**JUSTIFICATION FOR NONMATERIAL/NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGE**

**Patent Reexaminations, Supplemental Examinations, and Post Patent Submissions**

**OMB Control Number 0651-0064**

Background

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) administers the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (AIA), which sets or adjusts patent fees established, authorized, or charged under Title 35, United States Code (U.S.C.). Section 10 prescribes that fees may be set or adjusted only to recover the aggregate estimated costs to the Office for processing, activities, services, and materials related to the patent and trademark processes. Section 10 authorities also includes flexibility to set individual fees in a way that furthers key policies factors, while factoring in the cost of the respective services.

This request is to update the fees for small and micro entities attached to collection 0651-0064 (Patent Reexaminations, Supplemental Examinations, and Post Patent Submissions) that are affected by the rulemaking RIN 0651-AD66. There are 18 fees in this collection being reduced as a result of the Unleashing American Innovators Act of 2022.

**Table 1: Increases in Fee Amount**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **IC No.** | **Item** | **Current Fee** | **New Fee** | **Changes in Fee Amount** |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination Request | $2,310 (small entity)  $1,155 (micro entity) | $1,848 (small entity)  $924 (micro entity) | -$462 (small entity)  -$231 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination Reexamination | $6,350 (small entity)  $3,175 (micro entity) | $5,080 (small entity)  $2,540 (micro entity) | -$1,270 (small entity)  -$525 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination document size fees, 21-50 documents | $90 (small entity)  $45 (micro entity) | $72 (small entity)  $36 (micro entity) | -$18 (small entity)  -$9 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental examination document size fees, each additional 50 documents | $150 (small entity)  $75 (micro entity) | $120 (small entity)  $60 (micro entity) | -$30 (small entity)  -$15 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Reexamination independent claims in excess of three and also in excess of the number of such claims in the patent under reexamination | $240 (small entity)  $120 (micro entity) | $192 (small entity)  $96 (micro entity) | -$48 (small entity)  -$24 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Reexamination claims in excess of 20 and also in excess of the number of claims in the patent under reexamination | $50 (small entity)  $25 (micro entity) | $40 (small entity)  $20 (micro entity) | -$10 (small entity)  -$5 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Ex Parte Reexamination (§1.510(a)) Streamlined | $3,150 (small entity)  $1,575 (micro entity) | $2,520 (small entity)  $1,260 (micro entity) | -$630 (small entity)  -$315 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Ex Parte Reexamination (§1.510(a)) Non-Streamlined | $6,300 (small entity)  $3,150 (micro entity) | $5,040 (small entity)  $2,520 (micro entity) | -$1,260 (small entity)  -$630 (micro entity) |
| 3 | Petitions in a reexamination proceeding, except for those specifically enumerated in 37 CFR 1.550(i) and 1.937(d) | $1,020 (small entity)  $510 (micro entity) | $816 (small entity)  $408 (micro entity) | -$204 (small entity)  -$102 (micro entity) |

**Table 2: Proposed Burden**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **IC No.** | **Item** | **Responses**  **(a)** | **Proposed Fee**  **(b)** | **Proposed Cost**  **(a) x (b) = (c)** |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination Request | 14 (small entity)  1 (micro entity) | $1,848 (small entity)  $924 (micro entity) | $25,872 (small entity)  $924 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination Reexamination | 15 (small entity)  1 (micro entity) | $5,080 (small entity)  $2,540 (micro entity) | $76,200 (small entity)  $2,540 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination document size fees, 21-50 documents | 3 (small entity)  1 (micro entity) | $72 (small entity)  $36 (micro entity) | $216 (small entity)  $36 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental examination document size fees, each additional 50 documents | 1 (small entity)  1 (micro entity) | $120 (small entity)  $60 (micro entity) | $120 (small entity)  $60 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Reexamination independent claims in excess of three and also in excess of the number of such claims in the patent under reexamination | 12 (small entity)  1 (micro entity) | $192 (small entity)  $96 (micro entity) | $2,304 (small entity)  $96 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Reexamination claims in excess of 20 and also in excess of the number of claims in the patent under reexamination | 17 (small entity)  1 (micro entity) | $40 (small entity)  $20 (micro entity) | $680 (small entity)  $20 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Ex Parte Reexamination (§1.510(a)) Streamlined | 40 (small entity)  2 (micro entity) | $2,520 (small entity)  $1,260 (micro entity) | $100,800 (small entity)  $2,520 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Ex Parte Reexamination (§1.510(a)) Non-Streamlined | 56 (small entity)  14 (micro entity) | $5,040 (small entity)  $2,520 (micro entity) | $282,240 (small entity)  $35,280 (micro entity) |
| 3 | Petitions in a reexamination proceeding, except for those specifically enumerated in 37 CFR 1.550(i) and 1.937(d) | 11 (small entity)  1 (micro entity) | $816 (small entity)  $408 (micro entity) | $8,976 (small entity)  $408 (micro entity) |
|  | **Totals** | **192** | **- - -** | **$539,292** |

**Table 3: Changes in Cost**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **IC No.** | **Items** | **Current Cost** | **Proposed Cost** | **Change in Cost** |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination Request | $32,340 (small entity)  $1,155 (micro entity) | $25,872 (small entity)  $924 (micro entity) | -$3,180 (small entity)  -$530 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination Reexamination | $95,250 (small entity)  $3,175 (micro entity) | $76,200 (small entity)  $2,540 (micro entity) | -$1,050 (small entity)  -$525 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental Examination document size fees, 21-50 documents | $270 (small entity)  $45 (micro entity) | $216 (small entity)  $36 (micro entity) | -$3,180 (small entity)  -$530 (micro entity) |
| 1 | Supplemental examination document size fees, each additional 50 documents | $150 (small entity)  $75 (micro entity) | $120 (small entity)  $60 (micro entity) | -$1,050 (small entity)  -$525 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Reexamination independent claims in excess of three and also in excess of the number of such claims in the patent under reexamination | $2,880 (small entity)  $120 (micro entity) | $2,304 (small entity)  $96 (micro entity) | -$3,180 (small entity)  -$530 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Reexamination claims in excess of 20 and also in excess of the number of claims in the patent under reexamination | $850 (small entity)  $25 (micro entity) | $680 (small entity)  $20 (micro entity) | -$1,050 (small entity)  -$525 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Ex Parte Reexamination (§1.510(a)) Streamlined | $126,000 (small entity)  $3,150 (micro entity) | $100,800 (small entity)  $2,520 (micro entity) | -$3,180 (small entity)  -$530 (micro entity) |
| 2 | Ex Parte Reexamination (§1.510(a)) Non-Streamlined | $352,800 (small entity)  $44,100 (micro entity) | $282,240 (small entity)  $35,280 (micro entity) | -$1,050 (small entity)  -$525 (micro entity) |
| 3 | Petitions in a reexamination proceeding, except for those specifically enumerated in 37 CFR 1.550(i) and 1.937(d) | $11,220 (small entity)  $510 (micro entity) | $8,976 (small entity)  $408 (micro entity) | -$3,180 (small entity)  -$530 (micro entity) |
|  | **Totals** | **$674,115** | **$539,292** | **-$134,823** |

Summary of Changes

The aforementioned legislation results in the revision of 18 fees and a decrease of $134,823 in annual (non-hourly) costs to collection 0651-0064.

Changes in Burden

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Burden Type** | **Currently Approved** | **Proposed Change** | **New Estimate** |
| Non-hourly Cost Burden | $2,439,335 | -$134,823 | $2,304,512 |

0651-0064’s revised burden is as follows:

* 880 in annual responses (unchanged)
* 23,574 in annual hourly burden (unchanged)
* $2,304,512 in annual (non-hourly) costs