## UK Patent Application timeline



The following timeline charts the events throughout the life of a patent application until the patent is granted.

Patent applications in the UK are administered by the Intellectual Property Office (IPO), formerly known as the Patent Office.

The process can take a number of years, although it is possible to accelerate the application's progress.

Time (months)	; ; ;	
0	File UK patent application	
6	File a search request before 6 months to get a search report before 12 months	
12	Add claims & abstract, final deadline for requesting search	File any overseas and / or international applications
18	The application is published	
24	Request examination and pay fee	
36 (approx.)	The application enters substantive examination, First examination report issued, Response filed within (typically) 4 month period	
	4	4
	Patent granted OR	Second examination report issued. Examination continues until refusal or grant.
48	First renewal fee due (only if a patent has been granted)	
54	Earliest deadline for putting the application in order for grant	
	1	

This timeline is for guidance only, and the actual deadlines will vary from case to case.

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