

Welcome

OMB Control No. 0651-0080
Expiration Date: x/xx/20xx

Thank you for previously participating in a STEPP 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 STEPP@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.

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 unless the information collection has a currently valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0651-0080. Without this approval, we could not collect this information. Public reporting for this information collection is estimated to be approximately 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the survey. All responses to this information collection are voluntary. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or email InformationCollection@uspto.gov.

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:

	Disagree Strongly	Disagree Somewhat	Neither Disagree or Agree	Agree Somewhat	Agree Strongly	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 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.

Click 'Done' when you are satisfied that your answers are complete.