

way in which the collection, use, and processing of personal and personally sensitive data affects structural inequities. The final Listening session will focus on solutions to the gaps and problems identified in the first two sessions, and will be held on December 16, 2021.

NTIA intends to publish a Notice and Request for Comments in the **Federal Register** that will be informed by the input received during the Listening Sessions. Members of the public unable to participate in the Listening Sessions are encouraged to respond to the forthcoming Request for Comments.

Time and Date: NTIA will convene three virtual Listening Sessions on December 14, 15, and 16, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time. The exact time of the meeting is subject to change. Please refer to NTIA's website, <https://www.ntia.gov>, for the most current information.

Place: The meeting will be held virtually, with online slide share and dial-in information to be posted at <https://www.ntia.gov>. Please refer to NTIA's website, <https://www.ntia.gov>, for the most current information.

Other Information: The meeting is open to the public and the press on a first-come, first-served basis. The virtual meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring accommodations such as real-time captioning, sign language interpretation or other ancillary aids should notify Travis Hall at (202) 482-3522 or thall@ntia.gov at least seven (7) business days prior to the meeting. Access details for the meeting are subject to change. Please refer to NTIA's website, <https://www.ntia.gov>, for the most current information.

Dated: November 23, 2021.

Kathy D. Smith,

Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

[FR Doc. 2021-25999 Filed 11-29-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-60-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Patents for Humanity Program

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites comments on the extension and revision of an existing information collection: 0651-0066 (Patents for Humanity Program). The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the information collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this information collection must be received on or before January 31, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by any of the following methods. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

- **Email:** InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651-0066 comment" in the subject line of the message.
- **Federal Rulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- **Mail:** Kimberly Hardy, Office of the Chief Administrative 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 Ms. Soma Saha, Patent Attorney, Office of Policy and International Affairs, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-9300; or by email to patentsforhumanity@uspto.gov with "0651-0066 comment" in the subject line. Additional information about this information collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under "Information Collection Review."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Since 2012, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has conducted the Patents for Humanity Program, an annual award program to incentivize the distribution of patented technologies or products for the purpose of addressing humanitarian needs. The program is open to any patent owners or patent licensees, including inventors who have not assigned their ownership rights to others, assignees, and exclusive or non-exclusive licensees. USPTO collects information from applicants that describe what actions they have taken with their patented technology to address the welfare of impoverished

populations, or how they furthered research by others on technologies for humanitarian purposes. There are numerous categories of awards including: Medicine, Nutrition, Sanitation, Household Energy, and Living Standards. Sometimes the program includes additional categories specific for that year, for example COVID-19.

This information collection covers two application forms for the Patents for Humanity Program. The first application covers the humanitarian uses of technologies or products, and the second application covers humanitarian research. In both, applicants are required to describe how their technology or product satisfies the program criteria to address humanitarian issues. Additionally, applicants must provide non-public contact information in order for USPTO to notify them about their award status. Applicants may optionally provide contact information for the public to reach them with any inquiries. Applications must be submitted via email and will be posted on USPTO's website. Qualified judges from outside USPTO will review and score the applications. USPTO will then forward the top-scoring applications to reviewers from participating Federal agencies to recommend award recipients.

Winners are invited to participate in an awards ceremony at USPTO. Those applications that are chosen for an award will receive a certificate redeemable to accelerate select matters before USPTO. The certificates can be redeemed to accelerate one of the following matters: An *ex parte* reexamination proceeding, including one appeal to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) from that proceeding; a patent application, including one appeal to the PTAB from that application; or an appeal to the PTAB of a claim twice rejected in a patent application or reissue application or finally rejected in an *ex parte* reexamination, without accelerating the underlying matter which generated the appeal. This information collection also covers the information gathered in petitions to extend an acceleration certificate redemption beyond 12 months. Finally, winners are now able to transfer their certificates to third parties, including by sale, due to the January 2021 passage of the Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act.

II. Method of Collection

Electronically through the <http://www.uspto.gov/patentsforhumanity> website.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0651-0066.
Form Numbers:

- PTO/PFH/001 (Patents for Humanity Competition: Humanitarian Use Application)
- PTO/PFH/002 (Patents for Humanity Competition: Research Use Application)
- PTO/SB/431 (Patents for Humanity Competition: Petition to Extend Redemption)

Type of Review: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Affected Public: Private sector; individuals or households; state, local, and tribal governments, and Federal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 115 respondents per year.

Estimated Number of Responses: 115 responses per year.

Estimated Time per Response: USPTO estimates that it will take the public

approximately 30 minutes to 4 hours to complete the items associated with this program. These estimated times include gathering the necessary information, preparing the application and any supplemental materials, and submitting the completed documents to USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 428 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent (Hourly) Cost Burden: \$124,976.

TABLE 1—BURDEN HOUR/BURDEN COST TO RESPONDENTS

Item No.	Item	Estimated annual respondents	Responses per respondent	Estimated annual responses	Estimated time for response (hours)	Estimated burden (hour/year)	Rate ¹ (\$/hour)	Estimated annual respondent cost burden
		(a)	(b)	(a) × (b) = (c)	(d)	(c) × (d) = (e)	(f)	(e) × (f) = (g)
1	Humanitarian Program Application (Humanitarian Use) (PTO/PFH/001) (Private Sector Respondents).	50	1	50	4	200	\$292	\$58,400
1	Humanitarian Program Application (Humanitarian Use) (PTO/PFH/001) (Individuals or Households Respondents).	20	1	20	4	80	292	23,360
1	Humanitarian Program Application (Humanitarian Use) (PTO/PFH/001) (State, Local, and Tribal Governments Respondents).	10	1	10	4	40	292	11,680
1	Humanitarian Program Application (Humanitarian Use) (PTO/PFH/001) (Federal Government Respondents).	5	1	5	4	20	292	5,840
2	Humanitarian Program Application (Humanitarian Research) (PTO/PFH/002) (Private Sector Respondents).	5	1	5	4	20	292	5,840
2	Humanitarian Program Application (Humanitarian Research) (PTO/PFH/002) (Individuals or Households Respondents).	5	1	5	4	20	292	5,840
2	Humanitarian Program Application (Humanitarian Research) (PTO/PFH/002) (State, Local, and Tribal Governments Respondents).	5	1	5	4	20	292	5,840
2	Humanitarian Program Application (Humanitarian Research) (PTO/PFH/002) (Federal Government Respondents).	5	1	5	4	20	292	5,840
3	Petition to Extend the Redemption Period of the Humanitarian Awards Certificate (PTO/SB/431) (Private Sector Respondents).	2	1	2	1	2	292	584
3	Petition to Extend the Redemption Period of the Humanitarian Awards Certificate (PTO/SB/431) (Individuals or Households Respondents).	2	1	2	1	2	292	584
3	Petition to Extend the Redemption Period of the Humanitarian Awards Certificate (PTO/SB/431) (State, Local, and Tribal Governments Respondents).	1	1	1	1	1	292	292
3	Petition to Extend the Redemption Period of the Humanitarian Awards Certificate (PTO/SB/431) (Federal Government Respondents).	1	1	1	1	1	292	292
4	Transfer of Awards Certificate (Private Sector Respondents).	2	1	2	* 0.5	1	292	292

TABLE 1—BURDEN HOUR/BURDEN COST TO RESPONDENTS—Continued

Item No.	Item	Estimated annual respondents (a)	Responses per respondent (b)	Estimated annual responses (a) × (b) = (c)	Estimated time for response (hours) (d)	Estimated burden (hour/year) (c) × (d) = (e)	Rate ¹ (\$/hour) (f)	Estimated annual respondent cost burden (e) × (f) = (g)
4	Transfer of Awards Certificate (Individuals or Households Respondents).	2	1	2	* 0.5	1	292	292
	Total	115	115	428	124,976

¹ The USPTO uses the combined rates for intellectual property attorneys and paralegals which is \$292. 2021 (Report of the Economic Survey, published by the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA); <https://www.aipla.org/detail/news/2021/09/22/the-2021-report-of-the-economic-survey-is-here>, pg. F-27. The USPTO uses the average billing rate for intellectual property attorneys in private firms which is \$435 per hour. 2020 Utilization and Compensation Survey by the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA); <https://nala.org/paralegal-info/>, pg 10. The USPTO uses the average billing rate per hour which is \$149.)

* 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent (Non-hourly) Cost Burden: \$0. There are no capital startup costs, filing fees, recordkeeping costs, maintenance costs, or postage costs associated with this information collection.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Request for Comments

The USPTO is soliciting public comments to:

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

(b) Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

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

(d) Minimize the burden of the collection on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

All comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. USPTO will include or summarize each comment in the request to OMB to approve this information collection. Before including an address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information (PII) in a comment, be aware that the entire comment—including PII—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask in your comment to withhold PII from public view, USPTO

cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

Kimberly Hardy,

Information Collections Officer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2021-25995 Filed 11-29-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: National Mail Voter Registration Form

AGENCY: U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the EAC announces an information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. The EAC intends to submit this proposed information collection (National Mail Voter Registration Form) to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget for approval. Section 9(a) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 ("NVRA") and Section 802 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 ("HAVA") requires the responsible agency to maintain a national mail voter registration form for U.S. citizens that want to register to vote, to update registration information due to a change of name, make a change of address or to register with a political party by returning the form to their state election office.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on December 31, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed information collection should be submitted electronically via <https://www.regulations.gov> (docket ID: EAC-2021-0003) or by email at research@eac.gov.

[eac.gov](mailto:research@eac.gov). Written comments on the proposed information collection can also be sent to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 633 3rd Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20001, Attn: NVRA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Nichelle Williams at 301-563-3919, or email research@eac.gov; U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 633 3rd Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments: Public comments are invited 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 of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Obtaining a Copy of the National Mail Voter Registration Form: To obtain a free copy of the registration form: (1) Download a copy at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form>; or (2) write to the EAC (including your address and phone number) at U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 633 3rd Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20001, Attn: National Mail Voter Registration Form.

Title and OMB Number: National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) Regulations for Voter Registration Application; OMB Number 3265-0015.

Needs and Uses

Persons wishing to register to vote may use the National Mail Voter Registration form ("Federal form" or "form") to apply for voter registration. After completing the form, an applicant