



United States Patent and Trademark Office

Patent Center Beta Release Guidelines

Participant Guidelines:

The guidelines presented below express the understanding between Patent Center Beta Release participants and the USPTO regarding the use of the new patent electronic filing and management system in development, which will henceforth be referred to as "Patent Center". Patent Center is intended to replace previous legacy tools EFS-Web and Private PAIR. During the Patent Center Beta Release, participants will be able to use Patent Center to submit live filings. Additionally, participants will be able to access limited functionality for viewing/managing applications. Legacy tools will still be available for additional functionalities that have not yet been built into Patent Center. The goal of the Patent Center Beta Release is to have participants utilize new features, and provide feedback to the eCommerce Modernization (eMod) Team for further improvements. By agreeing to participate in the Patent Center Beta Release, participants are expected to follow the guidelines defined below. Participants who do not abide by these guidelines may be removed from the Patent Center Beta Release. Note: Participation is voluntary and participants may opt-out of the Beta Release and/or use legacy tools for filing at their discretion.

During the Patent Center Beta Release, participants are required to abide by the Legal Framework for Electronic Filing System - Web (EFS-Web), as it pertains to the available submission types and corresponding follow-on submissions. The Legal Framework for EFS-Web can be found at <https://www.uspto.gov/patents-application-process/filing-online/legal-framework-efs-web>.

- Participants are expected to understand and abide by the Patent Electronic System Subscriber Agreement found at <https://www.uspto.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Patent%20Electronic%20System%20Subscriber%20Agreement.pdf>. Failure to do so, may result in account revocation.
- Participants should refrain from submitting the same documents through both Patent Center and EFS-Web.
- Participants are encouraged to utilize Patent Center for the features that are available. All other features that are not yet available can be accessed via EFS-Web and PAIR. Please note that use of the Patent Center will not change any statutory requirements.

- Participants agree to receive training prior to and/or during the Patent Center Beta Release.
- Training materials, Quick Start Guides and EBC support will be made available for how to use the features associated with the Patent Center Beta Release.
- Participants understand that Patent Center Beta Release features will only be available for accounts participating in the Patent Center Beta Release.
- Participants agree to utilize the Beta Release campaign in IdeaScale to document errors, problems, or questions during the Beta release period.
- Participants understand that any discrepancies should be brought to the attention of the USPTO eMod project team for investigation. Issues can be sent to the EBC at ebc@uspto.gov.
- Participants agree to participate in a survey, as provided by the USPTO eMod project team, to document the overall user experience during the Beta release period.

Thank you for your interest in participating in this exciting USPTO eMod Project to improve the electronic patent submission and review processes for applicants.