



## Japan Patent Attorneys Association (JPAA)

The Japan Patent Attorneys Association (JPAA) is an organization established in 1915 under the Patent Attorneys Act. All Japanese patent attorneys must be members of the JPAA, and over 12,000 patent attorneys are registered with the JPAA (as of May 31, 2023).

Japanese patent attorneys are authorized to represent in the filing and prosecution of applications for patents, utility models, designs, and trademarks before the Japan Patent Office (JPO), and also to represent in court proceedings of suits against appeal/trial decisions made by the JPO. They are also allowed to provide professional services in infringement litigation, arbitration proceedings, border control procedures, and drafting of contracts and expert opinions with regard to intellectual property rights including those related to semiconductor circuit layouts, specified unfair competition practices, and copyright works.



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The JPAA has nine regional branches across the country, located in Kanto (Tokyo), Hokkaido (Sapporo), Tohoku (Sendai), Hokuriku (Kanazawa), Tokai (Nagoya), Kansai (Osaka), Chugoku (Hiroshima), Shikoku (Takamatsu) and Kyushu (Fukuoka). These branches provide support and information concerning IP rights not only to the JPAA members but also to persons living in respective areas who have concerns with IP rights.



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# JAPAN PATENT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

## Role of the JPAA

The primary role of the JPAA is to direct and supervise its members to ensure that the professional standards of the patent bar are maintained. To ensure this role, the JPAA provides its members with various types of IP information, educates and trains them, guides them in terms of ethics, and when necessary, disciplines them.

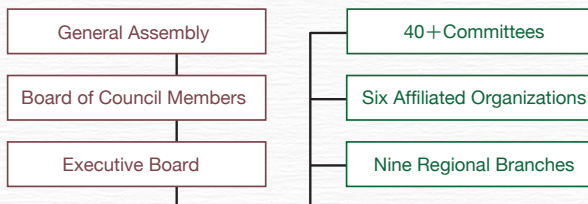


## Organization of the JPAA

The JPAA has an Executive Board consisting of a President, Vice Presidents, and Executive Directors. The Executive Board is the JPAA's decision-making and executive body that sets up its budget, approves its main projects, and implements them with an approval of the General Assembly.

The committees include the Patent Committee, Trademark Committee, Design Committee, Biotechnology and Life Science Committee, Ethics Committee, and Compliance Committee.

### ● Organization Chart



## Activities of the JPAA



### ● Training Institute

The Training Institute mainly provides practical training and continuous education training. The practical training is mandatory training. Those who pass the patent attorney examination must complete the practical training before being registered as patent attorneys. The continuous education training is also mandatory training providing various types of lectures. All the JPAA members are required to select and complete 70 hours of lectures every five years.

### ● Central IP Research Institute (CIPRI)

The Central IP Research Institute (CIPRI) conducts research and study to provide information on various issues related to IP and patent attorneys around the world.



### ● International Activities Center (IAC)

The JPAA has an International Activities Center (IAC) for carrying out international activities. The IAC collects information on foreign countries, such as revisions of IP laws, recent practices, and decisions made by patent offices and courts in foreign countries, and provides such information to the JPAA members.

The IAC regularly holds meetings with patent attorney associations of foreign countries including, but not limited to, the United States, Europe, Korea, and China, to promote mutual understanding of respective IP systems and keep up with recent developments.

The IAC also holds the permanent observer status at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and sends delegates to WIPO sessions to update information on the membered countries and to share opinions and requests from Japan.

### ● Public Relations Center (PRC)

The Public Relations Center (PRC) publishes monthly magazine "Patent" for IP professionals and quarterly newsletter "Patent Attorney" for general readers. Both are published on the website. The PRC frequently holds press conferences, participates in various media events and meetings of other organizations, and gives presentations.

### ● IP Support Center

The IP Support Center provides pro bono services by patent attorneys to promote the public understanding of the IP systems.

These services include: sending JPAA members to schools; providing free consultation services; and providing support and financial assistance in obtaining IP rights.

### ● IP Management Center

The IP Management Center conducts research and study to provide information regarding strategies and IP value assessment for utilizing IP in business activities.

