

Extension of the After Final Consideration Pilot Program 2.0

A Memorandum of Understanding between the
United States Patent and Trademark Office and the
Patent Office Professional Association

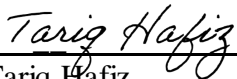
September 28, 2020

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Patent Office Professional Association (POPA) extends the After Final Consideration Pilot 2.0 (AFCP 2.0) pilot, which ends on September 30, 2020, through FY 2021 (September 30, 2021).

The terms of the AFCP 2.0 program description and MOU dated September 23, 2014 are unchanged, however the Agency has determined to make the following changes:

1. One (1) hour of interview attribute will replace one (1) hour of AFCP 2.0 interview time when the PTO-413/413B is included in the response. AFCP 2.0 consideration time (PPEAAM-0000-112057) will still be entered in WebTA.
2. When the need to make performance determinations arises, (e.g. annual performance ratings, performance actions, promotions, award eligibility, and determinations regarding signatory trial period examiners), a "safety net" shall be applied, under which the examiner's production shall be calculated using both the count system in effect at the end of FY 2020 with the interview time accounted for as other time and the prevailing count system(s) using interview attribute for AFCP 2.0 interview time. The best result for the employee will be used to determine the production goal achievement element in the PAP and/or to inform signatory trial period decisions.


Signatures



Tariq Hafiz
Director, Technology Center 3600
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

9/28/20

Date



Kathleen Duda
President
Patent Office Professional Association

9/28/2020

Date