4 Ways to Speed Up Your Patent

	Accelerated Examination	Track One Prioritized	Examination Based on Age or Health	Standard Application
Time Until Final Disposition (i.e. final rejection or allowance)	 USPTO guarantees final disposition within 12 months Average time to issue: 11.2 months 	USPTO stated goal: "On average, one year"	Average time to issue: 20 months	• 2-5 years
Eligibility	 Original utility or design nonprovisional applications Does not apply to plant applications, international applications, reissue applications, or reexamination proceedings 	 Original utility or plant nonprovisional applications Does not apply to international applications, design applications, reissue applications, or reexamination proceedings 	 Age of applicant is 65 years or older Or Health of applicant is such that he or she might not be available to assist in the prosecution of the application if it were to run its normal course 	All patent applications
Duration	Permanent Program	Permanent Program	Permanent Program	Permanent Program
Special Treatment	Prioritizes and accelerates the prosecution of the application	Prioritizes an application for prosecution	Prioritizes an application for prosecution	None
Special Claims Restrictions	3 or fewer independent claims	4 or fewer independent claims and 30 or fewer total claims	3 or fewer independent claims and 20 or fewer total claims	None
Filing Documents	 Complete application Accelerated Examination Support Document (AESD) Pre-examination Support Document Petition to Make Special Information Disclosure Statement No preliminary amendments allowed 	Complete application Preliminary amendments are allowed	 Petition to make special under 37 CFR 1.102 entitled "Advancement of Examination" If accelerating based on health, a signed note from a doctor 	None
Turn-around Time for Non- final Office Actions	• 1 Month	• 3 Months	• 3 Months	• 3 Months