

A CAREER AS A PATENT ATTORNEY

J A ♦ KEMP



"My work as a trainee patent attorney is really varied. I deal with inventions in different areas of technology every day. There are fresh intellectual challenges on every case I handle."

Annie Miles

UCL, BSc in Biochemistry; University of Cambridge, MRes in Medical Science and PhD in Medical Science



What does it offer?

This career path offers variety, reward and intellectual challenge. As a patent attorney you will combine an understanding of science and technology with legal expertise. Everything that you do will be grounded in the business world rather than academia. You will tackle real commercial issues, helping to protect intellectual property (IP) assets and grow businesses.

Throughout your academic career you are likely to have conducted research and experimental work. If you wish to continue in the same vein, a career in academia may be right for you. If, on the other hand, you wish to move into a more commercial environment, becoming a patent attorney may be an attractive option away from the lab bench.

How do I join the profession and what are the career prospects?

There are two ways to become a patent attorney. The first option is to train in a large technology-driven business, progressing to an in-house role in its IP department. The second option is the one that most graduates pursue. You join a firm such as J A Kemp that provides IP services to its clients.

At J A Kemp you will be encouraged to develop expertise in patents and the application of patent law across a range of technologies. You will also gain the client management skills required to address the differing needs of clients large and small. J A Kemp is owned by its partners and you may progress in due course to become a part-owner of the business with a significant say in its future development.

What qualifications do I need?

Your background can be in any field of science or technology. To join J A Kemp you must have an excellent academic record at university and secondary school, and at least a 2.1 honours degree from a leading university. We also welcome applications from candidates who have completed, or are about to complete, a masters degree or PhD.

What else do you look for?

We look for excellent spoken and written English, an enquiring and analytical mind, an eye for detail, high levels of motivation and drive, team player qualities and listening skills. We value leadership, people management skills and an ability to motivate others. We recruit each trainee patent attorney in the hope that they will progress through the firm.

Why choose J A Kemp?

J A Kemp is one of a handful of UK firms with the expertise to handle patent work in all technology areas. The firm acts for clients in all industry sectors and located throughout the world. We are renowned for our first-class training programme based on personal mentoring and a combination of internal and external courses. Our record of first time examination passes is second to none. We offer a sensible work-life balance combined with excellent salary prospects, flexible working and generous benefits. We have a supportive, open and friendly culture, with plenty of social events!

Where do I go from here?

If you would like to be considered for a trainee patent attorney position at J A Kemp in London, Oxford or Cambridge **visit the careers section of our website for instructions on how to apply.** We welcome applications from outstanding candidates at any time of the year.

"The training is practical and hands-on. There is individual mentoring on a daily basis and regular tutorials given by experienced attorneys. The most senior partners take an active interest in our progress."

Richard Morris

University of Oxford, MPhys in Physics and DPhil in Condensed Matter Physics

Johan Hill

University of Warwick, BSc in Biochemistry; University of Oxford, DPhil in Structural Biology

"As a trainee patent attorney I am using my science in a commercial context all the time. In my area of work, the clients range from the newest biotech startups to global pharma companies and world-class universities."

Hiro Shimazaki

University of Oxford, MBioChem in Biochemistry

"Flexible working is a great benefit. I like to get in early and finish early, but that's not true for everyone. Here we can work in a way that suits us."