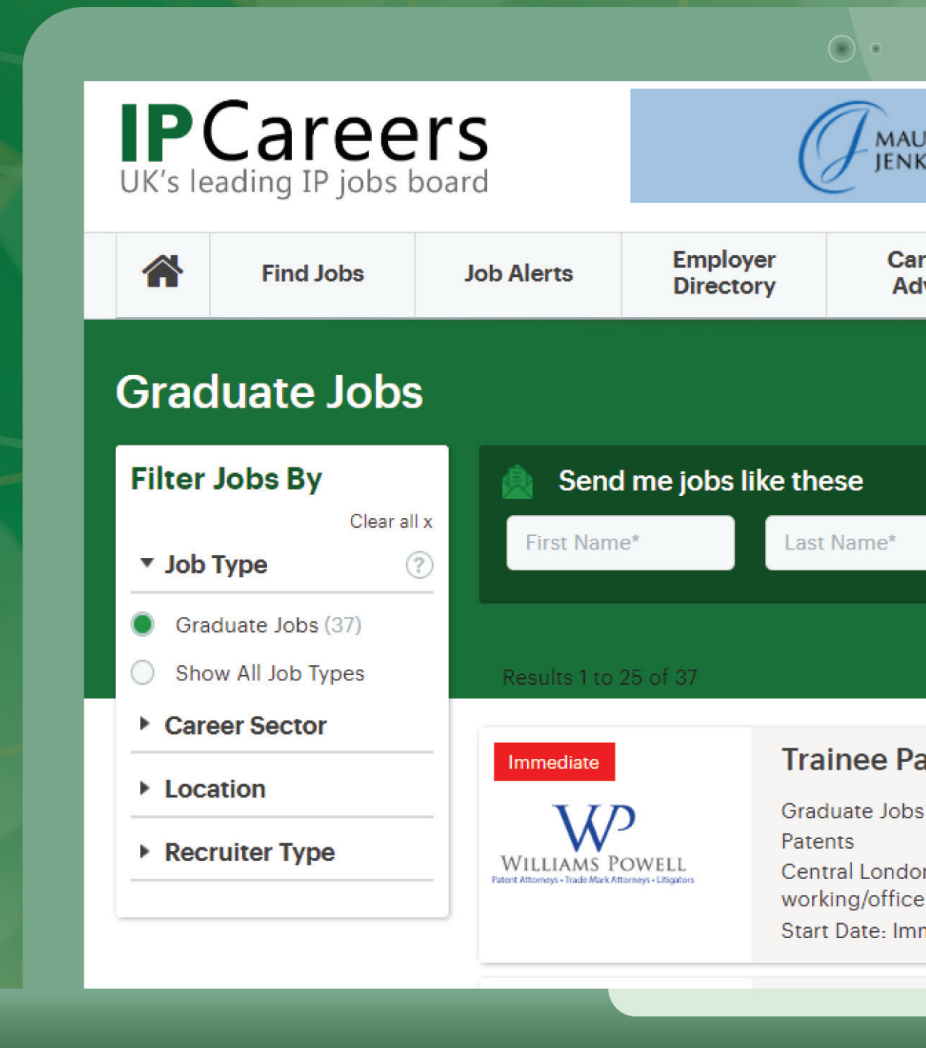
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