



KINSTELLAR

EUIPO offers SMEs trade mark and design grants of up to EUR 1,350 again in 2024, available also for Ukrainian SMEs

March 2024 – The European Commission and European Intellectual Property Office ('EUIPO') have once again **launched a small and medium sized business fund ('SME Fund')** to provide **reimbursement for trade mark and design application fees and pre-diagnostic services**. The 2024 SME Fund is the third and last call of this initiative, following the 2022 and 2023 SME Funds.

The grant scheme, designed to encourage SMEs to expand their intellectual property ('IP') portfolios, has a budget of more than EUR 21 million, available on a first-come, first-serve basis. The submission period for applications runs from 22 January to 6 December 2024.



Grant of up to EUR 1,350

SMEs can apply for the reimbursement of a specified portion of the fees payable for one or both of the selected services

50% * / 75 % off

EU and national trade marks and design fees

Application fees, additional class fees, examination, registration, and publication and deferment of publication fees are all eligible for reimbursement — the application should be submitted through EUIPO.

*50% reduction of the basic application fees and designation fees outside EU, when submitted through WIPO

100 % off

Pre-diagnostic services (IP Scan)

IP Scan covers pre-diagnostic IP audits and IP Scan enforcement services.

Pre-diagnostic services are designed to provide guidance to SMEs regarding the potential of IP in advancing their businesses. These services involve identifying valuable types of IP assets that may require protection, as well as recognising existing IP protections that could be leveraged further to enhance business growth.

Enforcement services are geared towards offering guidance to SMEs that encounter infringement of their intellectual property (IP) rights, are accused of infringing IP rights by a third party, or are at significant risk of facing such infringements.

Pre-diagnostic services are available in: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia Finland, Germany, Ireland, Latvia, Portugal, Republic of Lithuania, Slovakia and Sweden

Enforcement services are available in: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Latvia and Slovenia



CHECKLIST: Are you eligible for a grant from the SME fund?



Is your company based in the EU or in Ukraine? *



Does your company/group meet the official EU definition (thresholds applicable to the group as a whole) of an SME?

- Do you have fewer than 250 employees?
- Is your annual turnover below EUR 50 million?
- Is your balance sheet total below EUR 43 million?



Can your company provide a bank statement and VAT certificate or national registration number certificate issued by the competent authority?



Did you already participate in 2023? Specific conditions apply to you.

*Please note that the SME Fund is available to SMEs established in Ukraine in territories that are under the effective control of the Ukrainian government at the time the application is submitted.

When to apply?

Applications should be submitted throughout the call for submission period.

Applications are evaluated on a weekly basis with a weekly cut-off.

The process is simple



1 | Apply for the grant



2 | Receive your grant awards and **vouchers**



3 | Request and pay for **IP activities**



4 | **Get reimbursed**



**For more information, or for assistance with
the application process, please contact**



Natalia Kirichenko

Partner | Ukraine
natalia.kirichenko@kinstellar.com



Georgi Kanev

Managing Associate | Bulgaria
georgi.kanev@kinstellar.com



Lukáš A. Mrázik

Managing Associate | Slovakia
lukas.mrazik@kinstellar.com

Emerging Europe and Central Asia's Leading Independent Law Firm

With offices in 11 jurisdictions and over 350 local and international lawyers, we deliver consistent, joined-up legal advice and assistance across diverse regional markets – together with the know-how and experience to champion your interests while minimising exposure to risk.

ALMATY | KAZAKHSTAN

ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

BELGRADE | SERBIA

BRATISLAVA | SLOVAKIA

BUCHAREST | ROMANIA

BUDAPEST | HUNGARY

ISTANBUL | TURKEY

KYIV | UKRAINE

PRAGUE | CZECH REPUBLIC

SOFIA | BULGARIA

TASHKENT | UZBEKISTAN

ZAGREB | CROATIA

KINSTELLAR