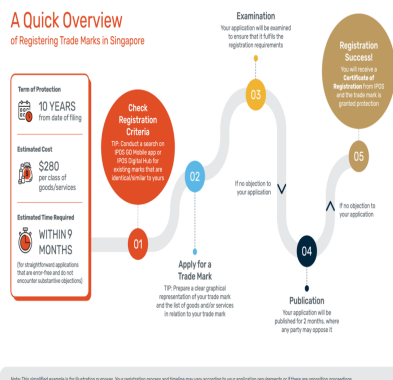




Singapore Trade Mark Registration: Price the Classes Before Filing

Description

A local Form TM4 application costs S\$280 per class when every goods or services description is taken from IPOS's pre-approved Classification Database, or S\$410 per class when it is not. Search earlier marks and define the commercial scope before paying because the class count drives cost. [IPOS trade mark registration guide](#). [IPOS forms and fees](#). [IPOS introduction to trade marks](#).

Choose the branch that matches your case

Situation	Next step
One class using only pre-approved terms	Working filing fee is S\$280
Two classes using only pre-approved terms	Working filing fee is S\$560
One class with a non-pre-approved specification	Working filing fee is S\$410
Mark or scope is legally uncertain	Consider a trade mark professional before filing

Separate the brand asset from company registration

An ACRA business name or SGNIC domain does not equal trade mark protection. The trade mark application concerns a sign that distinguishes specified goods or services. [IPOS trade mark registration guide](#).

List the words, logo elements and commercial uses that matter. Filing a broad story about the company is not the same as defining the protected mark.

Test basic registrability

IPOS says the mark must be graphically representable, distinctive, not wholly descriptive or customary and not identical or confusingly similar to earlier marks. [IPOS forms and fees](#).

A marketing phrase can be attractive yet weak as a trade mark. Identify descriptive elements before spending on design rollout.

Search similar marks before filing

Use the Similar Mark Search on IPOS Digital Hub for identical and similar signs, then compare the goods or services covered. [IPOS introduction to trade marks](#).

A different spelling may still create a conflict. Record the search strings, classes and close results so a professional can review the same evidence if needed.

Choose among 45 Nice classes

Protection is tied to the goods and services listed in the application. Nice Classification contains 45 classes, and one business may need more than one.

Map current and genuinely intended activities. Do not add remote classes merely to sound comprehensive, and do not omit the service that produces the revenue.

Use pre-approved descriptions where accurate

IPOS encourages its Classification Database because approved terms can reduce objections and processing time. A class containing only approved descriptions gets the S\$280 online fee.

Do not force an inaccurate term to save S\$130. A cheaper specification that misses the actual goods or services can undermine the filing.

Price the filing before submission

At current rates, two approved classes cost S\$560 and three cost S\$840. Two non-approved classes cost S\$820. Mixed specifications need case-specific checking in the form.

These figures cover TM4 application fees only. Professional advice, later responses, amendments, oppositions or international protection can add cost.

Prepare the five filing elements

Form TM4 needs the applicant's name and address, a clear graphical representation, the goods or services list, a use or intention-to-use declaration and the fee.

IPOS says an uncomplicated application may take about nine months. Objections, deficiencies or opposition can extend it, so a filing date is not a registration promise.

Build a dated decision record

Write down the exact outcome you need: define the mark and goods or services well enough to price and file the correct classes. Keep the household, company, product, trip or booking facts that produced the result beside it. A result based on different facts is not a precedent, even when the headline issue looks similar.

Record the date and the controlling page you checked. For this decision, the source set is IPOS trade mark registration guide; IPOS forms and fees; IPOS introduction to trade marks. Save the relevant reference number, model, class, property detail, deadline, service route or ticket choice. That makes it possible to reconstruct the decision if a rule, inventory position or personal fact changes.

Use two working aids instead of a single yes-or-no note. First, make a class-count cost calculator. Second, add a pre-filing search and specification worksheet. The first shows how the facts map to the official rule or live service; the second exposes the timing, cost, trade-off or follow-up action that a simple eligibility answer can hide.

Set a stop condition before acting. Pause if you encounter treating an acra name as trade mark protection, searching only exact spelling, choosing a class from a competitor's filing blindly, or if any fact no longer matches the source you checked. Re-run the relevant official tool or contact the competent organisation. The purpose of the record is not paperwork for its own sake. It prevents an old screenshot, rough estimate or remembered rule from becoming an expensive assumption.

Work the example before the real decision

A software company needs one class for its downloadable product and another for a hosted service. If every term is accurately selected from the pre-approved database, the working TM4 fee is 2 x S\$280, or S\$560. It still searches similar marks in both classes before filing.

Reader checklist

1. Define the exact mark
2. Search identical and similar marks
3. Map revenue activities to Nice classes
4. Use accurate pre-approved terms where possible
5. Calculate the class fee
6. Prepare Form TM4 elements
7. Save the filing receipt

Mistakes to avoid

- Treating an ACRA name as trade mark protection
- Searching only exact spelling
- Choosing a class from a competitor's filing blindly
- Using inaccurate terms to save money
- Expecting registration immediately

Related next reads

After define the mark and goods or services well enough to price and file the correct classes, [check ACRA annual-return deadlines](#). You can also [audit payroll records](#).

Questions readers ask

How many trade mark classes are there?

IPOS states that the Nice Classification has 45 classes.

What is the lower online TM4 fee?

S\$280 per class using only pre-approved descriptions.

How long can a straightforward filing take?

IPOS says about nine months if there is no deficiency, objection or opposition.

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