

UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



1

## **How to think like a patent examiner**

Eddie Lefkowitz  
Director, TC 3700  
March 2021



2

## Learning outcomes

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Understand the role of a patent examiner.
- Understand the responsibilities of an examiner in the examination of a patent application.
- Recognize what a patent examiner can and cannot do.



uspto

3

## Role of patent examiner

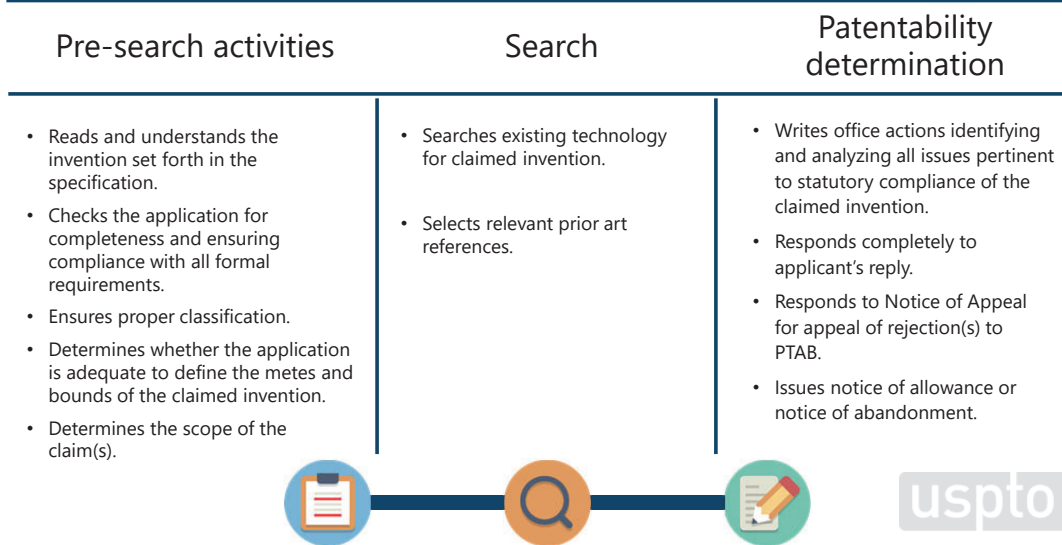
- To serve as advocate/protector of the public interest with respect to intellectual property.
- To provide direct service and assistance to customers from inside and outside the USPTO.
- To evaluate patentability with respect to invention(s) claimed in a patent application under the conditions for patentability set forth in Title 35 of the United States Code.



uspto

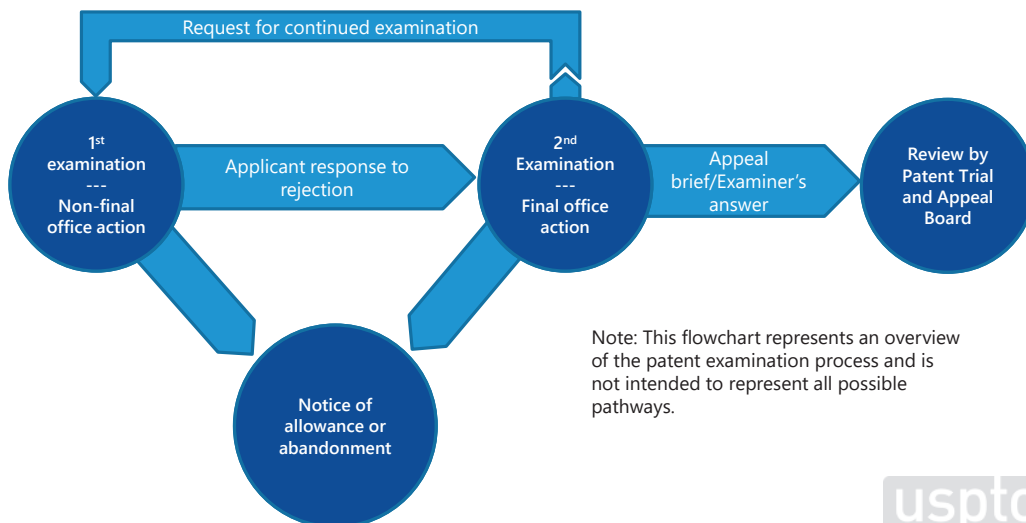
4

# Patent examiner responsibilities



5

## Overview of patent examination process



6

Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the [UT Law CLE eLibrary \(utcle.org/elibrary\)](https://utcle.org/elibrary)

Title search: How to Think Like a Patent Examiner

Also available as part of the eCourse

[2021 Advanced Patent Law \(USPTO\) eConference](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Patent Law Institute session

"How to Think Like an Examiner"