

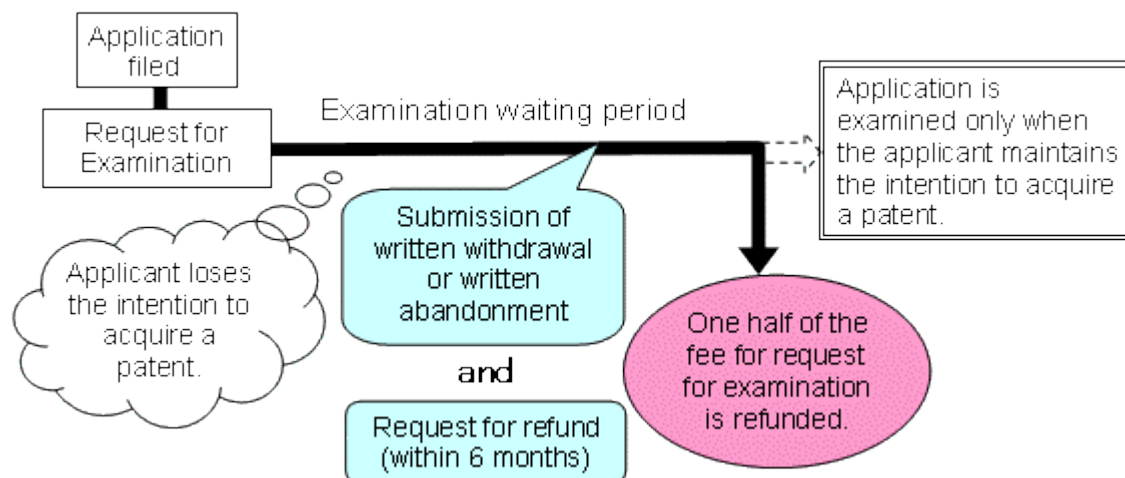
Official Fee Refund and Reduction in Patent Prosecution and Annuities

The Japan Patent Office provides official fee refund and reduction systems for applicants. Please contact your local counsel for details since some are complicated.

1. Half Refund System – Patent Prosecution

One half of the amount of the examination request fee shall be refunded to an applicant when the following conditions are met:

- (1) the Japan Patent Office receives a written withdrawal or written abandonment before the applicant receives the examiner's first action and
- (2) a request for the aforementioned refund is made within 6 months from the withdrawal or abandonment.



https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/process/tesuryo/examination_request_fee.html

2. Patent Fee Reduction/Exemption Program

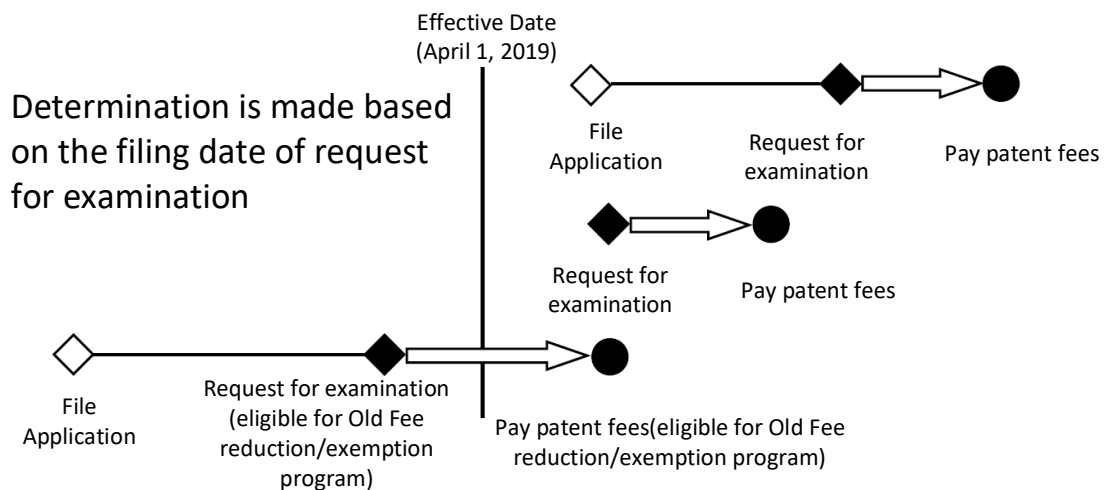
Examination fees and patent fees for year 1 to year 10 may be reduced to one half, one-third, or one-fourth for eligible applicants.

A. Eligible Applicants

(1) Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)	1/2
(2) Corporation tax exempt SMEs	1/2
(3) R and D orientated SMEs	1/2
(4) University researchers, etc.	1/2
(5) Micro enterprises / Small and Medium Startup Enterprises	1/3
(6) SMEs (for Fukushima special*)	1/4
(7) Others (e.g., income tax exempt entities)	1/2

* Based on Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima

B. Eligible Patent Applications (filed on or after April 1, 2019)



For more information, please refer to the following site and contact your local counsel.

https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/process/tesuryo/genmen/genmen20190401/document/index/leaflet_e.pdf