DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office
[Docket No.: PTO-T-2019-0028]

Trademark Public Advisory Committee
Public Hearing on the Proposed
Trademark Fee Schedule


ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: Under Section 10 of the America Invents Act (AIA), the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) may set or adjust by rule any patent or trademark fee established, authorized, or charged under Title 35 of the United States Code or the Trademark Act of 1946, respectively. The USPTO currently is planning to set or adjust trademark fees pursuant to its Section 10 fee setting authority. As part of the rulemaking process to set or adjust trademark fees, the Trademark Public Advisory Committee (TPAC) is required under Section 10 of the AIA to hold a public hearing about any proposed trademark fees, and the USPTO is required to assist TPAC in carrying out that hearing. To that end, the USPTO will make its proposed trademark fees available as set forth in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this Notice before any TPAC hearing and will help the TPAC to notify the public about the hearing. Accordingly, this document announces the dates and logistics for the TPAC public hearing regarding USPTO proposed trademark fees. Interested members of the public are invited to testify at the hearing and/or submit written comments about the proposed trademark fees.

DATES:

Comments: For those wishing to submit written comments on the fee proposal that will be published on or about September 9, 2019, but not requesting an opportunity to testify at the public hearing, the deadline for receipt of those written comments is September 30, 2019.

Oral testimony: Individuals wishing to present oral testimony at the hearing must request an opportunity to do so in writing no later than September 16, 2019. Those individuals who are scheduled by the TPAC to present oral testimony at the hearing should submit a written copy of their testimony for inclusion in the record of the proceedings no later than September 30, 2019.

ADDRESSES:
Public hearing: The TPAC will hold a public hearing on September 23, 2019 beginning at 2:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST), and ending at 4:00 p.m., EST, at the USPTO, Clara Barton Auditorium South, Concourse Level, Madison Building, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

Email: Written comments should be sent by email addressed to TPMRNotices@uspto.gov.
Postal mail: Comments may also be submitted by postal mail addressed to: Commissioner for Trademarks, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313–1451, attention Catherine Cain. Although comments may be submitted by postal mail, the USPTO prefers to receive comments via email. Written comments should be identified in the subject line of the email or postal mailing as “Fee Setting.” Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that is not desired to be made public, such as an address or telephone number should not be included in the comments.

Web cast: The public hearing will be available via Web cast. Information about the Web cast will be posted on the USPTO’s internet website (address: www.uspto.gov/about-us/performance-and-planning/fee-setting-and-adjusting) before the public hearing.

Transcripts: Transcript of the hearing will be available on the USPTO internet website (address: www.uspto.gov/about-us/performance-and-planning/fee-setting-and-adjusting) shortly after the hearing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Catherine Cain, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Examination Policy, at 571–272–8946, or by email at catherine.cain@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Effective September 16, 2011, with the passage of the AIA, the USPTO is authorized under Section 10 of the AIA to set or adjust by rule all patent and trademark fees established, authorized, or charged under Title 35 of the United States Code and the Trademark Act of 1946, respectively. This authority was extended an additional 8 years by the Study of Underrepresented Classes Chasing Engineering and Science Success (SUCCESS) Act of 2018 (Pub. L. 115–273). Patent and trademark fees set or adjusted by rule under Section 10 of the AIA may only recover the aggregate estimated costs to the Office for processing, activities, services, and materials relating to patents and trademarks, respectively, including administrative costs of the Office with respect to each as the case may be. This proposal represents the third iteration of trademark fee setting by the USPTO to set fees under the authority of the AIA. The first AIA trademark fee-setting rule, which reduced certain trademark fees, was implemented in January 2015, and the second was implemented in January 2017.

Congress set forth the process for the USPTO to follow in setting or adjusting patent and trademark fees by rule under Section 10 of the AIA. Congress requires the relevant advisory committee to hold a public hearing about the USPTO fee proposals after receiving them from the agency. Congress likewise requires the relevant advisory committee to prepare a written report on the proposed fees and the USPTO to consider the relevant
advisory committee’s report before finally setting or adjusting the fees. Further, Congress requires the USPTO to publish its proposed fees and supporting rationale in the Federal Register and give the public not less than 45 days in which to submit comments on the proposed change in fees. Finally, Congress requires the USPTO to publish its final rule setting or adjusting fees also in the Federal Register.

Presently, the USPTO is planning to exercise its fee-setting authority to set or adjust trademark fees. The USPTO will publish a proposed trademark fee schedule and related supplementary information for public viewing on or about September 9, 2019, on the USPTO internet website (address: www.uspto.gov/about-us/performance-and-planning/fee-setting-and-adjusting). In turn, the TPAC will hold a public hearing about the proposed trademark fee schedule on the date indicated herein. The USPTO will assist the TPAC in holding the hearing by providing resources to organize the hearing and by notifying the public about the hearing, such as through this notice.

Following the TPAC public hearing, the USPTO will publish a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Federal Register, setting forth its proposed trademark fees. The publication of that Notice will open a comment window through which the public may provide written comments directly to the USPTO. Additional information about public comment to the USPTO will be provided in the USPTO’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

Requests To Present Oral Testimony

Interested members of the public are invited to testify at the TPAC hearing about the proposed trademark fees. Requests to testify should indicate the following: (1) The name of the person wishing to testify; (2) the person’s contact information (telephone number and email address); (3) the organization(s) the person represents, if any; and (4) an indication of the amount of time needed for the testimony. Requests to testify must be submitted by email to Anastasia Johnson at anastasia.johnson@uspto.gov. Based upon the requests received, an agenda for witness testimony will be sent to testifying requesters and posted on the USPTO internet website (address: www.uspto.gov/about-us/performance-and-planning/fee-setting-and-adjusting). If time permits, the TPAC may permit unscheduled testimony as well.

| Andrei Iancu. |
| Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office. |
| [FR Doc. 2019–18655 Filed 8–28–19; 8:45 am] |
| BILLING CODE 3510–16–P |

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Day of Service Application Instructions**

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, CNCS is proposing to renew an information collection.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the individual and office listed in the ADDRESSES section by October 28, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by the title of the information collection activity, by any of the following methods:

1. By mail sent to: Corporation for National and Community Service, Attention Neill Minish, 250 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20525.
2. By hand delivery or by courier to the CNCS mailroom at the mail address given in paragraph (1) above, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

Comments submitted in response to this notice may be made available to the public through regulations.gov. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information or proprietary information. If you send an email comment, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. Please note that responses to this public comment request containing any routine notice about the confidentiality of the communication will be treated as public comment that may be made available to the public, notwithstanding the inclusion of the routine notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Neill Minish, 202–606–6841, or by email at nminish@cns.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Title of Collection:** Day of Service Application Instructions.

**OMB Control Number:** 3045–0180.

**Type of Review:** Renewal. **Respondents/Affected Public:** Nonprofit Organizations.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:** 70.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:** 1,400.

**Abstract:** This information collection seeks feedback on CNCS’s Day of Service Application Instructions for future Day of Service grant competitions after the expiration of the current Application Instructions. CNCS also seeks to continue using the currently approved information collection until the revised information collection is approved by OMB. The currently approved information collection is due to expire on December 31, 2019. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. Comments are invited on: (a) 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) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information, to search data sources, to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. All written comments will be available for public inspection on regulations.gov.