

Patents Department

“Bahrain”

Code	BH
Country	Bahrain
National phase entry deadline	30
Documents required BY the national phase entry/filing deadline	<p>1) Specification as published-in <u>word document</u>.</p> <p>2) A case-specific or general power of attorney, <u>a scanned electronic copy-is no longer required at the time of the filing, but then the scanned legalised power of attorney must be filed later within the 3 months deadline from the filing date</u>, see below (if a general has already been filed for one case, then no further action is required on future cases for the same applicant).</p>
Documents required AFTER the national phase entry/filing deadline	<p>1) <u>Scanned copy via email</u> of the power of attorney, notarized and legalised by the <u>Bahrain Consulate or authenticated by Apostille</u>: due within 3 months of entry.</p> <p>2) <u>Scanned copy via email</u> of the assignment document if the applicant is not the inventor, legalised by the <u>Bahrain Consulate or authenticated by Apostille</u> - either a scanned signed assignment or if the applicant already</p>

	<p><u>has a worldwide assignment from the inventors, due within 3 months of entry.</u></p> <p>3) Electronic scanned copies of the priority documents, no legalisation necessary: due within 3 months of entry-<u>No longer required.</u></p> <p>4) If the application relates to genetic resources or traditional knowledge, you would need documents indicating that the inventor obtained the genetic resource or the traditional knowledge legally: due within 3 months of entry.</p> <p>5) Arabic translation: due within 4 months of entry (no extensions available).</p> <p>Are any extensions to these deadlines available? No.</p>
Translation requirements	Arabic (due within 4 months of entry).
Allowance of voluntary claim amendments at national phase entry	<p>Yes.</p> <p>If a Chapter II demand was filed, must you enter with the Chapter II claims? Or can you elect to enter with either the Chapter II claims, or the PCT claims? Yes the applicant can elect Chapter II claims, or the PCT claims.</p>
Excess claims fees / page fees	<p>No excess claims fees.</p> <p>Any excess pages fees? When are they due? Does the sequence listing count towards the page fees? No.</p>
Requesting examination	There is no formal request for examination, but the Patent Office will invite the applicant to pay the substantive examination fees when



	the application reaches its turn for examination.
Deadline for filing voluntary claim amendments	At any time before the payment of the substantive examination fees.
Prosecution procedure information	<p>Once the patent application is accepted as to formalities, it is then put in line for substantive examination. The Patent Office will invite the applicant to pay the substantive examination fees when the application reaches its turn for examination.</p> <p>It is not possible to request substantive examination prior to the invitation. Considering the slow pace of handling applications, expect the invitation to pay the examination fees around 2-3 years from filing.</p> <p>Are there any additional useful tips, for example is there a limited number of rounds of examination?</p> <p>Patent applications are examined in chronological order. Currently, patent applications filed for the year 2014, are now under technical examination.</p> <p>Are post-allowance or post-grant amendments allowed?</p> <p>Not allowed</p>
Novelty only prior art	<p>If a patent prior art document is filed before, but published after the filing date of the application being examined, is it relevant for novelty only? Or not relevant at all? What are the rules around novelty-only prior art in BH?</p> <p>* If the patent application is with claiming priority-the novelty grace period will start from the day after the priority application date, and will end on the last working day of this period.</p>



	<p>* If the patent application is without claiming priority-the novelty grace period will be within a period of 12 months prior of the application date in Bahrain.</p>
<p>Method of treatment / medical use claims</p>	<p>Diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods necessary for the treatment of humans and animals, with the exception of products used in any of these methods, are not patentable</p> <p>First and second medical use claims in the EPC 2000 “compound for use” or “Swiss-type” claim format are allowable.</p> <p>Is it recommended to have both, is their scope considered different?</p> <p>Second medical use claims is allowed.</p>
<p>Claim drafting information</p>	<p>Is it important to list the preferred subject-matter first in case of a lack of unity objection?</p> <p>Can claims be broadened during examination?</p> <p>Can claims be added during examination?</p> <p>Are optional features allowed in claims?</p> <p>Can multiply dependent claims depend on other multiply dependent claims?</p> <p>Must claims include ‘characterised in that’ language, or a purpose of some kind?</p> <p>Are there any specific points that you think we should know about for drafting claims that conform to local practice?</p> <p>Claims can be added or amended at the time of the filing of the response to the Office action based on the examination report.</p>



Divisional applications	Divisional applications are not allowed, at all
Double patenting	<p>Do the restrictions apply to co-pending applications, parent/divisional applications, or both?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p>What is the advice regarding double-patenting restrictions?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
Accelerated examination	It is not possible to accelerate examination.
Other comments	The patent must be exploited within 3 years of the grant date, or within 4 years of filing, whichever is the later. If the patent has not been used within this time, it will be subject to compulsory licensing.
Renewal fees	<p>Due for payment annually from grant, on the anniversary of the <u>grant date</u>.</p> <p>Accordingly, no annuities are due for payment at the time of filing the national phase application or while the application is pending.</p> <p>There is a 6-month grace period for late payment with a surcharge.</p>

