

## Timeline For Processing Patent Applications (National Phase) In Israel

Applicant Actions	Timeline* (assuming no acceleration or suspension)	IPO/Office Actions/Milestones
1. Applicant Files Application		
	1-2 weeks after filing	2. IPO issues filing receipt
	1-2 weeks after filing	3. IPO reviews for formalities (and for accelerated examination requests such as acceleration under special circumstances, PPH, 'green' invention- not covered in the present timeline). 4. If all requirements met, pass to Examiner, otherwise issue letter of formality defects
5. Applicant responds to letter of formality defects	Within 3 months of issuance of letter of formality defects	
		6. IPO Repeats step 4
	The earlier of 18 Months from international filing or 45 days after national phase entry.	7. Publication of application and file. Third parties may use this information to add relevant prior art to the file
	Normally within 6-18 months after filing according to field	8. IPO issues Letter prior to Examination (S-18). This signals the start of the ongoing duty of prior art disclosure throughout pendency.
9. Applicant responds to Letter prior to Examination	Within 4 months of issuance; may be extended by up to 6 months, payment for extension can be made in arrears	
<p>If response is not received 5 months after elapse of the original due date for response, IPO issues 30 day notice prior to refusal of the application, during which time the Applicant is entitled to rectify all deficiencies, and pay the requisite extension fees.</p> <p><b>This applies to all actions</b> including <b>letter of formality defects</b> [#4,5], <b>Letter prior to Examination</b> [#8,9] and <b>Office Actions</b> [#12].</p> <p>Failure to respond properly to a notice prior to refusal will lead to issuance of a notice that the application has been refused.</p>		
		10. IPO reviews case for any Section 17(c) ('Modified' examination) request, if submitted, or any request for suspension of examination.
	12-18 months after Applicant response under #8	11. If no special requests made as per #9, case awaits examination by turn.
		12. <b>Substantive Examination:</b> Application examined for unity of invention, patent eligibility, novelty, inventive step, utility, sufficiency of disclosure, and formal matters. Issuance of examination report (office action) or Notice of Allowability (PK13) [#14].

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13. If Office Action issued, Applicant responds	Within 4 months of issuance; may be extended by up to <b>4 or 6 months**</b> provided total extensions for responding to Office Actions do not exceed <b>12 or 15 months**</b> ; payment for extensions can be made in arrears.	14. If all requirements met, Notice of Allowability (PK13) issued [#14], otherwise repeat step 11 with regard to all remaining matters.
		15. Issuance of Notice of Allowability (PK13), inviting applicant to pay issue fee within non-extendable 3 month period.
16. Applicant pays issue fee, files any divisional* applications not yet filed, and provides final update* of prior art.	Strictly within 3 months of issuance of Notice of Allowability	
		17. Issuance of intention to publish for Opposition, normally at the end of the month of payment of the issue fee or the end of the following month.
		18. Publication of allowance, enabling the filing of third party Oppositions.
		19. If no Opposition filed, Patent is granted.
	Normally within one month of end of Opposition period	20. Issue Certificate of Registration
21. Payment of 1-6 years/post – grant renewal, plus all intervening renewal fees, if any, (end of 6th, 10th, 14th, 18th years from date of application (international filing date))	Within 3 months of grant; extendible for a maximum of 6 months on payment of extension fees	
		22. Expires on non-payment of requisite renewal fees or 20 years after date of application.

\* The submission of divisional applications and updating of prior art should be on an ongoing basis during the examination process, and are valid at any time prior to allowance (publication for opposition), although it is not normally recommended to rely on this somewhat unpredictable time period.

\*\* For applications whose substantive examination began after 27.3.2017, the shorter periods apply.