

EUROPEAN PATENT ADMINISTRATION CERTIFICATION (EPAC)

What is EPAC?

EPAC is designed for professionals seeking to validate their patent administration knowledge and skills.

It offers a flexible and modular certification path with four online exams that each earn an official EPO diploma when passed.

Once all four modules have been successfully completed, the candidate is awarded an EPAC certificate.

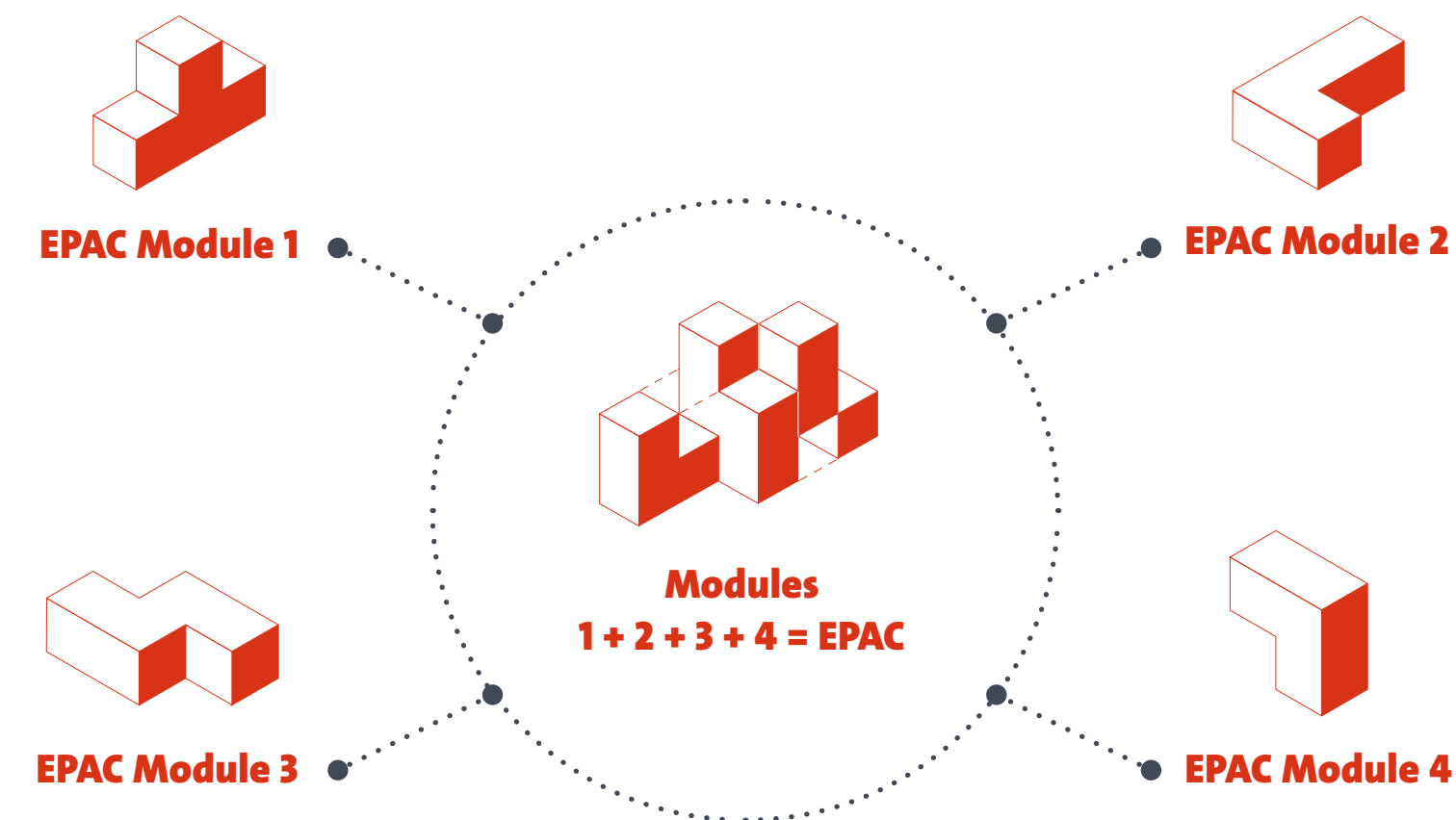
Who is EPAC relevant for?

- Early-career professionals looking to build a foundation in patent administration.
- Experienced patent administrators and paralegals aiming to formalise and expand their expertise.
- Staff in patent offices and intellectual property departments.
- IP specialists and innovation stakeholders in industry, private practice and academia.

There are no restrictions regarding education, residence, or professional experience.

EPAC Modules

- **EPAC Module 1:** Patent law: EPC and PCT
Diploma in patent administration under European and international patent law.
Recommended starting point – foundational module.
- **EPAC Module 2:** EPO procedures in filing, search and examination.
Diploma in patent grant procedure.
- **EPAC Module 3:** EPO procedures post-grant, appeals, validation and UPC.
Diploma in post-grant and UPC procedures.
- **EPAC Module 4:** PCT procedure and entry into national/regional phases.
Diploma in PCT procedure.



Benefits for candidates

- **Official recognition:** The list of successful EPAC candidates is published on the EPO website, certifying the highest standard of professional competency.
- **Career development:** Strengthen your professional profile and support advancement in the IP and innovation field.
- **Flexible and modular certification:** Candidates may sit modules at their own pace online from anywhere and in any order.

Benefits for employers

- **Skilled workforce:** Staff with a proven knowledge of European and international patent administration reflect high standards and enhance trust.
- **Operational efficiency and quality:** Benefit from employees who can manage complex patent-related queries and processes.
- **Talent development:** Attract and retain talent by supporting staff in their professional growth.

Practical information

- Enrolment details and exam dates will be announced on the EPO website in Q1 2026 and enrolment will open in Q2 2026.
- To plan your preparation journey, explore the [European Patent Academy 2026 Training Catalogue](#) and visit the [EPAC resources page](#) for dedicated preparation materials and guidance.
- For more information, visit epo.org/epac or send your query via the [EQC portal](#).