

David S. Alavi

Registered Patent Agent

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Costs for obtaining a patent

Obtaining a patent can be a costly enterprise. My hourly rate is \$250/hour with a minimum fee (\$5000) for preparing and filing a new U.S. patent application. In the table below I have summarized typical costs for preparing, filing, and prosecuting a new U.S. patent application, obtaining an issued patent, maintaining a patent in force after issue, patent searching, filing an international patent application, and managing foreign patent filings. For most new applications I require an advance deposit of at least \$6000 before beginning work, and payment of any remaining balance of PTO and professional fees upon completion and prior to filing in the PTO. I provide written cost estimates before beginning work.

Effective 02/01/2024. Please note: all fees are subject to change without notice.

SERVICE	My Fee	PTO Fee*	Notes
prepare patent application U.S. provisional or U.S. non-provisional	\$250/hour \$5000-\$8000 or more	\$120 - \$2000 or more	
U.S. provisional patent application minimum fee to prepare and file	\$5000	\$120	includes supporting documents/drawings
U.S. non-provisional patent application minimum fee to prepare and file	\$5000	\$824 - \$2000 or more	includes supporting documents/drawings
U.S. non-provisional patent application minimum fee with previous*** U.S. provisional	\$1000	\$824 - \$2000 or more	***if prepared by me
simple response to PTO action	\$250/hour \$1000 - \$2000		
complex response to PTO action	\$250/hour \$1000 - \$4000 or more		
general prosecution of pending application	\$250/hour		
patent post-allowance reviews and issue fee	\$750	\$480	
patent maintenance fee: after 3 years	\$400	\$800	
patent maintenance fee: after 7 years	\$400	\$1504	
patent maintenance fee: after 11 years	\$400	\$3080	
file international (PCT) application Request based on previous*** U.S. application	\$1000	\$2500 - \$4000 or more	***if prepared by me
liaison with foreign patent counsel	\$250/hour		
patent novelty searching – performed by me using PTO and Internet resources	\$250/hour \$1000 - \$2500 or more		
patent novelty searching – performed by Questel (DC-area search firm); results analyzed by me	\$750	plus Questel fee	Questel would provide a quote

*PTO fees for an individual inventor, small business, or non-profit organization. Subject to change by the PTO.