

USPTO Law School Clinic Certification Pilot Program
Q&A – Current Status of the Program

1. What is the current status of the USPTO Law School Clinic Certification Pilot Program (“Program”)?

The USPTO announced today (July 30, 2014) the selection of additional law schools that will join the 28 schools already participating in the Program. These law schools were selected based on exemplary aspects of the law schools’ programs such as strong Intellectual Property curriculum; students’ hands-on learning; a commitment to networking and effective outreach in the community; comprehensive *pro bono* client services; and excellent case management systems.

As a result of today’s expansion, there are now 45 law schools in the Program:

- 18 law schools participate in both the Patent and Trademark portions of the Program
- 21 law schools participate only in the Trademark portion of the Program
- 6 law schools participate only in the Patent portion of the Program

2. What are the schools that have been selected to join the Program as result of today’s (July 30, 2014) expansion?

Five law schools join both the Patent and Trademark portions of the Program:

- Indiana University School of Law
- Lincoln Law School
- Southern Methodist University School of Law
- Texas A&M University School of Law
- University of California, Los Angeles School of Law

Four law schools join the Patent portion of the Program:

- Brooklyn Law School
- New York Law School
- South Texas College of Law (already in the Trademark portion of the Program)
- University of Detroit School of Law

Ten law schools join the Trademark portion of the Program:

- Lewis and Clark College School of Law
- Loyola University Chicago School of Law
- Northwestern University School of Law
- Roger Williams University School of Law
- Saint Louis University School of Law
- The John Marshall Law School (already in the Patent portion of the Program)
- University of Idaho School of Law
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law
- University of Tennessee School of Law
- Western New England University School of Law.

3. How many schools were participating in the Program (prior to today's expansion announcement)?

Prior to today's expansion, 28 law school participated in the Program:

- 11 law school clinics in both the Patent and Trademark portions of the Program
- 13 law school clinics only in the Trademark portion of the Program
- 4 law school clinics only in the Patent portion of the Program

4. What is the expansion history of the Program?

- The Program began in the Fall Semester of 2008 with 6 participating law school clinics.
- The Program was expanded in 2010 to add 10 additional trademark clinics.
- The Program was expanded again in 2012 to add 11 additional law school clinics to the Patent portion of the Program and 9 additional law school clinics to the Trademark portion of the Program.

5. What are the key aspects/benefits of the Program?

The Program allows law school students to practice patent and/or trademark law before the USPTO under the guidance of a Faculty Clinic Supervisor, who is a registered patent attorney or patent agent (Patent portion) or who is a licensed attorney in good standing with the highest court of a State (Trademark portion). Law school clinics participating in the Program also provide their services *pro bono* to the public.

6. How many students have participated in the Program?

To date, over 1400 law school clinic students have participated in the Program.

7. How many patent applications have been filed through the Program?

From FY2009 through the first quarter of FY2014, law school clinics in the Program have reported filing over 220 patent applications.

- FY2009 – 21 patent applications
- FY2010 – 17 patent applications
- FY2011 – 29 patent applications
- FY2012 – 18 patent applications
- FY2013 – 108 patent applications
- FY2014, Q1 – 27 patent applications

8. How many trademark applications have been filed through the Program?

From FY2009 through the first quarter of FY2014, law school clinics in the Program have reported filing over 650 trademark applications.

- FY2009 – 74 trademark applications
- FY2010 – 71 trademark applications
- FY2011 – 83 trademark applications
- FY2012 – 101 trademark applications
- FY2013 – 209 trademark applications
- FY2014, Q1 – 112 trademark applications