



TRADEMARK EXAMINER

Trademark examiners carry out a substantive analysis of trademark applications in order to establish whether the product or service trademark applied for meets all the conditions to benefit from trademark protection. Their in-depth knowledge of trademark legislation and a methodological application of legal texts enable them to perform their tasks.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Inform trademark applicants and trademark owners about the registration procedure, their options and the status of their files.
- ▶ Analysis of trademark applications (searches in specialised databases, analysis of the classes of goods and services selected in the application, the nature of the trademark and of the target audience, examination of absolute grounds for refusal).
- ▶ Communication to the applicant of the final decision regarding the grant of a trademark application and participation in oral proceedings before an IP office.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND ACCESS TO THE PROFESSION

At European level, trademark examiners hold a diploma awarded after completion of university studies in law with a specialisation in intellectual property. A diploma course in trademark law such as the one offered by the “Centre d’Études Internationales de la Propriété Intellectuelle” (CEIPI) or the completion of a master’s degree in intellectual or/and industrial property constitutes an asset.

In national IP offices, the educational background of the examiner differs widely and the completion of university studies is not always required.

In Luxembourg, there is no specialised training or certification in this field.

Training courses and certification programmes, which could be a valuable asset, are offered by some foreign universities or private organisations.

For more information, feel free to consult our website at the following address:

www.ipil.lu/metiers-PI/useful-links/.

KEY COMPETENCES AND PERSONAL SKILLS

- ▶ Good writing skills and strong interest in trademarks.
- ▶ Analytical and synthesis skills and rigour.
- ▶ Spirit of enquiry, open mind and bright imagination.



MAIN POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

Private sector: Not applicable

Public sector: Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP), European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), national intellectual property offices.

The Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP), which is in charge of registering Benelux trademarks, offers professional opportunities.

PERSPECTIVES AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Trademark examiners may see their responsibilities increase in a trademark examination service of a national office. Those who complete the required studies in law can become lawyers specialised in opposition and appeal procedures. They may also start a career in the private sector as an intellectual property lawyer (see the “IP lawyer” job description) or industrial property attorney (see the “Industrial property counsel” job description).



“ MY WORK ALLOWS ME TO TAKE AN EARLY LOOK AT A BRAND. THROUGH THOROUGH RESEARCH AND CREATIVE THINKING, I AM ABLE TO DECIDE ON ITS DISTINCTIVENESS. ”

François Veneri,
Trademark Examiner

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