<u>IP vouchers for SMEs: applications now</u> <u>open</u>

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IP vouchers for SMEs: applications now open



As of 11 January small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) based in the EU can apply for financing under the new **Ideas Powered for Business SME Fund**.

The application window is open from 11 to 31 January. This is the first of **five application windows** that will run throughout 2021.

Open to all enterprises in the EU that fit the <u>official definition of a SME</u>, the new scheme offers **financial support in the form of reimbursements** for trade mark and design application and for IP pre-diagnostic services (IP Scan)*, **up to a maximum amount of EUR 1 500 per business**.

The new scheme is run through the <u>Ideas Powered for Business programme</u> at the EUIPO, and forms part of the European Commission's <u>IP Action Plan</u>. It is carried out in cooperation with the national and regional intellectual property offices of the EU.

Commissioner for Internal market Thierry **Breton** said: "The coronavirus pandemic has hugely impacted SMEs. We want to help SMEs capitalise on their innovations and creativity to support their recovery."

The requirements, timing and other information relevant to the scheme can already be consulted through the **Ideas Powered for Business** <u>hub</u>.

* IP pre-diagnostic services under this scheme are only available through

participating national and regional IP offices of the EU. Before applying, you should check the list to ensure that the IP office in your Member State offers this service.