

IC No.	Item	Estimated annual responses (a)	Filing fee (\$) (b)	Total non-hour cost burden (c) = (a) × (b)
9	Petitions to Waive 37 CFR 1.32(b)(4) and Grant Power of Attorney by Fewer than All the Applicants.	10	400.00	4,000.00
Total	20	8,000.00

Postage Costs

Although the USPTO prefers that the items in this collection be submitted electronically, responses may be submitted by mail through the United States Postal Service (USPS). The

USPTO estimates that 2% of the 501,305 items will be submitted in the mail and that all 600 of the customer number upload spreadsheets will be submitted by mail. The existing first-class postage costs are \$0.49 per submission. In

addition, the customer number uploaded spreadsheets are submitted to the USPTO by mail, with a postage rate of \$1.73 per submission.

There is a total of \$5,950.74 in postage costs associated with this collection.

Item	Responses	Postage cost	Total postage costs
Non-electronic Responses	10,026	0.49	4,912.74
Customer Number Upload Spreadsheets	600	1.73	1,038.00
Totals	10,626	5,950.74

Therefore, the USPTO estimates that the total annual (non-hour) cost burden for this collection, in the forms of filing fees (\$8,000) and postage costs (\$5,950.74), is \$13,950.74 per year.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection. They also will become a matter of public record.

Comments are required on:

(a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and costs) of the proposed collection of information;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, e.g., the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Marcie Lovett,

Records and Information Governance Division Director, OCTO, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2017-22618 Filed 10-17-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; "Patent Examiner Employment Application"

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

Title: Patent Examiner Employment Application.

OMB Control Number: 0651-0042.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular.

Number of Respondents: 10,660 responses per year.

Average Hours per Response: The USPTO estimates that the response time for the employment application will take the public approximately 30 minutes (0.50 hours) to complete. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, create the document, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.

Burden Hours: 5,330 hours.

Cost Burden: \$0.00. There are no filing fees or start-up, maintenance, record keeping, or postage costs associated with this information collection.

Needs and Uses: The use of automated application submissions provides a user-friendly electronic

candidate inventory that allows management to review potential applications in real time. An applicant seeking a patent examiner position supplies information to the USPTO that assists Human Resource Specialists and hiring managers and demonstrates whether or not the applicant possess the basic qualifications for the position for which they are applying.

Affected Public: Individuals.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondents: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Nicholas A. Fraser, email: Nicholas_A._Fraser@omb.eop.gov.

Once submitted, the request will be publicly available in electronic format through reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Further information can be obtained by:

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651-00## copy request" in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before November 17, 2017 to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, via email to Nicholas_A._Fraser@omb.eop.gov, or by fax to 202-395-

5167, marked to the attention of Nicholas A. Fraser.

Marcie Lovett,

Records Management Division Director, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Admission To Practice and Roster of Registered Patent Attorneys and Agents Admitted To Practice Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites comments on a proposed information collection proposed extension of an existing information collection.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before December 18, 2017.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include “0651-0012 comment” in the subject line of the message.
- *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- *Mail:* Marcie Lovett, Records and Information Governance Division Director, Office of the Chief Technology Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Dahlia George, Office of Enrollment and Discipline, United States Patent and Trademark

Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-4097; or by email to Dahlia.George@uspto.gov with “0651-0012 comment” in the subject line. Additional information about this collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under “Information Collection Review.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2)(D), which permits the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to establish regulations governing the recognition and conduct of agents, attorneys or other persons representing applicants or other parties before the USPTO. This statute also permits the USPTO to require information from applicants that shows that they are of good moral character and reputation and have the necessary qualifications to assist applicants with the patent process and to represent them before the USPTO.

The USPTO administers the statute through 37 CFR 1.21, 10.14 and 11.5 through 11.12. These rules address the requirements to apply for the examination for registration and to demonstrate eligibility to be a registered attorney or agent before the USPTO, including the fee requirements. The Office of Enrollment and Discipline (OED) collects information to determine the qualifications of individuals entitled to represent applicants before the USPTO in the preparation and prosecution of applications for a patent. The OED also collects information to administer and maintain the roster of attorneys and agents registered to practice before the USPTO. Information concerning registered attorneys and agents is published by the OED in a public roster that can be accessed through the USPTO Web site. The information in this collection is used by the USPTO to review applications for the examination for registration and to determine whether an applicant may be added to, or an existing practitioner may

remain on, the Register of Patent Attorneys and Agents.

II. Method of Collection

Individuals desiring to participate in the Register of Patent Attorneys may submit material in electronic form or by mail following guidance provided by the Office of Enrollment and Discipline.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0012.

IC Instruments and Forms: PTO-158, PTO-158A, PTO-158T, PTO-107A, PTO-107R, PTO-107S, PTO-275, PTO-1209, PTO-2126, PTO-2149 and PTO-2150.

Type of Review: Extension of a Previously Existing Information Collection.

Affected Public: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 18,458. Estimates for numbers of annual responses are based on the previously received number of responses and the anticipated participation trends over the next three years.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that it takes the public approximately 1 minute (0.01 hours) to 40 hours to complete this information, depending upon the application (see Table 1 below). This includes the time to gather the necessary information, prepare the forms, and submit the items to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 18,559.39 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent (Hourly) Cost Burden: \$8,090,661.34. The USPTO expects that attorneys will complete the items in this collection. The professional hourly rate for attorneys is \$438. The rate is established by estimates in the 2017 Report for the Economic Survey of the American Intellectual Property Law Association. Using this hourly rate, the USPTO estimates that the total respondent cost burden for this collection is \$8,090,661.34 per year.

TABLE 1—RESPONDENT COSTS

IC No.	Item	Hours	Responses (yr)	Burden (hrs/yr)	Rate (\$/hr)	Estimated respondent cost
	(a)	(b)	(c) = (a) × (b)	(d)	(e) = (c) × (d)	
1	Application for Registration to Practice Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (includes both the computerized exam and the USPTO-administered exam) Form PTO-158.	0.50	2,611	1,305.50	\$438	\$571,809.00