

What Is an Inter Partes Review (IPR)?

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An ***inter partes* review** of a patent is a type of administrative trial proceeding. *Inter partes* review became available in 2012 and replaced *inter partes* reexamination as a way to challenge patentability at the Patent Office. Any person who is not the owner of a patent can file a petition for a review of a patent. The Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) will act on the petition either instituting a trial or denying institution of a trial. This will occur a little over six months after the petition is filed. If trial is instituted, the proceeding will, with some limited exceptions, be resolved within one year.

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