

Welcome

OMB Control No. 0651-0080
Expiration Date: 8/31/2018

Thank you for previously participating in a STEPP 3-day course on examination practice and procedure. We would like to know if STEPP has impacted how you practice before the USPTO. We would also like to gauge your interest in future advanced STEPP courses.

This survey should take no more than 10 minutes to complete. For general questions regarding the purpose of the survey, contact Unsu Jung (unsu.jung@uspto.gov). If you encounter any problems with the survey instrument, contact Michael Easdale (michael.easdale@uspto.gov).

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important survey.

Please click the Next button to begin.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, persons are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number of this information collection is 0651-0080. This survey will gather feedback from applicants who have participated in the STEPP program. Their responses will be gathered and aggregated to determine how best to improve current STEPP Program courses and structure future advanced courses. The USPTO estimates that it will take respondents approximately 10 minutes to complete the survey. This collection of information is voluntary in accordance with E.O. 12862, "Setting Customer Service Standards." All responses will remain confidential and are protected under the "Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002."

Course Impact & Future Courses

1. What impact, if any, has STEPP had on how you prosecute an application before the USPTO?:

	No Impact	Slight Impact	Moderate Impact	Strong Impact	N/A I have not submitted an application since taking STEPP courses
I view interactions with examiners as a more collaborative effort.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I interview more frequently.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I more often utilize USPTO interview rooms or WebEx to conduct interviews.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I more frequently conduct a prior art search prior to filing an application.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I more often utilize USPTO public search resources such as PTRC libraries and USPTO regional offices.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I more frequently review an application prior to filing to make sure it is in its best form.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I more often review the references cited by the examiner but not utilized in the rejection.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I more frequently contact the SPE or TC Ombudsman when an Examiner is non-responsive.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have a better understanding of how and when to utilize processes run through the CRU and PTAB.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements:

	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Disagree or Agree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A I have not submitted an application since taking STEPP courses
With my increased understanding of Examiners' points of view, conversations with Examiners are more constructive.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
With my increased understanding of Examiners' points of view, interactions with examiners lead to the identification of allowable subject matter earlier in prosecution.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
With my increased understanding of Examiners' points of view, I more effectively and effectively respond to issues identified in an office action.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. Having taken a previous STEPP 3-day course, would you be interested in taking an advanced course designed for experienced agents/attorneys? If yes, which topics, related to examination practice and procedure, would you like to see made available?

	Not Interested	Somewhat Interested	Moderately Interested	Very Interested
35 USC 101 - Subject Matter Eligibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Double Patenting and Restriction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
35 USC 102 - Anticipation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
35 USC 103 - Obviousness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Claim Interpretation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
35 USC 112(a)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
35 USC 112(b)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
35 USC 112(f)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Conclusion

4. Do you have any additional comments regarding the STEPP Program?

Thank you for completing our survey! Clicking the "Done" button below will submit your responses, close the survey window, and redirect you to the public USPTO website.