

**EXAMPLE ONLY:** Actual Case Flow will vary depending on many factors

Electronic Filing Acknowledgement.  
*Timing:* Within 1 hour of filing

Filing Receipt;  
*Timing:* 1-2 Months

Publication of Application; *Timing:* 18 months from priority date

Interview with Examiner on Merits;  
*Timing:* Within 2 Months

Office Action #3: Final Rejection on Similar grounds; *Timing* 3-6 Months

Office Action #4: Non-Final Rejection 2: Eligibility Novelty, Non-Obviousness, or Utility and/or objections to formalities or drawings; *Timing* 3-6 Months after RCE Submittal

Issue Fee Payment;  
*Timing* 3 Months after NOA

Patent Granted!

- ▲ Incoming USPTO Correspondence – Legal Review Required
- ▲ Outgoing USPTO Correspondence – Legal Work Required
- ▲ 2-way Communication with USPTO Required – Legal Work Required
- New Flat Fee Schedule to be signed (*E-Signature* Required)
- Flat-Fee Billing Applies (*See Signed CSA for Flat Rates*)
- USPTO Fees are also due along with the filing



Office Action #1: Restriction Requirement; *Timing:* 6-12 Months

Office Action #2: Non-Final Rejection: Eligibility Novelty, Non-Obviousness, or Utility and/or objections to formalities or drawings; *Timing* 3-6 Months

Request for Continued Examination (RCE); *Timing:* Within 3 Months

Notice of Allowance.  
*Timing:* 3-6 Months

**Nonprovisional** Patent Application (NPA) Submitted to USPTO

Interview with Examiner on Merits; *Timing:* Within 2 Months

Interview with Examiner on Merits; *Timing:* Within 2 Months

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Issue Notification;  
*Timing:* 1-2 Months after Issue Fee Paid