

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO-P-2018-0066]

Extension of the Cancer Immunotherapy Pilot Program

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On June 29, 2016, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) implemented the Cancer Immunotherapy Pilot Program, which permits patent applications pertaining to cancer immunotherapy to be advanced out of turn for examination and reviewed earlier (accorded special status). To date, over 300 petitions requesting participation in the pilot program have been filed, and over 100 patents have been granted under the pilot program. In view of the continued interest in the pilot program, the USPTO has extended the pilot program until June 30, 2020. All pilot parameters remain the same as the original pilot.

DATES: *Duration:* The Cancer Immunotherapy Pilot Program will continue to run until June 30, 2020. Therefore, petitions to make special under the Cancer Immunotherapy Pilot Program must be filed on or before June 30, 2020. In addition, any petition to make special under the Cancer Immunotherapy Pilot Program filed between December 31, 2018, and the publication date of this notice will be considered timely. The USPTO may further extend the pilot program (with or without modifications) or terminate it depending on feedback received, continued interest and the effectiveness of the pilot program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pinchus M. Laufer, Patent Attorney (telephone (571) 272-7726; electronic mail at pinchus.laufer@uspto.gov) or

Susy Tsang-Foster, Senior Legal Advisor (telephone (571) 272-7711; electronic mail at susy.tsang-foster@uspto.gov), of the Office of Patent Legal Administration, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy.

For questions relating to a specific petition, please contact Gary B. Nickol, Supervisory Patent Examiner (telephone (571) 272-0835; electronic mail at gary.nickol@uspto.gov) or Brandon J. Fetterolf, Supervisory Patent Examiner (telephone (571) 272-2919; electronic mail at brandon.fetterolf@uspto.gov), of Technology Center 1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USPTO published a notice for the implementation of the Cancer Immunotherapy Pilot Program on June 29, 2016. See *Cancer Immunotherapy Pilot Program*, 81 FR 42328 (June 29, 2016), 1428 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 253 (July 26, 2016) (Cancer Immunotherapy Notice). The pilot program was designed to support the global fight against cancer. The Cancer Immunotherapy Notice indicated that an applicant may have an application advanced out of turn (accorded special status) for examination without meeting all of the current requirements of the accelerated examination program set forth in item VIII of MPEP section 708.02(a), if the application contained at least one claim to a method of treating cancer using immunotherapy and met other requirements specified in the Cancer Immunotherapy Notice.

The Cancer Immunotherapy Notice established that the pilot program would run for twelve months from June 29, 2016. The USPTO extended the pilot program to December 31, 2018, through a notice published in the **Federal Register**. See *Extension of the Cancer Immunotherapy Pilot Program*, 82 FR 28645 (June 23, 2017), 1440 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 256 (July 25, 2017). In view of the continued interest in the pilot program, the USPTO has extended the pilot program through June 30, 2020. The extension also will allow the USPTO to continue its evaluation of the pilot program. The requirements of the pilot program have not been modified.

Various stakeholders from around the world have filed petitions to participate in the pilot program—they are independent inventors, universities, research institutions, hospitals, medical centers, government agencies, and large

and small companies. To date, over 300 petitions requesting participation in the pilot program have been filed, and over 100 patents have been granted under the pilot program. The USPTO may again extend the pilot program (with or without modifications) depending on the feedback from the participants, continued interest, and the effectiveness of the pilot program.

Dated: January 18, 2019.

Andrei Iancu,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2019-00202 Filed 1-25-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO-P-2018-0070]

Expiration of the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) implemented a pilot program (Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program) in which an applicant, under certain conditions, can request a 12-month time period to pay the search fee, the examination fee, any excess claim fees, and the surcharge (for the late submission of the search fee and the examination fee) in a nonprovisional application. Based on the limited number of grantable requests and the administrative burden on the USPTO in processing improper requests, the USPTO decided not to extend the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program beyond January 2, 2019.

DATES: The USPTO decided not to extend the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program beyond January 2, 2019. Therefore, any certification and request to participate in the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program must have been filed on or before January 2, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eugenia A. Jones, Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy, by telephone at (571) 272-7727, or Erin M. Harriman,

Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy, by telephone at (571) 272-7747.

Inquiries regarding this notice may also be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration, by telephone at (571) 272-7701, or by electronic mail at PatentPractice@uspto.gov. Alternatively, mail may be addressed to: Mail Stop Comments—Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, marked to the attention of Eugenia A. Jones.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 8, 2010, after considering written comments from the public, the USPTO changed the missing parts examination procedures in certain nonprovisional applications by implementing a pilot program (*i.e.*, Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program). See *Pilot Program for Extended Time Period To Reply to a Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application*, 75 FR 76401 (Dec. 8, 2010), 1362 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 44 (Jan. 4, 2011). The USPTO has extended the pilot program through notices published in the **Federal Register**. On September 6, 2016, the USPTO sought public comment on whether the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program offers sufficient benefits to the patent community for it to be made permanent or whether the USPTO should permit the pilot program to expire. See *Request for Comments on the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program*, 81 FR 61195 (Sept. 6, 2016), 1430 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 269 (Sept. 27, 2016). The USPTO received only two comments. The two comments are available via the USPTO's internet website at <https://www.uspto.gov/patent/laws-and-regulations/comments-public/comments-extended-missing-parts-pilot-program>. On January 10, 2018, the USPTO extended the pilot program until January 2, 2019, and indicated that it intended to make a decision before January 2, 2019, on whether the program should be made permanent or permitted to expire. See *Extension of Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program*, 83 FR 1243 (Jan. 10, 2018), 1447 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 47 (Feb. 6, 2018).

Since the inception of the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program, the USPTO has received fewer than 200 grantable requests per year. In addition, the number of grantable requests has decreased over the past year. In view of the low usage of the pilot program, the limited number of written comments received from the public in response to

the 2016 request for comments, and the administrative burden on the USPTO in processing improper requests, the USPTO decided to permit the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program to expire on January 2, 2019.

Any certification and request must have been filed on or before January 2, 2019, in order to participate in the Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program. The USPTO will review any certification and request filed on or before January 2, 2019, for compliance with the requirements of the program. Any certification and request filed after January 2, 2019, will not be granted.

Dated: January 18, 2019.

Andrei Iancu,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2019-00201 Filed 1-25-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for Selection as a Performance Partnership Pilot; Performance Partnership Pilots for Disconnected Youth

AGENCY: Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Education (ED or Department) is issuing a notice inviting applications for selection of up to 10 performance partnership pilots for fiscal year (FY) 2018 and up to 10 performance partnership pilots for FY 2019 under the Performance Partnership Pilots for Disconnected Youth authority.

DATES:

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: March 14, 2019.

Note: Submission of a notice of intent to apply is optional.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 29, 2019.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 27, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Braden Goetz, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 11141, Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245-7405. Email: DisconnectedYouth@ed.gov. Or Corinne Sauri, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 11-134, Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245-6412.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Braden Goetz, U.S. Department of

Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 11141, PCP, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245-7405. Email: DisconnectedYouth@ed.gov. Or Corinne Sauri, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 11-134, Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245-6412.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Full Text of Announcement

I. Pilot Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: Performance Partnership Pilots for Disconnected Youth (P3) was first authorized by Congress in FY 2014 by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (2014 Act), and the authority has been included by Congress in appropriations acts each year since FY 2014. The P3 authority enables pilot sites to blend FY 2018 and FY 2019 Federal funds and obtain waivers of program requirements, including statutory, regulatory, and administrative requirements that are barriers to achieving improved outcomes for youth-serving programs included in the authority. Under P3, pilots can test innovative, outcome-focused strategies to achieve significant improvements in educational, employment, and other key outcomes for disconnected youth using the flexibility provided by P3.

Background: P3 aligns with the Administration's priorities of relieving burden, breaking down "silos," increasing flexibility, and providing State, local, and Tribal governments greater freedom to innovate. P3 gives ED; the Departments of Labor (DOL), Health and Human Services (HHS), Housing and Urban Development (HUD),¹ and Justice (DOJ);² the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS); and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) (collectively, the Agencies) authority, provided certain conditions and requirements are met, to waive Federal statutory and regulatory requirements that inhibit effective service delivery for disconnected youth. The authority also advances the

¹ HUD was first authorized to enter into performance agreements with respect to Homeless Assistance Grants by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016.

² DOJ's Office of Justice Programs was first authorized to enter into performance agreements by the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015.