



FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR TRADEMARK REGISTRATION

SMEs ESTABLISHED IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

The SME Ideas Powered for Business Fund is a grant program, designed by the European Union and implemented by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) protect their intellectual property rights.

The SME Fund is part of the framework of the "Ideas Powered for Business" initiatives, a grant scheme worth 30 million euros, until 2024, for European

SMEs, under the European Commission's Intellectual Property Action Plan.

This Support is intended to help SMEs based in the European Union to access and benefit from their intellectual property rights, with the aim of strengthening their competitiveness in the market.

It is estimated that only about 10% of SMEs based in the European Union own Intellectual Property Rights.

Now, in an increasingly digital context, where Intellectual Property is crucial to economic development, by allowing the valorization of companies and their assets, the protection of these rights is required, so this support is a way to help protect and maximize the assets of SMEs.

FUNDS AVAILABLE IN PORTUGAL

In Portugal, support is available for trademark and design applications at a national, regional or European Union level, which will consist of direct financial support in the form of vouchers reimbursing 50% of the registration fees.

WHO MAY BENEFIT

Companies that already own trademarks registered in Portugal can also take advantage of the funds to register the same trademarks in the EU or in WIPO (international system).

Similarly, companies that have already taken advantage of the funds in 2021 or 2022 can apply again.

CONDITIONS

The conditions for access remain the same:

- have up to 250 employees;
- have a turnover of up to €50 million or a balance sheet of up to €43 million,
- to file new applications to register trademarks and/or designs in Portugal, obtaining reimbursements on the official fees, where each company can obtain reimbursements of up to €3,850.

APPLICATION PERIOD

Applications can be made at any time between January 23rd and December 8th, and it is important to keep in mind that funds are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

FINAL NOTES

In this new edition of the SME Support Fund, which is based on reducing administrative bureaucracy for SMEs, there will be no time windows for applications. SMEs will be able to apply throughout the year. Reimbursements will be made faster, through vouchers, to ensure SMEs have greater flexibility.

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