

Below is a summary of the typical costs associated with getting a patent granted. The actual cost depends on the complexity of the invention and the difficulty in convincing the patent office to not reject the desired claims. It is not possible to predict the likelihood of the necessity for filing various petitions or appeals during the process. For an individual or a small company (less than 500 employees), use the "Small Entity" column. A Patent Draftsman may be needed if complex drawings are required. Patent Office fees change occasionally, so the fees below are for reference only.

ACTIVITY	FEES TO THE PATENT AGENT	FEES TO OTHER PROFESSIONAL	FEES TO THE US PATENT OFFICE	
			REGULAR	FOR A SMALL ENTITY (SMALL ENTITY MEANS A SMALL COMPANY OR AN INDIVIDUAL INVENTOR)
Initial consultation	Free			
Initial Patentability Search	\$150 - \$750			
Thorough Patentability search (optional)	Coordinate the search \$250	Patent Search Firm \$500 - \$1200		
Provisional U.S. patent application (optional)	Average complexity \$1,500 - \$3,000	Patent Draftsman \$50 - \$100 per drawing	\$ 210	\$ 105 for up to 50 pages
Regular U.S. utility patent application	Average complexity \$2,000 - \$10,000	Patent Draftsman \$50 - \$100 per drawing	\$ 310	\$ 155 filing fee (can be more, depending on number of claims)
Each response to USPTO action	\$500 - \$1,000			
Request for continued examination (common)	\$500 - \$1,000		\$ 810	\$ 405
Submission after final rejection (common)	\$500 - \$1,000		\$ 810	\$ 405
Appeal (various reasons, not likely)	\$500 - \$2,000		\$ 510	\$ 255
Petition (various reasons, not likely)	\$500 - \$2,000		various (generally \$200 - \$750)	
Prepare patent for issue	\$750	Modification of drawings may be required	\$ 1,440	\$ 720 issue fee
Pay patent maintenance fees:	If you choose to have the agent manage your maintenance fees:		\$ 300	publication fee
3.5 year fee	\$200		\$ 930	\$ 465
7.5 year fee	\$200		\$ 2,360	\$ 1,180
11.5 year fee	\$200		\$ 3,910	\$ 1,955