

virtual meeting is open for observation by the public and the press. The virtual meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring accommodations such as real-time captioning, sign language interpretation, or other ancillary aids should notify NTIA at kids@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: August 24, 2026.

David Brodian,

Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

[FR Doc. 2026-17435 Filed 8-26-26; 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 for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) Appeals

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

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereafter "USPTO" or "Agency") 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 the information collection renewal of 0651-0063, which helps the USPTO assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the reporting burden to the public. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on April 20, 2026, during a 60-day comment period (91 FR 20986). This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

DATES: To ensure consideration, you must submit comments regarding this information collection on or before September 28, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for this information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website, <https://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 information collection or the OMB Control Number, 0651-0063. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

- This information collection request may be viewed at <https://www.reginfo.gov/>. Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce, USPTO information collections currently under review by OMB.

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651-0063 information request" in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Justin Isaac, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

- *Telephone:* Stacey White, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, 571-272-9797.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) Appeals.

OMB Control Number: 0651-0063.

Abstract: The Patent Trial and Appeal Board (hereafter "PTAB" or Board") is established by statute under 35 U.S.C. 6. This statute directs, in relevant part, that PTAB shall "on written appeal of an applicant, review adverse decisions of examiners upon applications for patents pursuant to section 134(a)." PTAB has the authority, under 35 U.S.C. 134 and 306 to decide appeals in applications and *ex parte* reexamination proceedings, and under pre-AIA sections of the Patent Act, *i.e.*, 35 U.S.C. 134, 135, and 315, to decide appeals in *inter partes* reexamination proceedings and interferences. In addition, 35 U.S.C. 6 establishes the membership of PTAB as the Director, the Deputy Director, the Commissioner for Patents, the Commissioner for Trademarks, and the Administrative Patent Judges. Appeals and interferences are decided by a merits panel of at least three members of the Board.

The Board's responsibilities under the statute include the review of *ex parte* appeals from adverse decisions of examiners in those situations where a written appeal is taken by a dissatisfied applicant or patent owner. In *inter partes* reexamination appeals, PTAB reviews an examiner's decision adverse to a patent owner or a third-party requester. PTAB's opinions and decisions for publicly available files are

published on the USPTO website.¹ The Board also conducts interference proceedings.

The items associated with this information collection include appeals in applications, *ex parte* reexamination proceedings, and appeals in *inter partes* reexamination proceedings and interference proceedings that are governed by the regulations in 37 CFR 41. Failure to comply with the appropriate regulations may result in dismissal of the appeal or denial of entry of the submission.

Since the publication of the 60-day notice, the USPTO has updated the number of responses associated with this information collection to include respondents participating in the SPARK Pilot Program. This results in an increase of 50 respondents, responses, and burden hours to this information collection.

Forms: (AIA = America Invents Act; SB = Specimen Book)

- *PTO/AIA/31:* (Notice of Appeal from the Examiner to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board).
- *PTO/SB/31:* (Notice of Appeal from the Examiner to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences).
- *PTO/AIA/32:* (Request for Oral Hearing before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board).
- *PTO/SB/32:* (Request for Oral Hearing before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board).
- *PTO/SB/479b:* Certification and Petition Under the Standards Participation and Representation Kudos (SPARK) Pilot Program to Expedite an Appeal to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB).

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.

Frequency: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 16,955 respondents.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 31,544 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that the responses in this information collection will take the public approximately 30 minutes (0.50 hours) to 120 hours to complete. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, create the document, and submit the completed item to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 337,712 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Non-hourly Cost Burden: \$24,086,261.

¹ <https://www.uspto.gov/patents/ptab/decisions>.

Since the publication of the 60-day notice, the USPTO has updated the postage rate associated with this information collection from \$12.25 to \$13.25. This results in an increase of \$315 in non-hourly cost burden, for a new estimated total annual respondent non-hourly cost burden of \$24,086,261.

Justin Isaac,

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

[FR Doc. 2026-17524 Filed 8-26-26; 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 for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Substantive Submissions Made During the Prosecution of the Trademark Application

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

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereafter “USPTO” or “Agency”), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites comments on the extension and revision of an existing information collection: 0651-0054 (Substantive Submissions Made During the Prosecution of the Trademark Application). The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comments preceding submission of the information collection to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: To ensure consideration, you must submit comments regarding this information collection on or before October 26, 2026.

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 “0651-0054 comment” in the subject line of the message.

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>.

- **Mail:** Justin Isaac, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

- **Telephone:** Emily Carlsen, Petitions Office, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Examination Policy, 571-272-2235.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Emily Carlsen, Senior Attorney Advisor, at: Petitions Office, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Examination Policy, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; 571-272-2235; or TMPolicy@uspto.gov with “0651-0054 comment” in the subject line. Additional information about this information collection is also available at <https://www.reginfo.gov> under “Information Collection Review.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This collection of information is required by the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. 1051 *et seq.*, which provides for the registration of trademarks, service marks, collective trademarks and collective service marks, collective membership marks, and certification marks. Individuals and business that use or intend to use such marks in commerce may file an application to register their marks with the USPTO.

Such individuals and businesses may also submit various communications to the USPTO, including providing additional information needed to process a request to delete a particular filing basis from an application or to divide an application identifying multiple goods and/or service into two or more separate applications. Applicants may seek a six-month extension of time to file a statement that the mark is in use in commerce or submit a petition to revive an application that was abandoned for failure to submit a timely statement of use or extension request. Applicants are allowed to file up to five extension requests over a 30-month period. The USPTO estimates that the average applicant will file two extension requests per year. In some circumstances, an applicant may expressly abandon an application by filing a request for withdrawal of the application.

The rules implementing the Trademark Act are set forth in 37 CFR part 2. These rules mandate that each trademark register entry include the mark, the goods and/or services in connection with which the mark is used, ownership information, dates of use, and certain other information. The USPTO also provides similar information concerning pending

applications. The register and pending application information may be accessed by an individual or business to determine the availability of a mark. By accessing the USPTO’s information, parties may reduce the possibility of initiating use of a mark previously adopted by another. As a result, the federal trademark registration process is intended to reduce unnecessary litigation and its accompanying costs and burdens.

The information in this collection is used to process the substantive submissions made during prosecution of a trademark application. The submissions in this information collection are a matter of public record and are used by the public for a variety of private business purposes related to establishing and enforcing trademark rights. The information is accessible online, through the USPTO website, as well as through various USPTO facilities.

II. Method of Collection

Items in this information collection must be submitted as electronic submissions. In limited circumstances, applicants may be permitted to submit the information in paper form by mail or hand delivery.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0651-0054.

Forms:

- PTO-1553 (Allegation of Use (Statement of Use/Amendment to Allege Use))
- PTO-1554 (Request to Divide Application)
- PTO-1555 (Response to Intent-to-Use/ Divisional (ITU/Divisional) Unit Office Action)
- PTO-1556 (Response to Petition to Revive Deficiency Letter)
- PTO-1557 (Petition to Revive with Request to Delete Section 1(b) Basis or to Delete ITU Goods/Services/ Collective Membership Organization after NOA)
- PTO-1581 (Request for Extension of Time to File a Statement of Use)
- PTO-2194 (Petition to Revive Abandoned Application—Failure to Respond Timely to Office Action)
- PTO-2195 (Petition to Revive Abandoned Application—Failure to File Timely Statement of Use or Extension Request)
- PTO-2200 (Request to Delete Section 1(B) Basis, Intent to Use)
- PTO-2202 (Request for Express Abandonment (Withdrawal) of Application)
- PTO-2301 (Petition to Director)