

Preparing for Session 4 with your Mentor

Developing Your IP Plan

 1 HOUR

Session Objective

The objective of this session is to develop a draft IP plan for potential execution during the coming 6-12 months, specific to your invention, business, and commercialization plans.

During this session, your mentor will answer any remaining questions you may have.

Preparing for Session 4 with your Mentor Developing Your IP Plan

Preparatory Work

Patents

If you and your mentor have determined that patent protection is the best way to protect your invention, conduct research on the resources available to hire someone to conduct a patentability search, render a patentability opinion, and prepare and file a patent application on your behalf.

Consider fee based and/or pro bono patent attorney/agent services and identify your preferred resources. WIPO has a pro bono program and you should check with your local and/or regional patent office to see if they have similar programs.

Be prepared to set a date to contact the attorney(s)/agent(s) to start the process.

Trademarks

If trademark protection is desirable, as is the case with patent protection, you should identify trademark attorneys who can conduct a trademark search, render an opinion on the possibility of filing a trademark application, and potentially file a trademark application on your behalf.

Be prepared to set a date to contact the preferred trademark attorney you identified.

Copyright

If documents have been identified for copyright protection, be prepared to set a date to complete the marking of those documents with an appropriate copyright notice. Set a date to contact a copyright attorney to determine if your country requires registration.

Trade secrets

If documents have been identified that contain confidential information that you desire to maintain as a trade secret, be prepared to set a date to complete the marking of those documents with appropriate confidentiality notices.

If it is determined that you need to create nondisclosure/confidentiality agreements or employment agreements with confidentiality provisions, set a date to contact an attorney to prepare such agreements for you.

If you have any lingering questions about how to pursue IP protection, please feel free to bring them up with your mentor, who will be happy to address them with you.

During this session, you can also discuss monitoring and IP enforcement with your mentor.