

# PATENT PRO BONO PROGRAM

**Are you an inventor or small business who has limited financial resources and is interested in applying for a patent on an invention? If so, you may be eligible to receive pro bono (“essentially FREE”)\* legal representation from a patent practitioner through the nationwide Patent Pro Bono Program.**

\*Patent legal services are free; applicant is responsible for other costs (filing fees, drawings, etc.)



**uspto**

UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



# REQUIREMENTS FOR PRO BONO ASSISTANCE

**In general, there are three basic eligibility requirements:**

1. household income below a certain threshold;
2. knowledge of the patent system; and
3. you must have an invention—not just an idea!

The eligibility requirements and availability of legal representation may vary based on your location. You are still responsible for paying all USPTO filing fees (discounts may apply).

## **How to Apply**

Please go to our webpage: [www.uspto.gov/ProBonoPatents](http://www.uspto.gov/ProBonoPatents).  
Select your state of residence from the map and follow the link to your patent pro bono program webpage.

If you have any questions please email us at: [probono@uspto.gov](mailto:probono@uspto.gov).