

Introduction to intellectual property (IP) in government

In today's knowledge-based economy, it's important that organisations can sufficiently protect their best ideas and innovations. Intellectual property (IP) rights, in the shape of patents, copyrights and trademarks, exist for a reason. It can take nothing more than a click of a button to distribute materials that may represent years of research, process development or proprietary thinking. Knowing how best to handle valuable or commercially sensitive IP (whether your own or someone else's) is therefore vitally important across all parts of government.

Description

This course has been designed to help improve your understanding of IP and its related considerations. As well as exploring how to use and handle IP appropriately, it explores how best to protect your own department's IP.

Common themes throughout this course include the importance of respecting other people's IP and exercising all necessary caution when using government or third party IP. You'll also explore the importance of keeping accurate records that demonstrate how and why IP was used and how a lack of discretion can prevent you from protecting innovative IP. You'll also be encouraged to understand your department's particular processes and procedures on subjects such as registering and protecting your own IP.

What does it involve?

Based around a 40 minute online tutorial, this digital course will introduce you to the fundamentals of IP. It explores some of the ways in which you can use and handle IP in the work that you do. You'll also learn about the different types of IP rights that exist and the role that the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) plays in protecting them.

A subsequent reflective activity will encourage you to think about how IP considerations may affect your work and whether you might need to act differently in future. From this, you'll be able to create an action plan for applying what you've learned. In sharing and discussing this with your line manager, you'll then be able to agree whether there are areas of IP you should explore further or may need further support or guidance on.

What's the outcome?

After completing this course, you'll recognise the importance of IP and its impact on your day to day work. Able to articulate the fundamentals of IP for patents, copyright, trademarks and designs, you'll also understand the importance of handling IP correctly and the potential risks of mishandling it. As well being able to describe the role of the IPO, you'll be able to articulate how third party IP should be managed within your daily work.

Learning activities



Online
tutorial




Online
resources



Video

Delivery method:

DGTL 

Estimated learning time:
55 minutes

How to book

learn.civilservice.gov.uk

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