



Message from the Acting Director General

Thank you for considering IP Australia as your next career move. Our purpose is to enable Australians to benefit from great ideas by providing a world leading intellectual property (IP) system. Trade, investment and commercialisation all rely on an innovation ecosystem that is modern, effective and efficient. Our work helps ensure Australia remains resilient and internationally competitive.

Innovation and a strong commitment to customer service excellence underpin everything we do. We harness data and technology, including artificial intelligence, to continually improve the quality, accessibility and impact of our services. We embrace change, seek new ways of working, and remain curious and open to feedback — including through initiatives such as our in house innovation lab, IPA Ventures.

Our people are at the heart of our success. We are a high performing agency that invests in capability building, meaningful career pathways and strong, values driven leadership.

We foster a positive, inclusive culture where everyone feels respected, supported and able to do their best work.

Our People Strategy and Diversity and Inclusion Strategy guide how we work together and set clear expectations for behaviour, leadership and accountability across the organisation.

We also recognise the importance of balancing work with life outside of it. IP Australia offers a genuinely hybrid and flexible workplace, supporting wellbeing while enabling agility, collaboration and high performance.

By protecting ideas and rewarding creativity, our work supports Australia's economic prosperity and encourage innovation that benefits the wider community.

I encourage you to explore the opportunities at IP Australia and consider joining us.

Margaret Tregurtha
Acting Director General
IP Australia





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Text version of the picture on the front page

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Acting Director-General
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Candidate Kit

Position Title:	Product Manager
Classification:	Executive Level 1
Employment status:	Ongoing initially, future roles may be Ongoing or Non-ongoing
Number of vacancies:	One
Employment type:	Full-time
Salary:	\$123,808 – \$139,346 + 15.4% employer super contribution (pro-rated for part-time)
Section:	IPAVentures
Group:	Director General
Location:	Canberra (Ngunnawal Country) or Melbourne (Naarm)
Security Classification:	BASELINE
Contact officers	Josh Maher (week 1 - 25 June – 5 July) (02) 6283 2574 josh.maher@ipaustalia.gov.au
	Brendan Parsons (week 2 - 6 July -12 July) (02) 6210 8417 Brendan.Parsons@ipaustalia.gov.au

Group Responsibilities

IPAVentures is the agency's innovation lab for exploring new breakthrough opportunities for the organisation our customers. The lab complements the agency's other innovation efforts focused on improving and developing our existing activities. Our strategic intent is to design, build and deliver breakthrough innovation which supports IP Australia's vision of creating a world leading IP system and ensuring prosperity for Australians. It focuses on externally on the emerging ecosystem and customer needs, new products, services, or opportunities for the IP system. IPAVentures works with different approaches and ways of working to help identify different possibilities.

Our Opportunity

IPAVentures is one of IP Australia's in-house innovation labs, building products and services that create measurable public value for the IP system. We progress opportunities through discovery, MVP and iterative delivery using a stage-gated venture model.

As a Product Manager, you will play a critical role in delivering new ventures and strategic initiatives at different stages of maturity—from early-stage problem exploration through to product delivery, transition and operationalisation. You will help define customer problems, shape product strategy, test assumptions through experiments, and use evidence and analytics to inform investment decisions.

You will be responsible for maintaining Agile delivery practices, including stand-ups, reviews, retrospectives and backlog refinement, while owning product roadmaps and prioritisation. Working closely with multidisciplinary teams across design, engineering, policy, legal and security, you will ensure solutions are valuable, feasible, viable and aligned to organisational objectives.

We are looking to fill this position on an ongoing basis, in our offices in Canberra (Ngunnawal Country) or Melbourne (Naarm).

Future positions may be offered on an ongoing or non-ongoing basis subject to operational requirements. Where a non-ongoing position is offered, the role will be filled for a specified term of up to 12 months.

At the end of the recruitment process anyone rated suitable in the recruitment process will be placed into a merit pool. This means we won't offer you a role now, but we might if one becomes available later. The merit pool will be valid for 18 months from the date of advertising and we can offer future roles permanently or on a temporary basis.

Job specific capabilities

As a Product Manager in IPA Ventures, your specific duties will include:

- Framing problems and outcomes clearly; defining scope, testable hypotheses and success metrics
- Planning and delivering lean research/experiments to validate desirability, feasibility and viability, documents insights and decisions
- Running agile rituals (stand-ups, planning, reviews, retros) that keep teams focused on outcomes and flow
- Owning the roadmap and keeping it aligned to venture goals
- Managing the Kanban; monitors blockers, aging work and throughput; keeps the board current and up to date
- Writing user stories with crisp acceptance criteria; maintains a transparent backlog prioritised by value/effort/risk
- Working with policy, legal, privacy, security and content/accessibility experts to design-in compliance from the start
- Identifying and engaging with risk and executes mitigation plans; escalates decisively when needed
- Being a conduit between engineering and design; discussing architecture, integration and constraints to inform product builds and trade-off
- Manage vendor relationships, contracts and procurement activities to achieve delivery outcomes and value for money
- Define, monitor and report on Objectives and Key Results (OKRs) to measure progress, inform decision-making and drive outcomes
- Prioritise and manage competing work priorities, exercising sound judgement to balance customer needs, organisational objectives and delivery constraints
- Work independently and proactively, identifying opportunities, managing risks and progressing work with minimal supervision.

Experience that what will help you thrive:

- Demonstrated experience managing digital products end-to-end in a cross-functional team
- Proven ability to run Agile delivery at pace while maintaining quality, accessibility and compliance standards
- Clear communicator who can translate evidence into decisions for executives and non-technical stakeholders
- Experience working in startups, scale-ups, consulting or innovation environments will be highly regarded
- Product Management Qualifications or other relevant qualifications in the Product Management field is highly desirable.

Applicants are encouraged to refer to the attached Capability Framework documentation which outlines agency wide behavioural descriptors for the five core capabilities at this classification.

Capability framework

At IP Australia, we have a [Capability framework](#) that provides a consistent approach to support recruitment, learning and development, performance development, and workforce planning. We have adopted the Integrated Leadership System (ILS) within our framework to align to the wider Australian Public Service (APS).

At the core of the framework is an innovative learning mindset – embracing experimentation, managing risk, and adapting to change and technology. This mindset fosters continuous growth, driven by curiosity, adaptability, openness, and resilience.

It is expected that all IP Australia employees:

- uphold and maintain the APS Values and Code of Conduct
- maintain an understanding of their/worker responsibilities under the *Work Health & Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act) and a commitment to promoting a healthy and safe workplace
- look for appropriate opportunities to do things differently and be willing to embrace innovation and change
- embrace opportunities to interact with transformation – data, digital and artificial intelligence (AI) – and understand your obligations to uphold data integrity and support data governance embrace lifelong learning and knowledge sharing.

If you are applying for a role that has manager responsibilities, you are expected to:

- instil a culture of lifelong learning and knowledge sharing
- lead your team to understand their obligations in dealing with data, digital and AI tools
- anticipate and prepare for impact of innovation and change and align innovation activities to strategic objectives.

There is a summary page for the classification of this vacancy at the end of this candidate kit. The full document is available on our website and helps you understand what is expected for your role. You should also use the capabilities to assist you prepare your application response.

Eligibility requirements for employment at IP Australia

Under section 22(8) of the *Public Service Act 1999*, employees must be Australian citizens to be employed in the Australian Public Service (APS).

All applicants offered employment will be required to successfully undergo a pre-engagement screening check, even if they have a security clearance. The screening check involves reviewing your background & personal circumstances to minimise risks in giving access to IP Australia information/resources. This screening check is conducted in accordance with the Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework requirements.

Some applicants may be able to obtain and maintain a security clearance at a specified clearance level – please check the vacancy information section for security clearance requirements.

The successful applicant must be willing to disclose all relevant and required information.

How to apply

Applications must be submitted through IP Australia's online recruitment system, IP Hire. We do not accept emailed applications. If you have difficulties using IP Hire, please contact the Recruitment team on 02 6283 2567.

When you apply, you will be asked to complete the online application form and include:

- A one-page statement (up to 750 words) explaining why your skills, knowledge, and experience make you the best person for the role. Make sure to include examples of your achievements and structure these using the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result).
- A current CV detailing recent employment history which is relevant to the advertised position.
- The name and contact details of two referees.

Most communication you receive during the recruitment process will be via email, so avoid using a work email if you're going on leave, as we can't change the process if you don't receive emails.

How you will be assessed

IP Australia use competitive merit-based recruitment processes. You might hear recruitment in the APS being talked about as 'merit-based'. This refers to the rules we follow during a recruitment process and means candidates are assessed based on the specific skills and duties of the job, so make sure you focus on these.

In addition to assessing to see if you have the required skills and duties, we also look at how well you can meet the capabilities required for this classification. The capabilities we look for are provided on the last page of this document.

You will be assessed using a range of methods which will likely include reviewing your application and resume, joining us for an interview, and confirming your details with your referee/s. You can request adjustments to assist with one or all of these methods.

There is a helpful document called Cracking the Code which provides information about recruitment processes and how to apply: https://www.apsc.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-12/cracking_the_code.pdf

AI in recruitment at IP Australia

We are embracing the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at IP Australia and exploring the benefits it can offer. Our usage of AI in recruitment processes, and broadly across the agency, will always be ethical, responsible, transparent and explainable.

Our use of AI

Some of the ways we use AI in our recruitment processes include:

- polishing and refining advertising materials
- assisting in the development of assessment activities
- transcribing recorded virtual interviews, where candidates have been informed, to support accurate and consistent preparation of selection reports.

While AI helps us improve efficiency, it's important to know that it will never make decisions about your suitability for a role.

Our recruitment processes comply with the *Privacy Act 1988*, and your personal information will not be entered into AI systems. Panel members also receive training to understand risks such as bias and lack of transparency, and how to use AI responsibly and ethically.

Your use of AI

You're welcome to use AI tools to help refine and polish your written application. However, for later stages of the process, such as interviews or assessment activities, we ask that you complete these on your own. This helps us understand your unique skills and capabilities for the role.

Our recruitment process is designed to give everyone a fair opportunity to demonstrate their strengths. If AI is used in ways that misrepresent your abilities, it could affect the outcome of your application.

Please note – this does not include the use of assistive technologies such as JAWS

Diversity and inclusion

We celebrate and champion diversity to ensure we reflect the community we serve, and pride ourselves on our inclusive culture. We welcome applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people of all genders, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, those who identify as LGBTQA+, mature aged employees and carers.

Reasonable adjustments

We want you to be able to shine in the assessment process so if you require any personalised adjustments to assist you to participate fully in this recruitment process, please indicate this in your application form (or by contacting the Recruitment Team).

A member of either the Recruitment Team or the Selection Panel will contact you to discuss your needs. All reasonable requests for adjustments will be facilitated if possible. Personalised adjustments are also available to employees who commence with IP Australia to assist them to perform the duties of their role to the best of their ability.

Any information provided is private and confidential and will only be used to provide accommodations and will in no way determine the outcome of an application.

RecruitAbility

The [RecruitAbility scheme](#) has been applied to this vacancy. RecruitAbility is a scheme which aims to attract and develop applicants with disability.

Applicants with disability who opt into the scheme; declare they have disability; and meet the minimum inherent requirements of the vacancy will be advanced to a later stage in the selection process. Merit remains the basis for engagement and promotion.



Working at IP Australia

IP Australia is the Australian Government agency responsible for administering Australia's intellectual property (IP) rights system, specifically patents, trademarks, designs, and plant breeder's rights. IP Australia also undertakes programs to educate and promote an awareness of IP, provides IP policy input to Government, develops legislation to support the IP system and contributes to bilateral and multilateral negotiations to improve IP protection internationally.

Australia's IP rights system supports innovation, investment, and international competitiveness. IP investment in Australia is valued at about 40 billion dollars.

We are an Australian Government agency with a passion for bright ideas, offering a great work-life balance, flexible working arrangements and rewarding career paths in the IP industry and/or Australian Public Service.

 <p>Live Work Achieve</p> <p>IP AUSTRALIA - TOGETHER WE CAN.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● FLEXIBILITY Maintain a balanced lifestyle.● PRIDE IN THE WORK WE DO Contribute to high quality outcomes every day.● A SENSE OF BELONGING Enjoy a sense of belonging and purpose, rich with diversity.● PROFESSIONALISM Use your expertise in a rewarding and fulfilling environment.● INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION Work with world leaders in intellectual property.● THE AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC SERVICE Experience all the advantages of the APS, with the size and agility of enterprise.
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Working in the APS

Australian Public Service (APS) [Values](#) guide us through our working lives, setting expectations for shared behaviour that keep our workplace harmonious and productive. The values are also a promise to the people of Australia that we can be trusted to act with integrity, in their service and in accordance with the Public Service [Code of Conduct](#).

You can find out more about the APS's Employee Value Proposition here: [Work with us | APS jobs](#)

IP Australia Capabilities: Executive Level 1

This is an overview of the capability profile for the EL1 classification. You are strongly encouraged to review the full capability profile, available on our [website](#).

Capability group	Innovative Mindset				Integrated Leadership System (ILS)					
Capability name	Commits to Lifelong Learning	Data Literacy	Digital Literacy	AI Literacy	Supports Strategic Direction	Achieves Results	Supports Productive Working Relationships	Displays Personal Drive and Integrity	Communicates with Influence	Manager Specific (if applicable)
Capability descriptor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curiosity and openness. Collaboration, experimentation and creativity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data awareness. Data-informed decision making. Data communication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital navigation, communication and collaboration. Digital protection and safety. Technical proficiency and problem solving. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use AI appropriately and effectively. Make and own informed decisions. Protect information and privacy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspire a sense of purpose. Focus strategically. Harness information and opportunities. Show judgement, intelligence and commonsense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and use resources wisely. Apply and build professional expertise. Respond positively to change. Take responsibility for managing work projects to achieve results. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nurture internal and external relationships. Listen to, understand and recognise the needs of others. Value individual differences and diversity. Share learning and support others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate public service professionalism and probity. Engage with risk and show personal courage. Commit to action. Promote and adopt a positive and balanced approach to work. Demonstrate self-awareness and a commitment to personal development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate clearly. Listen, understand and adapt to audience. Negotiate confidently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead to achieve optimal results in a hybrid and flexible work environment. Make ethical decisions. Anticipate and manage wellbeing and psychosocial risks. Role model cultural capability.
Capabilities in action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuously learn and apply new knowledge. Adapt to change and innovate. Show curiosity and share insights. Experiment with creative approaches. Encourage collaboration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand data sources, quality, and tools. Use data to identify problems and support decision-making. Communicate insights clearly through simple data storytelling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use digital technologies effectively by keeping up with new digital trends. Collaborate respectfully and professionally online. Protect privacy and data, staying alert to cyber threats. Solve problems creatively using digital tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know when and how to use AI appropriately. Critically evaluate AI outputs and check for bias or error. Use AI ethically, protecting data privacy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide context to help your team understand the bigger picture. Make sound, practical decisions under pressure. Keep solutions simple and outcomes focused. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain decisions clearly and align work with shared goals. Anticipate risks and consider long-term impacts. Connect actions to future outcomes. Ensure projects are completed successfully with intended results delivered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build strong connections by understanding others' needs. Embrace diversity and create inclusive environments. Share knowledge, mentor colleagues, and help others succeed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uphold ethical standards with honesty and accountability. Take decisive action while managing risk. Reflect on performance and seek feedback for continuous improvement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate clearly to build mutual understanding. Respect and adapt to different perspectives. Communicate ideas so they are heard and acted upon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead in hybrid and flexible environments. Set clear goals and expectations. Ensure accountability and deliver results. Make transparent, ethical decisions that align with agency values.