

## FROM 2025 CSP SUPPORT IS BASED ON 3 PILLARS



**QUALITY**

<50% EQE-qualified patent  
attorneys vs. "grandfathers"



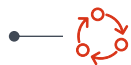
**GENDER**

<50% women vs. men in the  
patent attorney profession



**EPAC**

Candidates from all MS  
preparing for EPAC (starting  
from 2026)



Eligibility of MS updated every two years



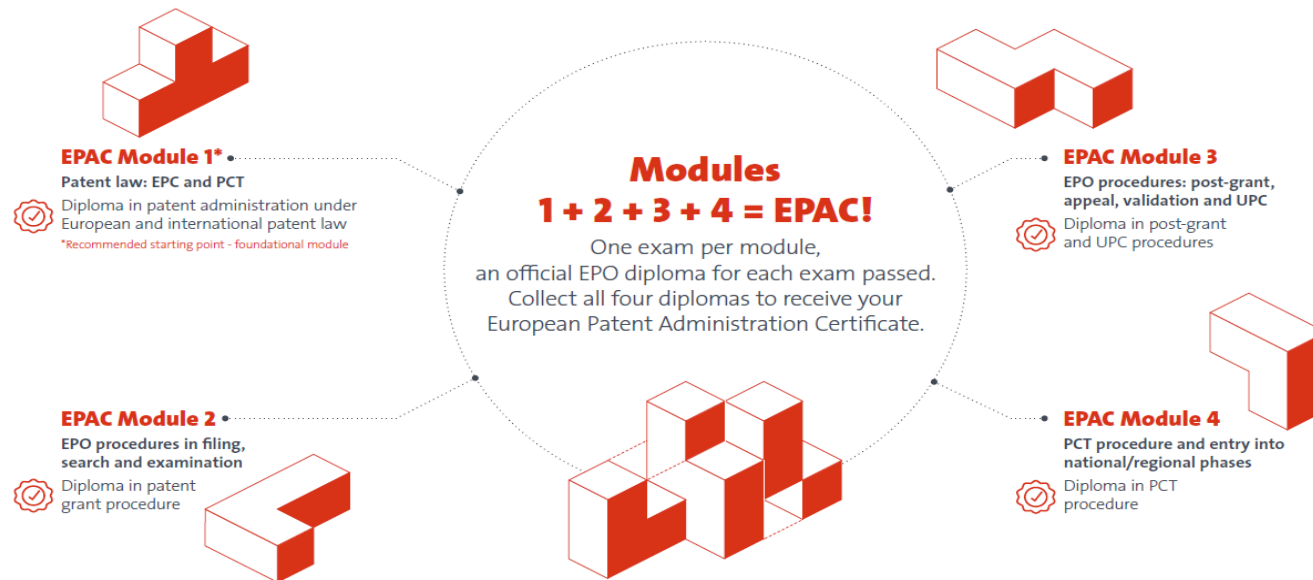
## EUROPEAN PATENT ADMINISTRATION CERTIFICATION (EPAC)

- EPAC is a certification scheme developed by the EPO
- Introduced in 2022 as the first pan-European certification, the EPAC has rapidly grown, with more than 1 800 candidates from across the globe
- Targets paralegals, patent administrators, and formalities officers, enabling hundreds of successful candidates to advance in their careers



- EPAC certificate validates the knowledge and skills necessary for autonomous handling of European and international patent grant and post-grant procedures.
- It opens more doors for career development, professional and geographical mobility and entry into new roles across the innovation ecosystem.
- In 2026 new modular format of EPAC will be introduced

## NEW EPAC MODULES FROM 2026



For more information visit the [EPAC](#) page on [epo.org](#)

## KEY BENEFITS OF CSP ON EPAC FOR THE ECOSYSTEM AND NPOS

Pan-European  
certification for patent  
administrators



Professional  
development and  
enhanced workforce  
mobility



Increases  
institutional  
expertise



Expanded  
opportunities for  
NPO staff



Focused preparation



Financial support



More inclusive



Improves cooperation



Flexibility



## STRUCTURED SUPPORT FOR EPAC SUCCESS

### 6-month support aligned with modular EPAC format



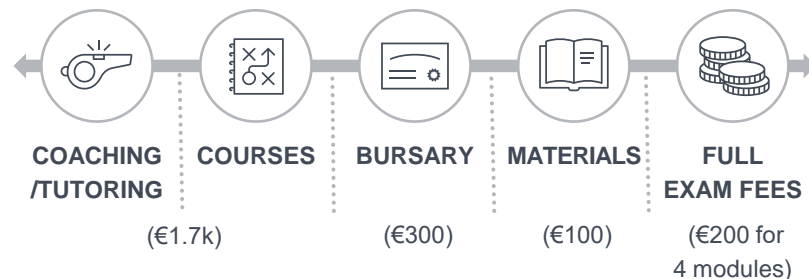
Candidates receive support to prepare for all four EPAC 2026 modules. It is highly recommended to sit all four modules/exams in October 2026.

### "Giving back" principle – a cornerstone of the new CSP



Candidates commit to “give back” after receiving CSP support, creating a sustainable self-supporting professional community across Europe.

### Comprehensive training, coaching/tutoring and financial support at every stage



**Total value of €2.3k over 6 months**

# IMPORTANT STEPS FOR NATIONAL PATENT OFFICES OF MEMBER STATES

## Info session with NPOs of member states

- Presentation on CSP for EPAC
- Q&A session

**WHEN?**  
**01 December**



## Receiving first batch of documents

- Overview of the CSP for EPAC (for internal use)
- Promotional materials
- Info text to be published on website

**WHEN?**  
**08 December**



**WHEN?**  
**09-12 December**

## Publishing on the website

- Info text on CSP for EPAC on the website
- Promotional materials

## Receiving second batch of documents

- Link to application form
- Conditions for participation
- Guide for using SAP tool (for internal use)

**WHEN?**  
**12-16 January**



**WHEN?**  
**17 - 29 January**

## Publishing on the website

- Link to application form
- Conditions for participation

**Documents EPO will deliver to NPOs**



**WHEN?**  
**20 February - 13 March**

## Conduct selection and nomination procedure

- Download applications and documents from SAP tool
- Review the applications
- Select and share the name of candidate to EPO
- Inform the candidates that were not selected

## Required actions from NPOs