



# SINGAPORE

## PATENT HANDBOOK

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In Singapore, patent protection is obtainable by way of either entering the national phase of a Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) application or filing a direct national application.

### Legislation

Patent protection in Singapore is governed by the Patents Act (Cap. 221).

### Patentability Criteria

A patent should satisfy the following criteria to claim protection:

- △ new
- △ involves an inventive step
- △ capable of industrial application

### Utility Innovations

N/A in Singapore

### Membership

- √ - Paris Convention
- √ - PCT

Singapore is a member of the Paris Convention from 1995, whereby applications from convention countries will be subject to the same priority date in Singapore. The application for priority has to be made within six months of the first application in a convention country.

Singapore is also a member of the PCT since 1995. An applicant who has made an international patent application may file and/or prosecute the patent application during its national phase entry into Singapore within 30 months from the filing date of the international application or from the earliest priority date of the application if a priority is claimed.

### Rule of Priority

"First to File" is the rule followed by Singapore in determining priority of patents.

### Duration

The term of a patent is 20 years from the date of filing subject to the payment of renewal fees.

## Procedures

### ▼ Application

Every applicant is required to submit an application to the registrar of patents within 12 months of priority date.

### ▼ Publication

The application will be published after 18 months after the date of filing of the application.

### ▼ Examination

There are 2 examination routes.

**Option 1: Request for local Search and Examination Report** within 36 months from the priority date.

**Option 2: Request for Examination Report based on international/foreign search results** within 36 months from the priority date.

If there are any unresolved objections, the applicant can respond to Written Opinion within 5 months from the issue date.

If no unresolved objection is raised, a Notice of Eligibility to Proceed to Grant will be issued.

### Registration

Upon receiving Notice of Eligibility to Proceed to Grant from the Patent Registrar, the Applicants can submit a Request for Grant within 2 months. On grant, a certificate of grant would be issued, and this fact and date of grant will be published in the Patents Journal.

## Filing Requirements

**The following information and/or documents are required to file an application for a patent application in Singapore:-**

### Direct National Application:-

- Request for the grant of a patent (Patents Form 1/8):-
  - △ the name and address of the applicant;
  - △ the name, address and citizenship of the inventor(s);
  - △ an English specification comprising description, claims, abstract and any necessary drawings; and
  - △ the country and filing particulars of basic application whose priority is claimed.
- A statement explaining how the applicant derives its right to the patent from the inventor, normally by virtue of assignment or employment.
- There is no requirement for the filing of an assignment from inventor to applicant.

### PCT National Phase Application:-

- Form 37;
- A copy of the PCT application in English language;
- The details of the PCT application (suitably, the bibliographic page as published by WIPO);
- One copy of any amendments filed in the international phase (in or translated to English language);

## Documents To Be Furnished For Filing A Patent Application in Singapore

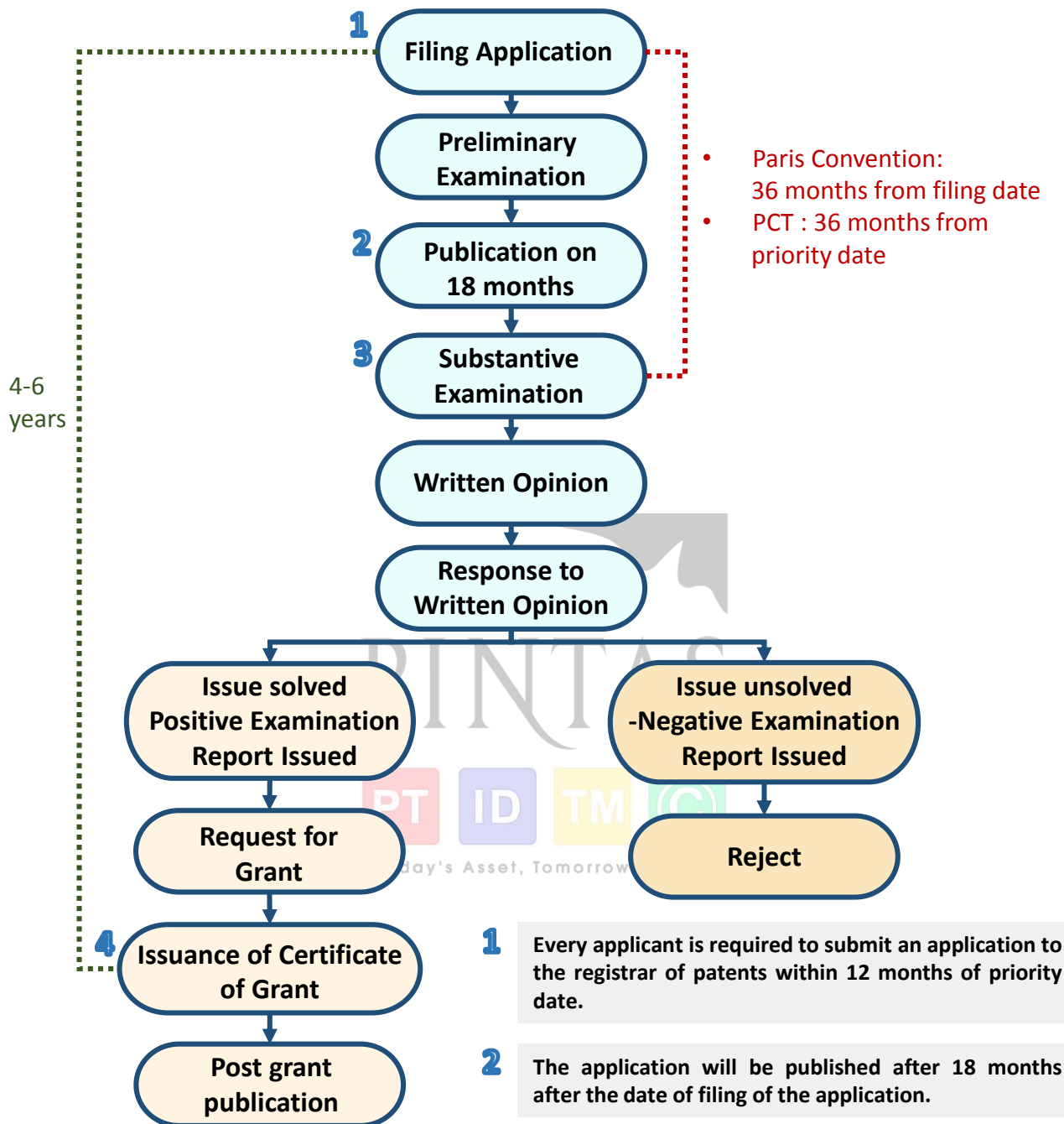
Basic Requirements		
Documents	Remarks	Time of Filing
Patent specification (including description, claims and abstract) in English	No legalization required	On filing date
Drawings	(If Any)	On filing date

Additional Documents for Entry of PCT National Phase in Singapore	
Documents	Time of Filing
International Preliminary Report on Patentability based on International Preliminary Search Report (Chapter I); or	On filing date
International Preliminary Report on Patentability based on International Preliminary Examination Report (Chapter II)	On filing date



" Today's Asset, Tomorrow's Value "

# Patent Application Process In Singapore (Substantive Examination Regime)



**1** Every applicant is required to submit an application to the registrar of patents within 12 months of priority date.

**2** The application will be published after 18 months after the date of filing of the application.

**3** There are 2 examination routes.  
**Option 1:** Request for local Search and Examination within 36 months from the priority date.  
**Option 2:** Request for Modified Examination within 54 months from the priority date. If option 2 is followed, the applicant shall submit prescribed information on the foreign corresponding application, with a claim correspondence table under a supplementary examination process. The Applicants can respond to negative examination reports and supplementary examination reports within 2 months from the date of receipt of Notice of Intention to Refuse.  
**Option 3:** Examination within 36 months.  
**Option 4:** Search within 13 months & Examination within 36 months, total 49 months.

**4** Upon receiving Notice of Eligibility to Proceed to Grant from the Patent Registrar, the Applicants can submit a Request for Grant within 2 months. On grant, a certificate of grant would be issued, and this fact and date of grant will be published in the Patents Journal.

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