



PATENT PRO BONO PROGRAM



United States Patent and Trademark Office

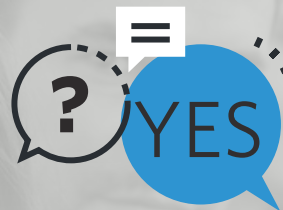
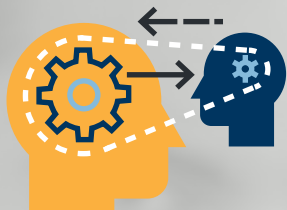


Through the Patent Pro Bono Program, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) assists intellectual property law associations that help financially under-resourced independent inventors and small businesses gain access to a registered

patent practitioner. Currently, twenty regional not-for-profit programs operate across all fifty states to endeavor to match under-resourced inventors and small businesses with a patent practitioner.

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What is the Patent Pro Bono Program?

For years legal professionals have offered pro bono services in many other areas of law, such as domestic relations, tax, and immigration. Now, patent practitioners can donate their time to help inventors who cannot afford to obtain legal advice on the filing and prosecution of patent applications. Because only patent practitioners are registered to represent inventors before the USPTO, they are in a unique position among legal professionals to offer pro bono patent services to under-resourced inventors and small businesses. The Program provides opportunities for patent practitioners to work with the regional program in their area to find a commitment that is suitable for them, while providing under-resourced inventors across the U.S. opportunities to secure legal assistance for their patent needs.

Why should I volunteer my time?

You will have the fulfilling experience of making a real difference in the lives of your clients and in your community while practicing in your field of expertise. Each regional program acts as a matchmaker, using a carefully screened and vetted process to ensure that applicants are qualified to receive pro bono patent filing and prosecution services. By making the patent system available to all, pro bono patent practitioners fulfill important needs such as providing equal access to the U.S. patent system and fostering economic growth and entrepreneurship. Patent practitioners nationwide have already answered the call to volunteer. Show your interest by contacting your local regional program today!

How to get more information?



Visit the USPTO Patent Pro Bono webpage at:
www.uspto.gov/probonopatents

United States Patent and Trademark Office Pro Bono Program points of contact:

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