



Mauritius Research Council

Intellectual Property Promotion Scheme

General Information

**MRC-IPPS
March 2011**

IP Promotion Scheme (IPPS)

Purpose of the Scheme

The purpose of this scheme is to encourage individuals, enterprises, industry and R&D institutions to take advantage of the mechanisms for protecting innovation currently offered by the industrial property system in Mauritius. The IPPS, which operates as a joint collaboration between the Mauritius Research Council (MRC) and the Industrial Property Office (IPO), aims to boost creativity and innovation, initially through support towards applications made for the grant of Patents and registration of Industrial Designs.

Promotion of Patents: the aim is to encourage participation from any field of technology, involving individuals, entrepreneurs, SMEs, industry, scientists and researchers, to apply for Patent protection of their innovations that are new, involve an inventive step towards solving a technical problem and can be exploited commercially.

Promotion of Industrial Designs: aims to complement the protection and exploitation of innovation in Mauritius by encouraging public and private participation from any field of design and technology to apply for Industrial Design protection of the shape, configuration, pattern or ornament that they have created and which can be applied to an article by any industrial process.

Eligibility

Patent and Industrial Design applications can be submitted by individuals, groups/teams, or organisations. This scheme is therefore open to SMEs, industry, public and private institutions, teaching, training and research institutions, and the public.

The applicant must be a Mauritian national, or in the case of an organisation/company must be registered in Mauritius.

The applicant must be the true owner of the intellectual property.

The items eligible for claims under the IPPS shall be limited to 50% of the official fees for filing of applications for the grant of a Patent or registration of an Industrial Design.

The IPPS shall not cover the costs incurred beyond the initial application stage. In particular, the reimbursement under the IPPS shall not cover the cost of renewing an IP registration or maintaining an IP application/registration, or matters relating to the defence of an IP, R&D costs, charges arising from the licensing or assignment or the transfer of rights, or charges for conducting searches.

A single application (by reference to a filing reference number allotted by the Industrial Property Office) shall be eligible only for a one-time reimbursement and shall not be entitled to further reimbursement in the subsequent years.

Amount funded by the MRC

Allocations for the IPPS will be made on a first-come-first-serve basis and will be subject to availability of funds (i.e., MUR 100,000 per year).

Application procedure

The prescribed application forms and the corresponding guidelines for the grant of a Patent or registration of an Industrial Design can be collected at the MRC or at the IPO.

Alternatively, the application forms and guidelines can be downloaded from the following website: <http://foreign.gov.mu>

Applications for granting of a Patent or registration of Industrial Design must be made through the IPO and must be accompanied by the prescribed application fees at the time of filing of the application.

Claims for reimbursement under the IPPS should be received by the MRC within 21 days from the date of filing of the relevant intellectual property and must be supported by presentation of the original receipt delivered by the IPO (which includes the filing reference number allotted by the IPO).

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated in accordance with criteria for Patents and Industrial Designs set under the Patents, Industrial Designs and Trademarks Act 2002 (Act No 25 of 2002) and applicable Regulations (Amendment No. 1 and Amendment No.2, Regulations 2011).

For more details on the scheme, please contact the Mauritius Research Council.

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