

Attestation Form is for the use of a State or local government AG or IG to attest on behalf of a State or local government department or agency Person or Certified Person. The AG or IG Systems Safeguards Attestation Form requires the State or local government AG or IG to attest that a Person seeking certification or a Certified Person seeking renewal of certification has information security systems, facilities and procedures in place to protect the security of the Limited Access DMF, as required under section 1110.102(a)(2) of the final rule. The AG or IG Systems Safeguards Attestation Form collects information based on an assessment by the State or local government AG or IG conducted within three years prior to the date of the Person or Certified Person's submission of a completed certification statement under section 1110.101(a) of the final rule. This collection includes specific requirements of the final rule, which the State or local government AG or IG must certify are satisfied, and the provision of specific information by the State or local government AG or IG, such as the date of the assessment.

Affected Public: Accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies and State or local government Auditors General or Inspectors General attesting that a Person seeking certification or a Certified Person seeking renewal of certification under the final rule for the "Certification Program for Access to the Death Master File" has information security systems, facilities and procedures in place to protect the security of the Limited Access DMF, as required by the final rule.

Frequency: Every three (3) years.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Section 203 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, Public Law 113-67.

This information collection request may be viewed at [reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering either the title of

the collection or the OMB control number 0692-0016.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2024-01689 Filed 1-26-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-04-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; Patent Processing

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: 0651-0031 (Patent Processing). The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of this information collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this information collection must be received on or before March 29, 2024.

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:** InformationCollections@uspto.gov. Include "0651-0031 comment" in the subject line of the message.

- **Federal Rulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>.

- **Mail:** Justin Isaac, Information Collection Officer, 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 Raul Tamayo, Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-7728; or by email to raul.tamayo@uspto.gov with "0651-0031 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

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is required by 35 U.S.C. 131 to examine an application for patent and, when appropriate, issue a patent. The USPTO is also required to publish patent applications, with certain exceptions, promptly after the expiration of a period of eighteen months from the earliest filing date for which a benefit is sought under title 35, United States Code ("eighteen-month publication"). Certain situations may arise which require that additional information be supplied in order for the USPTO to further process the patent or application. The USPTO administers the statutes through various sections of the rules of practice in 37 CFR part 1.

During the processing of an application for a patent, the applicant or the applicant's representative may be required to submit additional information to the USPTO concerning the examination of a specific application. The specific information required to be submitted includes: requests for extension of time, abandonment of applications and the revival of abandoned applications, disclaimers, appeals, petitions, expedited examination of design applications, requests for continued examinations, requests to inspect, copy, access patent applications, and transmittal forms.

The information in this collection is used by the USPTO to continue the processing of the patent or application to ensure that applicants are complying with the patent regulations and to aid in the prosecution of the application. This also includes situations that require additional information in order for the USPTO to further process the patent or application.

II. Method of Collection

The items in this information collection can be submitted through the USPTO patent electronic filing system (Patent Center), the USPTO's online filing and viewing system for patent applications and related documents. The USPTO also will accept submissions by mail, hand delivery, and facsimile.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0651-0031.

Forms: (AIA—America Invents Act; SB—Specimen Book; PTOL = Patent and Trademark Office Legal)

- PTO/AIA/22 (Petition for Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a))
 - PTO/AIA/24 (Express Abandonment under 37 CFR 1.138)
 - PTO/AIA/24B (Petition for Express Abandonment to Obtain a Refund)
 - PTO/AIA/33 (Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review)
 - PTO/AIA/40 (Request for Correction in a Patent Application Relating to Inventorship or an Inventor Name, or Order of Names, Other than in a Reissue Application (37 CFR 1.48))
 - PTO/AIA/41 (Request to Correct or Update the Name of the Applicant Under 37 CFR 1.45(c)(1), or Change the Applicant Under 37 CFR 1.46(c)(2))
 - PTO/AIA/67 (Power to Inspect/Copy—For Applications Filed On or After September 16, 2012)
 - PTO/AIA/96 (Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(c))
 - PTO/SB/08a (Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant)
 - PTO/SB/08b (Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant)
 - PTO/SB/17i (Processing Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) Transmittal)
 - PTO/SB/21 (Transmittal Form)
 - PTO/SB/22 (Petition for Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a))
 - PTO/SB/24 (Express Abandonment under 37 CFR 1.138)
 - PTO/SB/24B (Petition for Express Abandonment to Obtain a Refund)
 - PTO/SB/25 (Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Provisional Double Patenting Rejection Over a Pending “Reference” Application)
 - PTO/SB/26 (Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Double Patenting Rejection over a “Prior” Patent)
 - PTO/SB/27 (Request for Expedited Examination of a Design Application (37 CFR 1.155))
 - PTO/SB/30 (Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal)
 - PTO/SB/33 (Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review)
 - PTO/SB/35 (Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i))
 - PTO/SB/36 (Rescission of Previous Nonpublication Request (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(ii) and, if applicable, Notice of Foreign Filing (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii))
 - PTO/SB/37 (Request Deferral of Examination 37 CFR 1.103(d))
 - PTO/SB/38 (Request to Retrieve Electronic Priority Applications(s) Filed with Nonparticipating Office(s) That is Available in a Participating Office (37 CFR 1.55(i)(4)))
 - PTO/SB/39 (Authorization or Rescission of Authorization to Permit Access to Application-as-filed by Participating Offices)
 - PTO/SB/43 (Disclaimer in a Patent under 37 CFR 1.321(a))
 - PTO/SB/63 (Terminal Disclaimer to Accompany Petition)
 - PTO/SB/64 (Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR 1.137(a))
 - PTO/SB/64a (Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned for Failure to Notify the Office of a Foreign or International Filing (37 CFR 1.137(f))
 - PTO/SB/67 (Power to Inspect/Copy—For Applications Filed Before September 16, 2012)
 - PTO/SB/68 (Request for Access to an Abandoned Application under 37 CFR 1.14)
 - PTO/SB/91 (Deposit Account Order Form)
 - PTO/SB/92 (Certificate of Mailing or Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8)
 - PTO/SB/96 (Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b))
 - PTO/SB/130 (Petition to Make Special Based on Age for Advancement of Examination under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(1))
 - PTOL/413A (Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form)
 - PTO–2053–A/B (Notice Under 37 CFR 1.251—Pending Application)
 - PTO–2054–A/B (Notice Under 37 CFR 1.251—Abandoned Application)
 - PTO–2055–A/B (Notice Under 37 CFR 1.251—Patent)
- Type of Review:* Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.
- Affected Public:* Private sector.
- Respondent’s Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.
- Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:* 2,435,597 respondents per year.
- Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 2,435,597 responses per year.
- Estimated Time per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take respondents between 2 minutes (0.03 hours) and 8 hours to submit items in this information collection depending on the instrument used. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, create the document, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.
- Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours:* 535,466 hours.
- Estimated Total Annual Respondent Hourly Cost Burden:* \$170,503,027.

TABLE 1—TOTAL BURDEN HOURS AND HOURLY COSTS TO PRIVATE SECTOR 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	Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) that do not require the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).	694,000	1	694,000	0.20 (12 minutes)	138,800	\$447	\$62,043,600
2	Transmittal Form	517,000	1	517,000	0.20 (12 minutes)	103,400	122	12,614,800
3	Petition for Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).	192,884	1	192,884	0.40 (24 minutes)	77,154	122	9,412,788
4	Express Abandonment under 37 CFR 1.138.	2,000	1	2,000	0.08 (5 minutes)	160	122	19,520
5	Statutory Disclaimers (including terminal disclaimers).	49,950	1	49,950	0.25 (15 minutes)	12,488	447	5,582,136
6	Request for Expedited Examination of a Design Application.	7,227	1	7,227	0.25 (15 minutes)	1,807	447	807,729

TABLE 1—TOTAL BURDEN HOURS AND HOURLY COSTS TO PRIVATE SECTOR RESPONDENTS—Continued

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)
7	Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally.	7,024	1	7,024	1	7,024	447	3,139,728
8	Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned for Failure to Notify the Office of a Foreign or International Filing.	125	1	125	1	125	447	55,875
9	Requests to Access, Inspect, and Copy.	1,000	1	1,000	0.25 (15 minutes)	250	122	30,500
10	Deposit Account Order Form.	55,000	1	55,000	0.25 (15 minutes)	13,750	122	1,677,500
11	Certificates of Mailing or Transmission.	450,000	1	450,000	0.03 (2 minutes)	13,500	122	1,647,000
12	Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(c) (AIA), 37 CFR 3.83(b) (pre-AIA).	146,000	1	146,000	0.25 (15 minutes)	36,500	447	16,315,500
13	Non-publication Request	16,000	1	16,000	0.25 (15 minutes)	4,000	447	1,788,000
14	Rescission of Previous Non-publication Request (35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(ii) and, if applicable, Notice of Foreign Filing (35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).	500	1	500	0.25 (15 minutes)	125	447	55,875
15	USPTO Patent Electronic Filing System Copy of Application for Publication.	1	1	1	2.50	3	122	366
16	Copy of File Content Showing Redactions.	3	1	3	4	12	447	5,364
17	Copy of the Applicant or Patentee's Record of the Application (including copies of the correspondence, list of the correspondence, and statements verifying whether the record is complete or not).	10	1	10	2	20	122	2,440
18	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal).	132,000	1	132,000	0.30 (18 minutes)	39,600	447	17,701,200
19	Request for Suspension of Action or Deferral of Examination Under 37 CFR 1.103(b), (c), or (d).	630	1	630	0.20 (12 minutes)	126	447	56,322
20	Request for Voluntary Publication or Republication (includes publication fee for republication).	450	1	450	0.20 (12 minutes)	90	122	10,980
21	Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form.	50,000	1	50,000	0.40 (24 minutes)	20,000	447	8,940,000
22	Processing Fee Under 37 CFR 1.17(i) Transmittal.	100	1	100	0.08 (5 minutes)	8	447	3,576
23	Request to Retrieve Electronic Priority Application (s) Under 37 CFR 1.55(i)(4).	10,000	1	10,000	0.25 (15 minutes)	2,500	447	1,117,500
24	Authorization or Rescission of Authorization to Permit Access to Application-as-filed by Participating Offices Under 37 CFR 1.14(h).	6,000	1	6,000	0.25 (15 minutes)	1,500	447	670,500
25	Petition for Express Abandonment to Obtain a Refund.	2,050	1	2,050	0.20 (12 minutes)	410	447	183,270
26	Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review.	6,700	1	6,700	5	33,500	447	14,974,500
27	Request for Corrected Filing Receipt.	44,000	1	44,000	0.08 (5 minutes)	3,520	122	429,440

TABLE 1—TOTAL BURDEN HOURS AND HOURLY COSTS TO PRIVATE SECTOR 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)
28	Petition to Make Special Based on Age for Advancement of Examination under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(1).	2,100	1	2,100	2	4,200	447	1,877,400
29	Filing a submission after final rejection (see 37 CFR 1.129(a)).	43	1	43	8	344	447	153,768
30	Correction of inventorship after first office action on the merits.	3,300	1	3,300	0.75 (45 minutes)	2,475	447	1,106,325
31	Request for correction in a patent application relating to inventorship or an inventor name, or order of names, other than in a reissue application (37 CFR 1.48).	18,500	1	18,500	0.75 (45 minutes)	13,875	447	6,202,125
32	Request to correct or update the name of the applicant under 37 CFR 1.46(c)(1), or change the applicant under 37 CFR 1.46(c)(2).	21,000	1	21,000	0.20 (12 minutes)	4,200	447	1,877,400
Totals		2,435,597		2,435,597		535,466		170,503,027

¹2023 Report of the Economic Survey, published by the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA); pg. F-41. The USPTO uses the average billing rate for intellectual property work in all firms which is \$447 per hour (<https://www.aipla.org/home/news-publications/economic-survey>). 2022 National Utilization and Compensation Survey Report published by the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA); pg. 38. The USPTO uses the average billing rate for paralegals/paraprofessionals, which is \$122 per hour (<https://nala.org/paralegal-info/>).

Estimated Total Annual Non-Hourly Cost Burden: \$363,821,958. There is no capital start-up, maintenance costs, or recordkeeping costs associated with this information collection. However, there is non-hour cost burden in the way of filing fees and postage costs. The total

annual (non-hour) respondent cost burden for this collection is estimated to be \$363,821,958, which includes \$363,579,616 in filing fees, and \$242,342 in postage.

Filing Fees

The fees in this information collection are listed in the table below. The fee for Request for Prioritized Examination has no counterpart in the hourly cost table due to that form being exempt from the PRA.

TABLE 2—FILING FEES

Item No.	Fee code	Item	Estimated annual responses (a)	Filing fee (\$) (b)	Non-hourly cost burden (a) × (b) = (c)
1	1806	Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) that require the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (undiscounted).	85,540	\$260	\$22,240,400
1	2806	IDS that require the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (small entity).	22,173	104	2,305,992
1	3806	IDS that require the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (micro entity).	624	52	32,448
3	1251	One-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (undiscounted).	62,740	220	13,802,800
3	2251	One-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (small entity).	29,039	88	2,555,432
3	3251	One-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (micro entity).	3,509	44	154,396
3	1252	Two-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (undiscounted).	23,560	640	15,078,400
3	2252	Two-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (small entity).	15,484	256	3,963,904
3	3252	Two-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (micro entity).	1,922	128	246,016
3	1253	Three-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (undiscounted).	20,377	1,480	30,157,960
3	2253	Three-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (small entity).	23,002	592	13,617,184

TABLE 2—FILING FEES—Continued

Item No.	Fee code	Item	Estimated annual responses	Filing fee (\$)	Non-hourly cost burden
			(a)	(b)	(a) × (b) = (c)
3	3253	Three-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (micro entity).	2,558	296	757,168
3	1254	Four-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (undiscounted).	1,810	2,320	4,199,200
3	2254	Four-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (small entity).	2,196	928	2,037,888
3	3254	Four-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (micro entity).	266	464	123,424
3	1255	Five-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (undiscounted).	3,039	3,160	9,603,240
3	2255	Five-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (small entity).	3,176	1,264	4,014,464
3	3255	Five-month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (micro entity).	206	632	130,192
5	1814	Statutory Disclaimers (including terminal disclaimers) (undiscounted).	36,105	170	6,137,850
5	2814	Statutory Disclaimers (including terminal disclaimers) (small entity).	13,175	170	2,239,750
5	3814	Statutory Disclaimers (including terminal disclaimers) (micro entity).	670	170	113,900
6	1802	Request for Expedited Examination of a Design Application (undiscounted).	713	1,600	1,140,800
6	2802	Request for Expedited Examination of a Design Application (small entity).	1,426	640	912,640
6	3802	Request for Expedited Examination of a Design Application (micro entity).	5,088	320	1,628,160
7	1453	Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally (undiscounted).	2,323	2,100	4,878,300
7	2453	Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally (small entity).	3,388	840	2,845,920
7	3453	Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally (micro entity).	1,313	420	551,460
8	1453	Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned for Failure to Notify the Office of a Foreign or International Filing (undiscounted).	94	2,100	197,400
8	2453	Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned for Failure to Notify the Office of a Foreign or International Filing (small entity).	19	840	15,960
8	3453	Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned for Failure to Notify the Office of a Foreign or International Filing (micro entity).	12	420	5,040
16	1808	Copy of File Content Showing Redactions (undiscounted).	1	140	140
16	2808	Copy of File Content Showing Redactions (small entity)	1	140	140
16	3808	Copy of File Content Showing Redactions (micro entity)	1	140	140
18	1801	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (First Request) (undiscounted).	70,734	1,360	96,198,240
18	2801	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (First Request) (small entity).	19,673	544	10,702,112
18	3801	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (First Request) (micro entity).	1,992	272	541,824
18	1820	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (Second and Subsequent Requests) (undiscounted).	29,979	2,000	59,958,000
18	2820	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (Second and Subsequent Requests) (small entity).	8,985	800	7,188,000
18	3820	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (Second and Subsequent Requests) (micro entity).	637	400	254,800
19	1830	Request for Suspension of Action or Deferral of Examination Under 37 CFR 1.103(b), (c), or (d) (undiscounted).	354	140	49,560
19	2830	Request for Suspension of Action or Deferral of Examination Under 37 CFR 1.103(b), (c), or (d) (small entity).	245	56	13,720
19	3830	Request for Suspension of Action or Deferral of Examination Under 37 CFR 1.103(b), (c), or (d) (micro entity).	31	28	868

TABLE 2—FILING FEES—Continued

Item No.	Fee code	Item	Estimated annual responses (a)	Filing fee (\$) (b)	Non-hourly cost burden (a) × (b) = (c)
20	1803	Request for Voluntary Publication or Republication (includes publication fee for republication) (undiscounted).	157	140	21,980
20	2803	Request for Voluntary Publication or Republication (includes publication fee for republication) (small entity).	19	140	2,660
20	3803	Request for Voluntary Publication or Republication (includes publication fee for republication) (micro entity).	4	140	560
22	1830	Processing Fee Under 37 CFR 1.17(i) Transmittal (undiscounted).	56	140	7,840
22	2830	Processing Fee Under 37 CFR 1.17(i) Transmittal (small entity).	39	56	2,184
22	3830	Processing Fee Under 37 CFR 1.17(i) Transmittal (micro entity).	5	28	140
29	1810	For each additional invention to be examined (see 37 CFR 1.129(b)) (undiscounted).	1	880	880
29	2810	For each additional invention to be examined (see 37 CFR 1.129(b)) (small entity).	1	352	352
29	3810	For each additional invention to be examined (see 37 CFR 1.129(b)) (micro entity).	1	176	176
29	1809	Filing a submission after final rejection (see 37 CFR 1.129(a)) (undiscounted).	17	880	14,960
29	2809	Filing a submission after final rejection (see 37 CFR 1.129(a)) (small entity).	20	352	7,040
29	3809	Filing a submission after final rejection (see 37 CFR 1.129(a)) (micro entity).	6	176	1,056
30	1819	Correction of inventorship after first office action on the merits (undiscounted).	793	640	507,520
30	2819	Correction of inventorship after first office action on the merits (small entity).	617	256	157,952
30	3819	Correction of inventorship after first office action on the merits (micro entity).	60	128	7,680
31	1830	Request for correction in a patent application relating to inventorship or an inventor name, or order of names, other than in a reissue application (37 CFR 1.48) (non-provisional) (undiscounted).	7,122	140	997,080
31	2830	Request for correction in a patent application relating to inventorship or an inventor name, or order of names, other than in a reissue application (37 CFR 1.48) (non-provisional) (small entity).	5,180	56	290,080
31	3803	Request for correction in a patent application relating to inventorship or an inventor name, or order of names, other than in a reissue application (37 CFR 1.48) (non-provisional) (micro entity).	648	28	18,144
31	1807	Request for correction in a patent application relating to inventorship or an inventor name, or order of names, other than in a reissue application (37 CFR 1.48) (provisional).	5,550	50	277,500
N/A	1817	Request for prioritized examination (undiscounted)	6,481	4,200	27,220,200
N/A	2817	Request for prioritized examination (small entity)	7,491	1,680	12,584,880
N/A	3817	Request for prioritized examination (micro entity)	1,028	840	863,520
Totals	533,476	363,579,616

Postage Costs

Although the USPTO prefers that the items in this information collection be submitted electronically, responses may be submitted by mail through the United States Postal Service (USPS). The USPTO estimates that 1% of the 2,435,597 items will be submitted in the mail resulting in 24,356 mailed items. The USPTO estimates that the average postage cost for a mailed submission,

using a Priority Mail flat rate legal envelope, will be \$9.95. Therefore, the USPTO estimates that the total mailing costs for this information collection is \$242,342.

IV. 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 will 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 of information 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, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable 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.

Justin Isaac,

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

[FR Doc. 2024-01722 Filed 1-26-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO-P-2023-0047]

Supplemental Guidance for Examination of Design Patent Applications Related to Computer-Generated Electronic Images, Including Computer-Generated Icons and Graphical User Interfaces

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Examination guidance; correction.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) published in the **Federal Register** on November 17, 2023, supplemental guidance to be used by USPTO personnel in determining whether a design claim including a computer-generated electronic image is directed to statutory subject matter. This notice provides the deadline for written comments. Additionally, the USPTO has corrected Examples 2, 4, and 5 in Section (V) of the supplemental guidance published in the **Federal Register** to reflect certain formatting (i.e., underlining and strikethrough) necessary to understand the examples. The supplemental guidance, including the examples, will be incorporated into the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure in due course.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Harriman, Senior Legal Advisor, Office

of Patent Legal Administration, at 571-272-7747; or Carolyn Kosowski, Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, at 571-272-7688.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USPTO published in the **Federal Register** on November 17, 2023, supplemental guidance to be used by USPTO personnel in determining whether a design claim including a computer-generated electronic image is directed to statutory subject matter. See *Supplemental Guidance for Examination of Design Patent Applications Related to Computer-Generated Electronic Images, Including Computer-Generated Icons and Graphical User Interfaces*, 88 FR 80277. This notice provides the deadline for submitting written comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov. The deadline for submitting comments is November 18, 2024. Please see the **ADDRESSES** section in the November 17, 2023 notice for instructions on how to submit comments.

Correction

In the **Federal Register** of November 17, 2023, in FR Doc. 2023-25473, on page 80277, in the third column, correct the **DATES** caption to read:

DATES: This supplemental guidance is applicable as of November 17, 2023. Comments must be received by November 18, 2024, to ensure consideration.

In addition, the USPTO has corrected Examples 2, 4, and 5 in Section (V) of the supplemental guidance published in the **Federal Register** to reproduce certain formatting (i.e., underlining and strikethrough) in the text necessary to understand the examples. A PDF version of the examples, which contains the formatting, has been posted on the Examination Guidance and Training Materials page under 35 U.S.C. 171 at www.uspto.gov/patents/laws/examination-policy/examination-guidance-and-training-materials.

The supplemental guidance, including the examples, will be incorporated into the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure in due course.

Katherine Kelly Vidal,

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

[FR Doc. 2024-01717 Filed 1-26-24; 8:45 am]

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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; Patent Examiner Employment Application

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. The USPTO invites comments on this information collection renewal, which helps the USPTO assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on November 15, 2023 during a 60-day comment period (88 FR 78332). This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comment.

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

Title: Patent Examiner Employment Application.

OMB Control Number: 0651-0042.

Needs and Uses: In the current employment environment, life science and engineering graduates are in great demand. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is in direct competition with the private industry for the same caliber of candidates with the requisite knowledge and skills to perform patent examination work. This information collection covers online applications to the USPTO for entry level patent examiner positions. More specifically, the collection covers the respondent data gathered from the applications. The USPTO posts the relevant positions online and collects applicant information via the USA Staffing System.

The USA Staffing online application collects supplemental information to a candidate's USAJOBS application. This information assists USPTO Human Resource Specialists and Hiring Managers in determining whether an applicant possesses the basic qualification requirements for a patent examiner position. From the information collected, the USA Staffing system creates an electronic real-time candidate inventory on applicants' expertise and technical knowledge, which allows USPTO to immediately review applications from multiple