NOVARTIS

Patent Attorney II

Job ID
REQ-10089773
Oct 16, 2026
LOC_US

About the Role

Job responsibilities:

- Provide clear, strategic, and business-focused counsel to Novartis R&D clients on invention protection, portfolio development, publication strategy, and third-party risks.
- Build and manage patent portfolios for Novartis R&D projects by identifying inventions and preparing, prosecuting, maintaining, and defending patent filings across areas such as new molecular entities, processes, manufacturing, platforms, technologies, and clinical developments.
- Render legal opinions on patentability, validity, and freedom to operate, and develop patent strategies that strengthen IP positions, support freedom to operate, and enable effective IP defense.
- Apply deep knowledge of national patent law and practice, including relevant legal developments and patent trends, to shape strategy and advice.
- Understand and apply other forms of exclusivity protection, as appropriate.
- Communicate effectively with colleagues and leaders across the legal, IP, and R&D organizations.
- Build and manage relationships with outside counsel and collaborators, including extensive interaction within a multicultural global patent function.
- Conduct due diligence and provide counsel based on those assessments, including freedom-to-operate, infringement, validity, risk evaluation, and risk mitigation strategies.
- Provide IP support for transactional matters, including M&A, research collaborations, and in-licensing opportunities, with advice on contract drafting and negotiation.

Essential requirements:

- J.D. degree, admission to at least one state bar, and registration to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. AND
- Advanced degree (Ph.D. strongly preferred) in chemistry or a closely related field (e.g., organic chemistry, medicinal chemistry, chemical engineering) and preferably with 1–2 years of exposure to drug discovery and development processes used in pharmaceutical and/or biotechnology companies.
- 7+ years of experience as a qualified patent attorney in a law firm or within the pharmaceutical or biotechnology industry.
- Strong technical expertise in chemistry, preferably including experience with small molecules, synthesis, or pharmaceutical development.
- Expertise in U.S. and PCT patent law, filing processes, and prosecution practice, with a detailed understanding of European patent law and other major global patent systems.
- Strong client-service orientation, with the ability to build and sustain effective partnerships with key stakeholders and project teams.

Desirable requirements:

- Strong analytical, presentation, and communication skills.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively both independently and collaboratively.
- Strong research, critical thinking, and decision-making skills, with close attention to detail and a commitment to

consistently accurate work.
- Excellent organizational and time-management skills, with the flexibility, creativity, and resourcefulness to manage multiple competing priorities successfully.
- Strong interpersonal skills, including partnership building, influence, persuasion, and teamwork.

Benefits & Rewards

The salary for this position is expected to range between $185,500 and $344,500 per year. The final salary offered is determined based on factors like, but not limited to, relevant skills and experience, and upon joining Novartis will be reviewed periodically. Novartis may change the published salary range based on company and market factors. Your compensation will include a performance-based cash incentive and, depending on the level of the role, eligibility to be considered for annual equity awards. US-based eligible employees will receive a comprehensive benefits package that includes health, life and disability benefits, a 401(k) with company contribution and match, and a variety of other benefits. In addition, employees are eligible for a generous time off package including vacation, personal days, holidays and other leaves.

Why Novartis: Helping people with disease and their families takes more than innovative science. It takes a community of smart, passionate people like you. Collaborating, supporting and inspiring each other. Combining to achieve breakthroughs that change patients' lives. Ready to create a brighter future together? https://www.novartis.com/about/strategy/people-and-culture

Join our Novartis Network: Not the right Novartis role for you? Sign up to our talent community to stay connected and learn about suitable career opportunities as soon as they come up: https://talentnetwork.novartis.com/network

Benefits and Rewards: Read our handbook to learn about all the ways we'll help you thrive personally and professionally: https://www.novartis.com/careers/benefits-rewards

Role Requirements

Division
DIV_LE
Business Unit
Legal
Location
LOC_US
Site
LaJolla/SD
Company / Legal Entity
U175 (FCRS = US175) Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Inc.
Alternative Location 1
LOC_US
Functional Area
FCT_LI
Job Type
Full time
Employment Type
Regular
Shift Work
No

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