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Patent Counsel

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3-26-26 JW

This site is for Residents of the United States, Canada & Puerto Rico.
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Job Description

Patent Attorney

Are you interested in the intersection of scientific innovation and property law, especially how to efficiently

About Us

We are one company, but we operate under two different corporate brand names. We are known as Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, New Jersey, USA in the United States, Canada & Puerto Rico. We are known as MSD everywhere else.

Halozyne EX2006
Merck v. Halozyne
IPR2026-00312

capture innovation with intellectual property, incentivize continued R&D and drive access to life-saving medicines for patients? If so, the Patent Counsel role at our Company could be an ideal opportunity for you. We are looking for a highly motivated and skilled individual to join our team in Rahway, New Jersey.

In this role, you will work directly with our internal R&D team to identify inventions, conduct patentability assessments, and draft and prosecute patent applications for novel biological or chemical sciences inventions. The position will support programs in all phases of development, from discovery through development and commercialization, and allows for the support of programs in diverse areas (including different therapeutic areas and modalities). This role also provides exposure to and interaction with major areas of the business including discovery, development, manufacturing and supply, regulatory, business development, commercial groups, and other legal functions.

Responsibilities Include But Are Not Limited To:

- Working independently through product development teams to devise a patenting strategy with the goal of building robust portfolios of intellectual property for cutting-edge biopharmaceutical products;
- Drafting and prosecuting patent applications related to our Company’s products, product candidates and platform technologies on a global basis;
- Working with internal litigation colleagues to support oppositions, or other proceedings related to your supported programs;
- Working with a large team of in-house U.S. and European patent attorneys, paralegals, legal operations and support staff, and local agents;
- Conducting freedom to operate analyses for our Company’s R&D activities; and



Benefits & Well-Being

Discover how we support our employee’s physical, mental, financial and social well-being to help them fulfill their potential



Be Yourself

Our culture values a range of perspectives and encourages everyone to contribute authentically and confidently in their work.



Curious about our hiring process?

- Job Search, Application & Interview Tips
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Applicant Notice
- The Physician Payment Sunshine Act

- Actively supporting various business development activities (e.g., research collaborations and acquisitions) by conducting IP due diligence on assets or technology of interest, counseling the business as to IP expectations, and supporting the drafting and negotiation of related agreements, all while working with a team of scientific, legal and commercial functions.
- Some domestic and international travel may be required.

Position Qualifications:

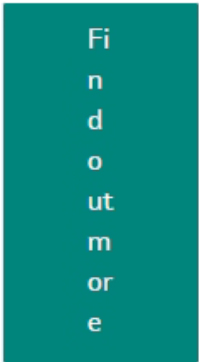
Education Minimum Requirement:

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree in the biological, pharmaceutical or chemical sciences from an accredited institution; and
- Graduate of an accredited US law school.

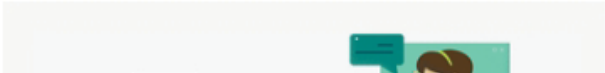
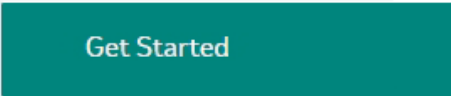
Required Experience And Skills

- Registered to practice before the USPTO;
- Member in good standing of a Bar of at least one state or the District of Columbia;
- Five (5) or more years of experience as an attorney in a law firm or corporate setting, drafting and prosecuting biologic/vaccine and/or pharmaceutical patent applications (Note: time accrued as a practicing patent agent may be considered);
- Strong technical background in the biological sciences; and
- Excellent communication and analytical skills.

(PPSA)



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Preferred Experience and Skills

- Advanced degree in the biological or chemical sciences;
- Experience in counseling clients on intellectual property issues;
- Experience prioritizing work and leveraging resources to manage a significant workload;
- Ability to build partnerships and work in cross-functional teams;
- Ability to communicate competently and confidently with R&D clients, business partners, and senior leaders;
- Ability to exercise judgment to drive decisions on routine and non-routine matters within areas of practice; and
- Ability to be proactive and take initiative.

Required Skills:

Biological Sciences, Biological Sciences, Biopharmaceutical Industry, Biopharmaceuticals, Business, Business Development, Business Development Marketing, Client Counseling, Confidentiality, Cross-Cultural Awareness, Detail-Oriented, Exercises Judgment, Intellectual Property Law, Intellectual Property Management, Intellectual Property Portfolio Management, Legal Research, Legal Strategies, Management Process, Negotiation, Patent Analysis, Patent Applications, Patent Examination, Patent Preparation, Patent Prosecution, Patent Strategy {+ 4 more}

Preferred Skills:

Current Employees apply HERE



Not ready to apply?

Join our Talent Community to stay connected and receive updates on the latest job opportunities.

Join us

Get notified for similar jobs

Sign up to receive job alerts

you@email.com

Activate

US and Puerto Rico Residents Only:

Our company is committed to inclusion, ensuring that candidates can engage in a hiring process that exhibits their true capabilities. Please [click here](#) if you need an accommodation during the application or hiring process.

As an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer, we provide equal opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran status, disability status, or other applicable legally protected characteristics. As a federal contractor, we comply with all affirmative action requirements for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities. For more information about personal rights under the U.S. Equal Opportunity Employment laws, visit:

[EEOC Know Your Rights](#)

[EEOC GINA Supplement](#)

We are proud to be a company that embraces the value of bringing together, talented, and committed people with diverse experiences, perspectives, skills and backgrounds. The fastest way to breakthrough innovation is when people with diverse ideas, broad experiences, backgrounds, and skills come together in an inclusive environment. We encourage our colleagues to respectfully challenge one another's thinking and approach problems collectively.

[Learn more about your rights, including under California, Colorado and other US State Acts](#)

U.S. Hybrid Work Model

Effective September 5, 2023, employees in office-based positions in the U.S. will be working a Hybrid work consisting of three total days on-site per week, Monday - Thursday, although the specific days may vary by site or organization, with Friday designated as a remote-working day, unless business critical tasks require an on-site presence. This Hybrid work model does not apply to, and daily in-person attendance is required for, field-based positions; facility-based, manufacturing-based, or research-based positions where the work to be performed is located at a Company site; positions covered by a collective-bargaining agreement (unless the agreement provides for hybrid work); or any other position for which the Company has determined the job requirements cannot be reasonably met working remotely. Please note, this Hybrid work model guidance also does not apply to roles that have been designated as “remote”.

The salary range for this role is

\$206,200.00 - \$324,600.00

This is the lowest to highest salary we in good faith believe we would pay for this role at the time of this posting. An employee’s position within the salary range will be based on several factors including, but not limited to relevant education, qualifications, certifications, experience, skills, geographic location, government requirements, and business or organizational needs.

The successful candidate will be eligible for annual bonus and long-term incentive, if applicable.

We offer a comprehensive package of benefits. Available benefits include medical, dental, vision healthcare and other insurance benefits (for employee and family), retirement benefits, including 401(k), paid holidays, vacation, and compassionate and sick days. More information about benefits is available at <https://jobs.merck.com/us/en/compensation-and-benefits>.

You can apply for this role through <https://jobs.merck.com/us/en> (or via the Workday Jobs Hub if you are a current employee). The application deadline for this position is stated on this posting.

San Francisco Residents Only: We will consider qualified applicants with arrest and conviction records for employment in compliance with the San Francisco Fair Chance Ordinance

Los Angeles Residents Only: We will consider for employment all qualified applicants, including those with criminal histories, in a manner consistent with the requirements of applicable state and local laws, including the City of Los Angeles' Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring Ordinance

Search Firm Representatives Please Read Carefully

Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA, also known as Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, Rahway, NJ, USA, does not accept unsolicited assistance from search firms for employment opportunities. All CVs / resumes submitted by search firms to any employee at our company without a valid written search agreement in place for this position will be deemed the sole property of our company. No fee will be paid in the event a candidate is hired by our company as a result of an agency referral where no pre-existing agreement is in place. Where agency agreements are in place, introductions are position specific. Please, no phone calls or emails.

Employee Status:

Regular

Relocation:

Domestic

VISA Sponsorship:

No

Travel Requirements:

10%

Flexible Work Arrangements:

Hybrid

Shift:

1st - Day

Valid Driving License:

No

Hazardous Material(s):

N/A

Job Posting End Date:

04/13/2026

***A job posting is effective until 11:59:59PM on the day BEFORE the listed job posting end date. Please ensure you apply to a job posting no later than the day BEFORE the job posting end date.**

Requisition ID:R362296

Connect with us on social



Beware of hiring scams. Review our Applicant Notice.

This careers website is intended for Residents of the United States, Canada & Puerto Rico. Residents in other markets, please visit our MSD Careers page. Information on this site is for the purpose of presenting career opportunities at our organization and give our audience a view of our culture, diversity and growth opportunities. Our Company is an equal opportunity employer, Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran, proudly embracing diversity in all of its manifestations.

Corporate responsibility

[Learn more about ESG with our Company](#)

Reporting on our commitment to society, people and

About Merck

[Merck Animal Health](#)

The global animal health business unit of Merck

Merck for Mothers

An initiative to create a world where no woman has to die
giving life

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