

Biotechnology and Chemical Pharmaceutical Customer Partnership - 2014



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Deputy Commissioner for Patent Operations

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Interview Webpage

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Interview Practice

The following is a collection of policies, procedures, training, and guidance on effective interview practice.

The USPTO encourages examiners to take a proactive approach to examination by reaching out and engaging our stakeholders in an effort to resolve issues and shorten prosecution. The training and guidance below emphasize interviews as a tool that can create an open dialog with Applicants and enhance the quality and efficiency of examination.

- [Director's Forum: David Kappos' Public Blog](#)
- [Interview Best Practices Whitepaper on examiner-practitioner interview best practice](#) [PDF]- The collaborative effort between AIPLA and the USPTO identifies interview best practices that can be followed by examiners and practitioners. The Best Practices paper identifies accessibility, preparation, substance, and recordation as some of the useful tools and techniques that allow interviews to be used to proactively resolve issues and move applications towards resolution.
- [MPEP Chapter 700 - 713 Interviews](#)
- [MPEP Chapter 700-713 Interviews](#) [Searchable MPEP]
- [Application Initiated Interview Request form](#) [PDF]
- [Recent Examination Guidance and Training Materials](#)
- [Effective Interview Practice Training Summary](#) [PDF] - The document summarizes effective interview practice training disseminated to the patent corps in FY2009. The training addressed why interviews are an important examination tool, identified a number of key components needed to conduct an effective interview and discussed some frequently asked questions regarding interview topics such as, handling interview requests, potential interview topics, interview sequence, grant/denial of an interview, what to do if the attorney is not of record and documentation of interviews.
- [First Action Interview Pilot Program](#) [PPT]
- [MPEP Chapter 500 - 502.03 Communication via Internet \(e.g., e-mail\)](#)
- [MPEP Chapter 500-502.03 Communication via Internet \(e.g., e-mail\)](#) [Searchable MPEP]
- [Web Conferencing and Virtual Interviews](#)





Robust Technical Training

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Initiatives & Events

-  A centralized listing of major [Patent Application Initiatives](#) provides applicants with access to information on several patent initiatives designed to advance and support the examination process. Compare the various patent application initiatives that are available prior to examination, during examination, or after close of prosecution to evaluate and contrast the benefits of participating.
- [Executive Actions on High Tech Patent Issues](#)
 - [Attributable Ownership](#)
 - [Patents for Humanity](#) an awards competition for patent owners and licensees (2013)
 - [Redeeming a Patents for Humanity Certificate](#)

[Patent Examiner Technical Training Program](#)

- [New Patent Examiner Count System](#)
- [Patent Examiner Technical Training Program](#)
- [Patents Ombudsman Pilot Program](#)

Upcoming Events

- [Roundtable on the Use of Crowdsourcing and Third-Party Preissuance Submissions To Identify Relevant Prior Art](#) (April 10, 2014)
- [Biotechnology/Chemical/Pharmaceutical Customer Partnership Conferences](#) (ongoing)
index to all meeting announcements



Patent Application Initiatives

uspto.gov

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USPTO Patent Application Initiatives Timeline

[Text Version](#)

The **USPTO Patent Application Initiatives Timeline** displays various programs and initiatives that are available to applicants during each phase of the application process. Each program is designed to advance the progress of a patent application and to provide applicant assistance. Program titles in the Timeline can be selected to access specific details on objectives and participation requirements. Headings within each column can be selected to access a detailed [Matrix](#) which provides a comparison of the programs and initiatives. If you have general questions about filing your patent application, please contact our [Customer Support Center](#).

| FILING | FIRST ACTION | FINAL REJECTION | APPEAL | ALLOWANCE | ISSUE |
|---|----------------------------|--|--|---|-------|
| PRIOR TO EXAMINATION | DURING EXAMINATION | AFTER CLOSE OF PROSECUTION | AFTER NOTICE OF APPEAL | AFTER PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE | |
| ADVANCEMENT OF EXAMINATION OPTIONS | | | | | |
| Track One - Prioritized Examination | | After Final Consideration Pilot 2.0 (AFCP 2.0) | After Final Consideration Pilot 2.0 (AFCP 2.0) | Quick Path Information Disclosure Statement (QPIDS) | |
| Accelerated Examination | | Pre-Appeal Program | | | |
| Full First Action Interview Pilot | | | | | |
| Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH 2.0) | | | | | |
| PCT Patent Prosecution Highway (PCT PPH 2.0) | | | | | |
| Petition to Make Special | Petition to Make Special | | | | |
| Ombudsman Program | Ombudsman Program | Ombudsman Program | Ombudsman Program | Ombudsman Program | |
| INTERVIEW OPTIONS | | | | | |
| General Interview Practice | General Interview Practice | General Interview Practice | | | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) OPTIONS | | | | | |
| IDS - No Certification or Fee | IDS - Certification or Fee | IDS - Certification and Fee | IDS - Certification and Fee | | |