

**From:** [Rachel D Fox](#)  
**To:** [successact](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Feedback (Women, minorities, and veterans participating)  
**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2019 11:52:06 AM

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Good morning,

After looking at the email submitted requesting feedback about women, minorities, and veterans participating in entrepreneurship activities and applying for patents. As a female minority business owner, I constantly look for resources to help grow my business and have also looked into patents for new ideas. When visiting the uspto site, it is very much overwhelming to find exactly what I need so I look elsewhere. I don't know that it is a lack of women and minorities being interested but rather the visibility and accessibility of resources for us. If the website was more user-friendly and also showed those benefits for the audience you are trying to reach, you might see better results. Another barrier is the cost associated with applying for a patent. It isn't clear what the fees are for and someone might end up paying more for what they don't actually need. Having online help such as a chat or being able to schedule an appointment with a representative would be helpful. These may be benefits that are already available but it isn't something that I know about.

I'm happy to help further if you need anything else.

Best,

Rachel Fox