



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

# Vacancy Questions Preview

Grade: 07

The next question will require you to select the response that best describes your experience and/or education related to the basic qualification requirements of a Patent Examiner (Professional Engineering). Refer to the "Qualifications and Evaluations" section of the job announcement for a detailed explanation of the basic qualification requirements for this position.

- \* 1 | Select the response that best describes your experience and/or education related to the Basic Qualification Requirements for a Patent Examiner (Professional Engineering), GS-1224. Refer to the "Qualifications and Evaluations" section of the job announcement for a detailed description of the basic qualification requirements.

I possess at least a bachelor's degree in professional engineering. This degree was obtained in a school of engineering with at least one curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as a professional engineering curriculum.

I possess at least a bachelor's degree in professional engineering. The curriculum included differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in at least five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics: (1) statics, dynamics; (2) strength of materials (stress-strain relationships); (3) fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (4) thermodynamics; (5) electrical fields and circuits; (6) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (7) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics.

<p>I have a combination of education and experience. I have completed college-level education, training, and/or technical experience that furnished a thorough knowledge of the physical and mathematical sciences underlying professional engineering AND a good understanding, both theoretical and practical, of the engineering sciences and techniques and their applications to engineering. (Refer to the "Qualifications and Evaluations" section of the job announcement for specific examples demonstrating the adequacy of your background in this area).</p>
<p>I will complete the qualifying education within 9 months from the date of application.</p>
<p>I do not possess the education and/or experience described above.</p>

Candidates for the GS-7 grade level must have at least 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-5 grade level in the Federal service. Specialized experience for this position is defined as experience performing at least one of the following functions: (1) Interpreting and applying basic electrical engineering and/or scientific principles, theories, concepts, and methodologies used in the evaluation of technology; (2) Planning and conducting technical research to draft technical papers; or (3) Applying appropriate references and case law to claimed inventions. Examples of qualifying specialized experience can be found in the "Qualifications and Evaluations" section of the job announcement.

- \* 2 Select the response which best describes your possession of the specialized experience requirements defined in the statement above.

I have at least one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-5 grade level in the Federal service as defined in the statement above.

I have a bachelor's degree in an engineering curriculum and superior academic achievement demonstrated by my grade point average (GPA). I have a GPA of 2.95 or higher out of a possible 4.0 as recorded on my transcripts based on 4 years of education, or as computed based on courses completed during the final two years of the curriculum.

I have a bachelor's degree in an engineering curriculum and superior academic achievement demonstrated by my grade point average (GPA). I have a GPA of 3.45 or higher out of a possible 4.0 based on the average of the required courses completed in my major field during the final two years of the curriculum.

I have a bachelor's degree in an engineering curriculum and superior academic achievement demonstrated by (1) My class standing in the upper third of my class or major university subdivision OR (2) My election to membership in a national scholastic honor society.

I have 1 full year of graduate level education that provided the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to perform the work of this position. One year of full-time graduate education is considered to be the number of credit hours that the school attended has determined to represent 1 year of full-time study (If that number cannot be obtained from the school, 18 semester hours is considered an academic year of graduate study).

I have a combination of education and experience. I have less than the full amount of education described in "2" above and less than the amount of experience described in "1" above, but have a combination of the type of education described in "2" above and experience described in "1" above.

I do not have at least one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-5 grade level in the Federal service as defined in the statement above.

Grade: 09

The next question will require you to select the response that best describes your experience and/or education related to the basic qualification requirements of a Patent Examiner (Professional Engineering). Refer to the "Qualifications and Evaluations" section of the job announcement for a detailed explanation of the basic qualification requirements for this position.

- \* 1 Select the response that best describes your experience and/or education related to the Basic Qualification Requirements for a Patent Examiner (Professional Engineering), GS-1224. Refer to the "Qualifications and Evaluations" section of the job announcement for a detailed description of the basic qualification requirements.

I possess at least a bachelor's degree in professional engineering. This degree was obtained in a school of engineering with at least one curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as a professional engineering curriculum.

I possess at least a bachelor's degree in professional engineering. The curriculum included differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in at least five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics: (1) statics, dynamics; (2) strength of materials (stress-strain relationships); (3) fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (4) thermodynamics; (5) electrical fields and circuits; (6) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (7) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics.

I have a combination of education and experience. I have completed college-level education, training, and/or technical experience that furnished a thorough knowledge of the physical and mathematical sciences underlying professional engineering AND a good understanding, both theoretical and practical, of the engineering sciences and techniques and their applications to engineering. (Refer to the "Qualifications and Evaluations" section of the job announcement for specific examples demonstrating the adequacy of your background in this area).

I will complete the qualifying education within 9 months from the date of application.

I do not possess the education and/or experience described above.

Candidates for the GS-9 grade level must have at least 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-7 grade level in the Federal service. Specialized experience for this position is defined as experience performing at least one of the following functions: (1) Interpreting and applying intermediate electrical

engineering and/or scientific principles, theories, concepts, and methodologies used in the evaluation of technology; (2) Planning and conducting technical research to draft technical papers; or (3) Applying appropriate references and case law to claimed inventions. Examples of qualifying specialized experience can be found in the "Qualifications and Evaluations" section of the job announcement.

- \* 2 Select the response which best describes your possession of the specialized experience requirements defined in the statement above.

I have at least one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-7 grade level in the Federal service as defined in the statement above.

I have a combination of education and experience. I possess at least a bachelor's degree in engineering AND have experience applying engineering principles and theories in the engineering field.

I have at least two years of graduate level education leading to a master's degree or equivalent graduate degree in an engineering curriculum from an accredited college and/or university in the fields of study as described in the Basic Qualification Requirements of this job announcement. One year of full-time graduate education is considered to be the number of credit hours that the school attended has determined to represent 1 year of full-time study (If that number cannot be obtained from the school, 18 semester hours is considered an academic year of graduate study).

I have less than the full amount of education described in "3" above and less than the amount of experience described in "1" above, but have a combination of the type of graduate education described in "3" above and experience described in "1" above.

I do not have at least one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-7 grade level in the Federal service as defined in the statement above.

Grade: All Grades

\* 1 | How did you hear about USPTO job possibilities?

Facebook/Twitter
Friend
Job Fair
Journal/Magazine
Monster
Newspaper
Online Blog/Bulletin Board
Professional Society/Organization
University Career Fair
University Career Placement Office
USAJobs
USPTO employee
USPTO Web Page
Virtual Job Fair
Other

\* 2 | Have you previously served or currently serving In the United States Armed Forces?

Yes
No

\* 3 | Are you the spouse of a service member with permanent relocation orders?

Yes

No

\* 4 | Is your spouse (service member) relocating /permanent change of station (PCS) outside your current geographical area?

Yes

No

\* 5 | Have you received a permanent position under the authority for military spouse relocation or PCS move non-competitive appointment?

Yes

No

\* 6 | Do you have any education/experience in intellectual property?

Yes

\* 6.1 | Please indicate where you obtained your education in intellectual property and/or experience in planning and conducting field of search for patent applications or in reviewing or analyzing patent applications. Please select all that apply.

USPTO externships

Externships

Internships
Patent searcher
Patent law clerk
JD with specialty in patent law
Coursework
Other
I have no experience or education in intellectual property

No

\* 7 | Are you a current or former Patent Examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)?

Yes

\* 7.1 | Please list your dates of employment at the USPTO. (Maximum length of 250 characters.)



No

\* **8** | Have you passed the Patent Bar Exam?

Yes

\* **8.1** | Please provide the date you passed the Patent Bar Exam. (Maximum length of 250 characters.)

No

YOUR RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED IN YOUR RESUME. FAILURE TO SUPPORT YOUR ANSWER(S) IN YOUR RESUME MAY IMPACT YOU OR ELIMINATE YOU FROM CONSIDERATION.

RESPONSES OF "NA" OR "SEE RESUME" TO THE BELOW QUESTIONS MAY CAUSE YOU TO LOSE CONSIDERATION.

This statement and the next one contain a list of relevant technical areas. Please refer to them in order to

respond to the question following these listed areas: / 1. Digital Communications (e.g. multiplex, computer networks, information security) / 2. Computer Architecture and Embedded Systems / 3. Memory Access/control (e.g. EEPROM, Flash memory, volatile memory, MJT, MRAM, PRAM, DRAM) / 4. Computer Graphics, Graphical User Interface, Visualization / 5. Control Systems (e.g. simulation, modeling, emulation, well or reservoir, building automation, adaptive control system) / continued on next list.

List of technical areas continued: / 6. Simulations (e.g. emulations, video gaming) / 7. Biomedical Imaging (e.g. x-ray, signal Analysis, MRI, CT Scan) / 8. Medical Robotics / 9. Medical Diagnostics (biopsy devices; in vivo sensing and monitoring, e.g. glucose, pulse oximetry, pressure, respiratory, EEG, EMG). / 10. Online Cryptography, Payment architectures, schemes or protocol, web design of e-commerce interfaces. / 11. Electrical/Computer Controls for Medical Devices/Systems. / 12. Radio Wave systems (e.g. Radar, Radio/satellite navigation). /13. Optical and Acoustic wave communication, Seismic, and Sonar Systems; LADAR; LIDAR; Geophysics/ 14. Video Compression (e.g. HVEC, H.264, H.265).

\* **9** Do you possess any education and/or experience in conducting research, analysis, and application of scientific principles associated with any of the technical areas listed above?

Yes

**9.1** Please select those technical areas below in which you have experience and/or training conducting research, analysis, and application of scientific principles. Please select all that apply.

Digital Communications (e.g. multiplex, computer networks, information security).
Computer Architecture and Embedded Systems.
Memory access / control (e.g. EEPROM, Flash memory, volatile memory, MJT, MRAM, PRAM, DRAM).
Computer Graphics, Graphical User Interface, Visualization.
Control Systems (e.g. simulation, modeling, emulation, well or reservoir, building automation, adaptive control system).
Simulations (e.g. emulations, video gaming).
Biomedical Imaging (e.g. x-ray, signal Analysis, MRI, CT Scan).

Medical Robotics.
Medical Diagnostics (biopsy devices; in vivo sensing and monitoring, e.g. glucose, pulse oximetry, pressure, respiratory, EEG, EMG).
Online Cryptography, Payment architectures, schemes or protocol, web design of e-commerce interfaces.
Electrical/Computer Controls for Medical Devices/Systems.
Radio Wave systems (e.g. Radar, Radio/satellite navigation).
Optical and Acoustic wave communication, Seismic, and Sonar Systems; LADAR; LIDAR; Geophysics.
Video Compression (e.g. HVEC, H.264, H.265)
None of the above.

\* **9.2** Please indicate where in your resume this level of experience or education is described. To receive full credit, be sure to include specific information/examples of the electrical engineering principles and concepts, and how this information was presented. (Maximum length of 250 characters.)

No

- \* **10** | Select the choice that describes your highest level of experience and/or education orally communicating with a wide variety of audiences (for example, professors, clients, patent professionals, superiors, or subordinates) on applying basic electrical engineering principles and concepts.

I have participated in meetings/interviews to collect or disseminate technical information from a variety of audiences in the advancement of electrical engineering principles and concepts.

- \* **10.1** | Please indicate where in your resume this level of experience or education is described. To receive full credit, be sure to include specific information/examples of the electrical engineering principles and concepts, and how this information was presented. (Maximum length of 250 characters.)

I have facilitated discussions on the advancement of electrical engineering principles and concepts.

- \* **10.1** | Please indicate where in your resume this level of experience or education is described. To receive full credit, be sure to include specific information/examples of the electrical engineering principles and concepts, and how this information was presented. (Maximum length of 250 characters.)

I have presented technical and/or legal information to a wide variety of audiences on electrical engineering related topics.

\* 10.1 Please indicate where in your resume this level of experience or education is described. To receive full credit, be sure to include specific information/examples of the electrical engineering principles and concepts, and how this information was presented. (Maximum length of 250 characters.)

I have presented technical and/or legal information to a variety of audiences by conveying the results of research findings, analysis, rationale, and/or evaluations/conclusions of fact (for example, through a research project as part of my coursework, work project, capstone project, or thesis studies) in the application of electrical engineering principles and concepts.

\* 10.1 Please indicate where in your resume this level of experience or education is described. To receive full credit, be sure to include specific information/examples of the electrical engineering principles and concepts, and how this information was presented. (Maximum length of 250 characters.)

I do not have experience and/or education orally communicating with a wide variety of audiences on applying basic electrical engineering principles and concepts.

\* 11 Do you have experience and/or education communicating in writing to develop documents related to electrical engineering principles and concepts?

Yes

\* 11.1 Select the responses that best describe your experience and/or education communicating in writing to develop documents related to electrical engineering principles and concepts. Check all that apply.

I have prepared a formal written product for a Capstone or other research project in the electrical engineering field.

I have written reports, letters or memoranda related to electrical engineering principles and concepts where I translated complex technical language for review by non-technical audiences.

	I have drafted patent applications related to electrical engineering principles and concepts for clients or professionals in the intellectual property community.
	I have written technical or legal documents related to electrical engineering principles and concepts.
	I do not have experience and/or education communicating in writing to develop work products related to electrical engineering principles and concepts.

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\* 11.2 | Please indicate where in your resume this level of experience or education is described. To receive full credit, be sure to include specific information/examples of the electrical engineering principles and concepts, and how this information was presented. (Maximum length of 250 characters.)

No

\* 12 | Have you held a political appointment within the previous five-year period?

Yes

No

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