Inventor prepares an application including a written specification

Send to USPTO

The Office of Initial Patent Examination of USPTO checks the format of the application

If not accepted
Inventor must satisfy all filing requirements

If accepted

USPTO assigns a serial number to the application

Send the application to art unit

An examiner of an appropriate Art Unit of USPTO checks if there is more than one claimed invention in the application and reviews the patentability of claims

Non-final rejection
Inventor presents arguments to the USPTO and/or amends the claims

Examiner sends a final rejection

If allowed
Inventor pays an issue and publication fee

Patent issued as granted

If not allowed
Applicant abandons applications or files a new application

Patent issued as granted