

Provisional to Utility Filing

Provisional Patent

A provisional patent application (PPA) is often the starting point along the path to obtaining full patent protection. After a PPA is filed, the invention is *patent pending* for one year, allowing public disclosure of the material included in the application, time to continue research and development, and time to evaluate the commercial opportunity.

Application Preparation

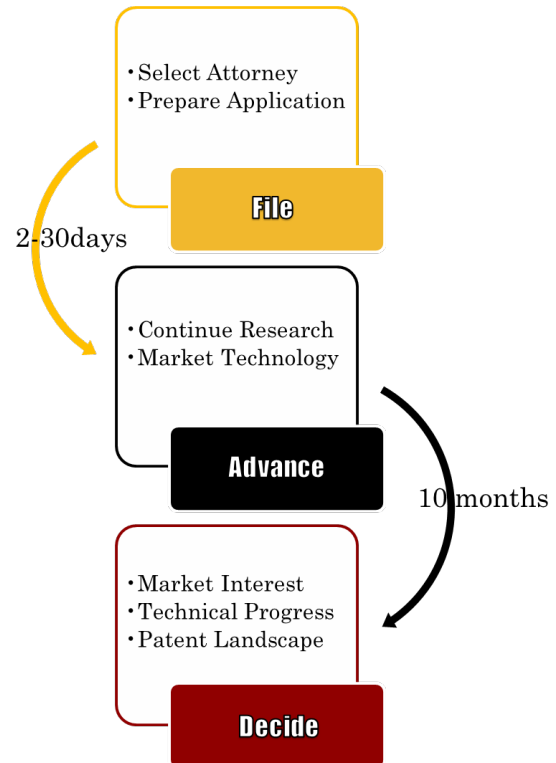
The PPA will take from two days to more than a month to prepare, depending on the data and information available and planned public disclosures.

The Next Ten Months

After the application is filed, TAO will prepare a marketing brief and pursue commercial opportunities.

The inventor's role is to continue research to generate additional data on features and confirm additional uses, improve prototypes, provide detailed information on how the invention functions, etc. All supportive data must be available at the time of conversion to a full application. Inventors also assist by providing industry contacts that may be interested in the technology.

Around month ten, TAO will decide whether to convert the PPA to a full application based on patentability, marketing feedback and technical progress.



If TAO does not file a full patent application, researchers are encouraged to continue to disclose improvements, as this may lead to a new patent or commercial opportunity.

Expense

Out of pocket costs related to provisional patent applications usually ranges from \$1,000 - \$14,000. Cost varies based on the complexity of the technology, the information available, and time constraints.