

IPON Client Services

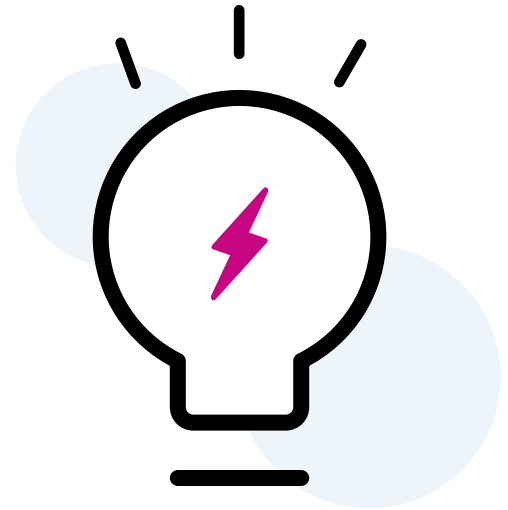
Enabling businesses and researchers to innovate and grow.

Overview of IPON

Intellectual Property Ontario (IPON) offers tailored IP programs to help businesses and researchers in Ontario to do just that. IPON works with clients at various stages of their IP journey and provides clients access to expert IP advice, services, and resources to better understand how to:

- maximize the value of IP
- strengthen business capacity to grow
- compete in the global market
- enhance research and commercialization outcomes

IPON offers three distinct programs that are designed to meet clients' IP needs.



Program Offering



IP BOOTCAMP

This three-month program offers the full suite of IPON services and is designed for IP owners who want a tailored, focused and time-limited support plus immediate access to funding.



PARTNER PROGRAM

Available to IP owners who are affiliated with an Ontario Regional Innovation Centre or one of IPON's key partner organizations. This program is up to six-month and offers immediate funding and is designed to be collaborative by supplementing existing support programs available in the ecosystem.



SELF-GUIDED

Designed for IP owners who want self-guided access to IP education, on-demand resources and the ability to apply for funding calls. This program will be available in early 2024.

Client Services

As an IPON client, you have access to a curated selection of IPON's Client Services, based on which program you are enrolled in.



IP FUNDING

IP Bootcamp and Partner Program clients can receive up to \$35,000 in initial funding for IP protection and commercialization services. If a client does not exhaust their \$35,000 within the duration of their program, they will lose the remaining balance at the end of their program. All clients have the potential to access future funding calls of up to \$100,000. IPON will cover up to 80% of eligible costs, conditional on an approved scope of work. Clients may use their funding towards IP agreements (Non-Disclosure Agreement, licenses) or contracts with high IP impact (Master Service Agreements, partnership agreements, or data management plans). Some costs are not supported (e.g., administrative expenses).

Financial support from IPON cannot be combined (or "stacked") with other IP funding sources. Clients are expected to fund at least 20% of service costs and demonstrate a plan to sustain or maintain the IP in the future. Clients can choose to use their own service providers or select one from IPON's roster of vetted IP service providers who are either licensed IP lawyers and/or registered IP agents. Service providers that are not on the roster would need to meet IPON's requirements, if any.



FOUNDATIONAL IP EDUCATION

IP Education begins with Foundations of IP Strategy, a self-guided course that helps clients advance their IP knowledge and provides an understanding of how IP can be strategically leveraged to advance business objectives. Following completion of this course, clients attend a 2 hour online workshop where IP experts facilitate class discussion, provide practical guidance and interactive case study review. Upon completion of both parts, clients will be issued a micro-credential to showcase their successful completion of a learning milestone.



IP COMMERCIALIZATION MENTORSHIP

Clients who are interested in IPON's 1-on-1 mentorship program are matched with mentors who have lived IP and commercialization experience and provide subject matter expertise, insights and IP guidance tailored to clients' businesses. Our mentors are highly qualified and have experience ranging from scaling successful start-ups, to managing research and development for Fortune 500 companies. IPON clients will maintain an independent relationship with their mentor, and should attempt to meet monthly, with a maximum of 12 hours of mentorship per month, for a term of up to 1 year.



IP BENCHMARKING

To gain a better understanding of clients' organization's IP health and awareness, clients are to spend ~ 1 hour to complete IPON's IP benchmarking tool, which should be completed in one sitting. The IP benchmarking exercise provides a comprehensive assessment of clients' IP health and awareness by conducting a review of their IP strategy, assets, and processes, and should be answered honestly to gain the greatest insight into the organization IP health. Results help inform tailored IP strategies and actions to meet your IP needs.



IP INTELLIGENCE

Clients receive market intelligence based on IP patent landscapes and datasets. A report contains IP filing trends, current key and emerging players within a sector, important jurisdictions, licensing opportunities, risk / threat analysis, whitespace areas and more. Clients who receive an IP landscape report can book time with one of IPON's IP Analysts who will provide an overview of the report and applied learnings.



NETWORKING EVENTS

Clients are among the first audiences invited to IPON events which aim to expand IP knowledge, facilitate collaboration and networking.



ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL COURSES (COMING SOON)

Clients have access to module-based e-learning courses on topics tailored to advance clients' IP knowledge. A micro-credential (digital badge) is awarded to clients to showcase their successful completion of each learning milestone.



TIGER TEAM (COMING SOON)

In the case of urgent, IP-specific business critical issues, clients have access to timely consultations with members of IPON's Tiger Team; a group of highly specialized lawyers with a global reach who provide legal information for next steps. Tiger Team member nor the member's firm can provide legal services to clients related to the consultative services; the purpose of the consultation is to help the client determine what services are needed, and to provide summary advice to help the client avoid mistakes in the meantime.

Eligibility Overview

To be eligible, an applicant needs to meet the requirements in [IPON's Eligibility By-law](#).

Are an Ontario-based small- and-medium size enterprise (i.e., with fewer than 500 employees);

Operates in Ontario and intends to grow their business in Ontario long-term;

Owns IP or IP rights that it intends to commercialize or monetize in Ontario;

Are in one of our served sectors - medtech and life sciences, artificial intelligence, vehicle technology, mining and automotive advanced manufacturing;

Demonstrate potential to realize societal or economic benefit to Ontario;

Demonstrate financial capacity to advance the protection and commercialization of IP and IP Rights that may be supported by IPON Client Services; and

Have an Immediate IP need suited for IPON services and IP funding.

Note: Meeting the eligibility requirements does not guarantee application approval and all information provided is confidential. For more information on eligibility or **how to apply**, visit www.ip-ontario.ca/apply

Application and Selection Process

1 SUBMIT APPLICATION

Visit www.ip-ontario.ca/apply

IP Bootcamp: If you feel you meet the eligibility criteria, submit an application from our IPON's website.

Partner Program: This is a referral based program. All referrals will need to meet the eligibility criteria, and be working with a Regional Innovation Centre or one of IPON's key partners. The RIC or key partner organization can make a referral to IPON.

2 CLIENT SELECTION

IPON will select from applicants and referrals that meet the eligibility criteria. IPON will then assess applicants and, to the extent possible, ensure the group of clients being served is drawn from and represents a balance of different geographic regions of Ontario and equity-seeking groups, as well as each of the served sectors. This group should also include clients at different stages of IP protection and commercialization.

Only those shortlisted will be contacted to continue in the intake process. If you are shortlisted, IPON may ask you to provide additional information to help IPON assess your application.

3 ONBOARDING

If selected as an IPON client, you will need to sign a Client Agreement with IPON. This agreement outlines the terms and conditions of your relationship with IPON.

This includes, but is not limited to, sharing relevant information and documents, including confidential data, participating in surveys and meetings, complying with reasonable reporting requirements of IPON, the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities, and/or the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade.

