
2026 Academic year

**CALL FOR BURSARY APPLICATIONS:
LAW STUDENTS INTERESTED IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW**

The South African Institute of Intellectual Property Law (SAIPL) is pleased to announce that **four bursaries** are available for the upcoming academic year.

These bursaries are aimed at **LLB and LLM students with a strong interest in Intellectual Property (IP) Law**, and are awarded as follows:

- **2 x Trade Mark and/or Copyright Law-Related Bursaries**
- **2 x Patent Law-Related Bursaries**

This initiative forms part of SAIPL's commitment to affording previously disadvantaged students the opportunity to enter the field of IP Law, and foster the next generation of legal professionals in the specialised fields of **Trade Mark, Copyright** and **Patent** law.

1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must:

- 1.1. be a citizen of South Africa or a permanent resident of South Africa, and eligible to be admitted as an attorney in South Africa, as defined under Section 24(1)(b) of the Legal Practice Act, No. 28 of 2014;
- 1.2. be between 18 – 30 years of age;
- 1.3. be currently enrolled in a recognised South African university, pursuing an **LLB or LLM degree**;
- 1.4. have completed at least one course offered by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (such as the DL001 free course) and provide proof of completion of the course. See <https://www.wipo.int/en/web/wipo-academy>;
- 1.5. demonstrate a clear and motivated interest in Intellectual Property Law, including but not limited to Trade Marks, Copyright, Designs, Patents, Indigenous Knowledge, Plant Breeders Rights, Geographical Indicators, and Trade Secrets;
- 1.6. exhibit academic potential and **financial need**.

2. BURSARY DETAILS

- 2.1. **Number of Bursaries:** 4 total (2 Trade Marks, 2 Patents)
- 2.2. **Value:** R70,000.00
- 2.3. **Duration:** current academic year.

3. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit:

- 3.1. A **motivation letter** of no more than 500 words indicating:
 - 3.1.1.1. your interest in IP Law;
 - 3.1.1.2. whether you are applying for the **Trade Mark** or **Patent** bursary; and
 - 3.1.1.3. your career aspirations in the IP field.
- 3.2. If intending on applying for the **Patent** bursary, a copy of your relevant qualification that qualifies you to enrol for the examinations prescribed by the Patent Examination Regulations, 2003.
- 3.3. A certified copy of your **South African ID or passport**.
- 3.4. Proof of **residence**.
- 3.5. Supporting documents showing that the Applicant has a **financial need**.
- 3.6. Certified copies of **academic transcripts** for all years of study.
- 3.7. A **curriculum vitae (CV)**.
- 3.8. **Proof of registration** for the current/upcoming academic year.
- 3.9. A letter of recommendation (optional).
- 3.10. Consent to an open and honest interview and publication thereof.

4. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

All applications must be submitted to:

The Executive Officer

South African Institute of Intellectual Property Law (SAIIPL)
Attention of: Ms Michelle Macguire
E-mail: saiipl@saiipl.co.za

Deadline for submissions: 31 March 2026

If you do not hear from us by 31 July 2026, please consider your application unsuccessful.

For more information, please contact us on saiipl@saiipl.co.za / Tel: 0736250468.

We look forward to receiving your application and supporting your future in IP law.



Michelle Macguire
SAIPL Executive Officer