

# David S. Alavi

Registered Patent Agent

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## Costs for obtaining a patent

Obtaining a patent can be a costly enterprise. My hourly rate for new clients is \$200/hour with a minimum fee for preparing and filing a new U.S. patent application (provisional - \$4000; non-provisional - \$5000). In the table below I have summarized typical costs for preparing, filing, and prosecuting a new U.S. patent application, obtaining an issued patent, maintaining a patent in force after issue, patent searching, filing an international patent application, and managing foreign patent filings. For most new applications I require an advance deposit of at least \$5000 before beginning work, and payment of any remaining balance of PTO and professional fees upon completion and prior to filing in the PTO. I provide written cost estimates before beginning work.

**Effective 01/01/2016. Please note: all fees are subject to change without notice.**

SERVICE	My Fee	PTO Fee*	Notes
prepare patent application U.S. provisional or U.S. non-provisional	\$200/hour \$5000-\$8000 or more	\$130 - \$1500 or more	
U.S. provisional patent application minimum fee to prepare and file	\$4000	\$130	includes supporting documents/drawings
U.S. non-provisional patent application minimum fee to prepare and file	\$5000	\$730 - \$1500 or more	includes supporting documents/drawings
U.S. non-provisional patent application minimum fee with previous*** U.S. provisional	\$800	\$730 - \$1500 or more	***if prepared by me
simple response to PTO action	\$200/hour \$800 - \$1600		
complex response to PTO action	\$200/hour \$1600 - \$4000 or more		
patent post-allowance reviews and issue fee	\$600	\$480	
patent maintenance fee: after 3 years	\$400	\$800	
patent maintenance fee: after 7 years	\$400	\$1800	
patent maintenance fee: after 11 years	\$400	\$3700	
file international (PCT) application Request based on previous*** U.S. application	\$800	\$3000 - \$4000 or more	***if prepared by me
PTO-based search: three week turnaround simple mechanical	\$900		includes NPS** search fee
PTO-based search: three week turnaround computer/Internet/electrical/optics	\$1300		includes NPS** search fee
PTO-based search: all areas one week turnaround	add 50%		includes NPS** search fee
PTO-based search: all areas 3 day turnaround	add 100%		includes NPS** search fee
liaison with foreign patent counsel	\$200/hour		

\*PTO fees for an individual inventor, small business, or non-profit organization. Subject to change by the PTO.

\*\* National Patent Services (DC-area search firm).