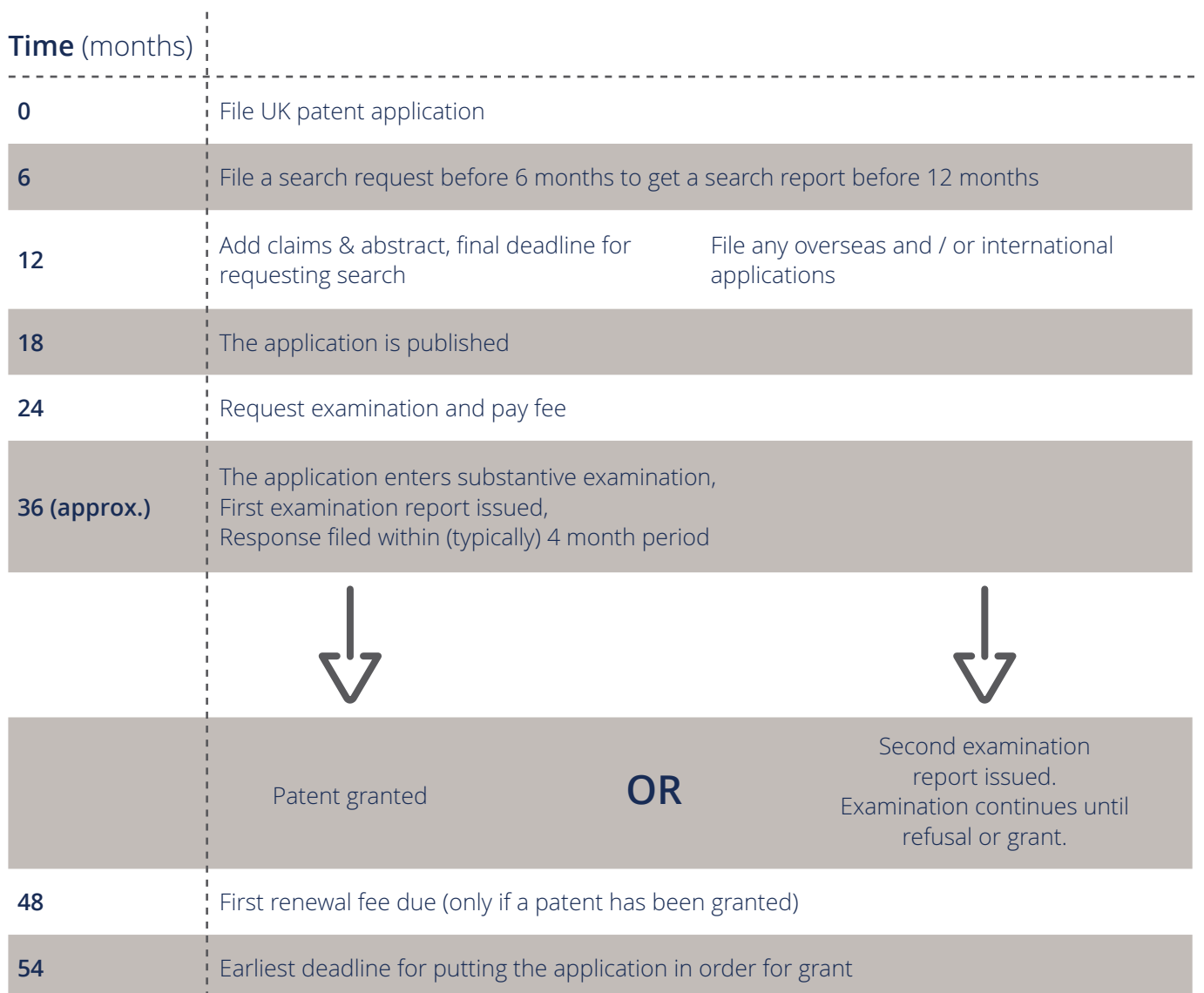# UK Patent
Application timeline

withers & rogers

Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys

The following timeline charts the events throughout the life of a patent application until the patent is granted.

Patent applications in the UK are administered by the Intellectual Property Office (IPO), formerly known as the Patent Office.

The process can take a number of years, although it is possible to accelerate the application's progress.

Time (months)	
0	File UK patent application
6	File a search request before 6 months to get a search report before 12 months
12	Add claims & abstract, final deadline for requesting search · File any overseas and / or international applications
18	The application is published
24	Request examination and pay fee
36 (approx.)	The application enters substantive examination, First examination report issued, Response filed within (typically) 4 month period
	Patent granted · OR · Second examination report issued. Examination continues until refusal or grant.
48	First renewal fee due (only if a patent has been granted)
54	Earliest deadline for putting the application in order for grant

This timeline is for guidance only, and the actual deadlines will vary from case to case.