



Benefits/Feature: Saving for the future

Your career with the USPTO will not only take care of your life now, but help you prepare for your life after your career is over. We have several programs – retirement, savings bonds and our Thrift Savings Plan – that will help you ensure comfort and stability past your employment with USPTO.

Retirement

U.S. Federal Government employee retirement is recognized as the gold standard for retirees nationwide and worldwide. Currently it is being made even better through the efforts of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Retirement Systems Modernization (RSM) Program.

Savings Bonds

USPTO employees can participate in a Federal Investment Program that is focused on the long-term security and earning power of United States Government Savings Bonds.

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)

The TSP is a retirement savings plan administered by The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board to provide Federal employees with many of the same savings and tax benefits that 401(k) plans offer the private sector.

Living & Working in D.C.: Neighborhoods & their Nightlife

When you're looking for an evening out on the town, there are plenty of destinations within the D.C. metro area. In addition to having access to incredible music, art, history, food and more, there's also a wide variety of neighborhoods, each with its own atmosphere and attitude, in addition to plenty of restaurants, shops, bars and more.

Old Town Alexandria. One of the more historical areas, Old Town offers a family-oriented scene with plenty of shopping and dining. Right on the river, you'll have your pick of great seafood restaurants. It's a perfect afternoon destination on a nice day.

▶ FROM PTO

For the month of March, a total number of 92 new employees joined the USPTO of which 83 were hired as new Patent Examiners.

As of March 31, the USPTO has received a total of 245,229 Utility, Plant, Reissue and Design applications, of which 166,313 have been filed electronically.

▶ FAST FACTS

Spring Is In The Air: Horticultural Patents & Trademarks

Spring has sprung in the D.C. area, which means it's almost time to plant flowers and take care of your lawn. Here's a list of a few inventions that have had an impact on horticultural pastimes.

- On February 16, 1932 James Markham received the 1st fruit tree patent for a peach tree.
- In the same month, John Deere received a patent for ploughs on the 21st in 1865.
- One of the most famous agricultural inventors, Eli Whitney was granted a patent for his cotton gin in March of 1794.
- Helping good neighbors everywhere, Manning patented a mowing machine in May of 1831.
- Right in the PTO's back yard, Cyrus McCormick of Virginia patented the reaper for the cultivation of grain in June of 1834.

The very first plant patent was issued in 1949 to Henry Rosenberg of New Brunswick, NJ for a climbing rose.

