

ICANN updates

For AP Meeting at APNIC60*

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8 Sep 2025



Agenda

- New gTLD Program: Next Round timeline & updates
- Ongoing Public Comment Proceedings
- Other highlights

New gTLD Program: Next Round Implementation Timeline

New gTLD Program: Next Round Application Submission Period:

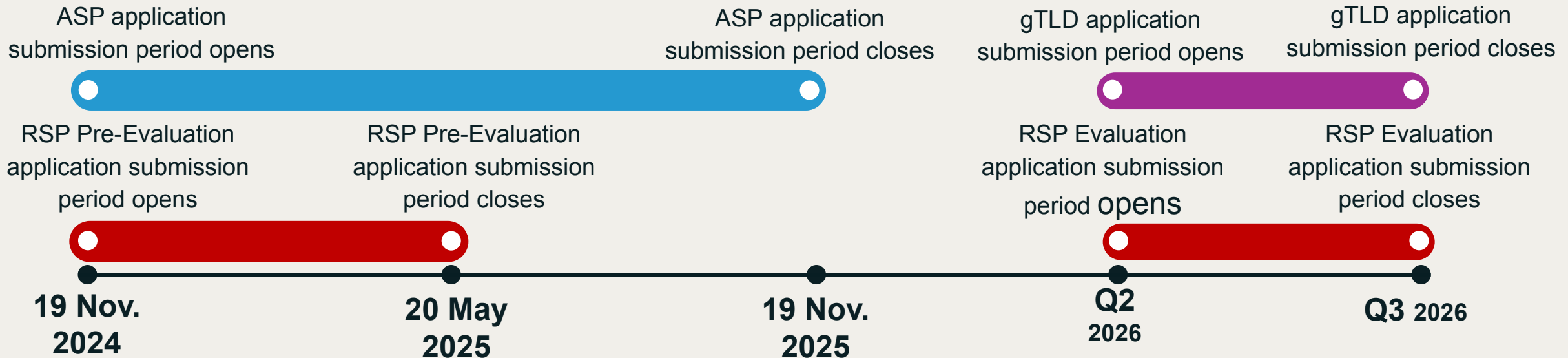
- Expected to open April 2026 for 12-15 weeks.

Applicant Support Program (ASP) Application Submission Period:

- Opens 19 Nov 2024; Closes 19 Nov 2025

Registry Service Provider (RSP) Evaluation Program Application Submission Period:

- Pre-Evaluation period opens 19 Nov 2024; Closes 20 May 2025
- Another Evaluation period opens and closes during the gTLD application submission periods



Dates are subject to change

New gTLD Program: Next Round updates

- Proposed Next Round Base gTLD Registry Agreement (Next Round RA)
 - Will serve as the contractual agreement between successful applicants in the New gTLD Program: Next Round and ICANN after ICANN Board's approval
 - First Public Comment proceeding concluded on 21 Jul 2025
 - Second Public Comment proceeding expected for end Sep 2025, final draft expected to be submitted to the Board in Dec 2025
- Registry System Testing (RST) 2.0 service launched
 - Ensures Registry Operators have technical capacity to operate a gTLD in a stable and secure manner
 - Self-test; all Registry Service Providers (RSPs) must clear technical testing using RST 2.0
 - Compared to RST 1.0, RST 2.0 allows multiple tests to run in parallel and reduces overall testing time
 - Key feature of RST 2.0 – self-service; eliminates need for manual testing by skilled engineers as required in 1.0
- Request for Information (RFI) for potential providers to be on the Geographic Names Panel and Reserved Names Panel
 - Gather insights from prospective providers on methodologies, expertise, pricing to conduct the service, as well as potential challenges that may arise when conducting reviews under ICANN's policies and guidelines
 - First stage of a two-stage sourcing process. A Request for Proposal (RFP) will follow, which will ideally result in the selection of a provider
 - Submission deadline: 3 Oct 2025

Ongoing Public Comment Proceedings

- Functional Model for Root Server System (RSS) Governance
 - Describes the RSS Governance Structure and provides recommendations on how to implement it
 - Introduces the governance principles that will ensure consistency in execution and decision-making
 - Submission deadline: 22 Sep 2025
 - Report due: 6 Oct 2025
- Registration Data Request Service (RDRS) Standing Committee Report for GNSO Council Review
 - Includes recommendations related to the RDRS pilot and potential next steps for the EPDP Phase 2/Standardized System for Access/Disclosure (SSAD) Recommendations
 - Submission deadline: 29 Sep 2025
 - Report due: 20 Oct 2025
- Second Draft of the RIR Governance Document
 - Proposal on (i) Rules and criteria for recognizing new RIRs; (ii) Operating obligations and requirements of RIRs; (iii) Rules and criteria for derecognizing RIRs
 - If adopted by ICANN and the RIRs, the RIR Governance Document would supersede and replace the Internet Coordination Policy 2 (ICP-2)
 - Submission deadline: 7 Nov 2025
 - Report due: 8 Dec 2025

Other highlights

- ICANN Registration Data Policy in effect for Contracted Parties
 - In effect from 21 August 2025; replaces the Interim Registration Data Policy
 - Provides a consistent framework for managing domain registration data in line with privacy regulations
 - Total of 34 policy recommendations implemented, as well as the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) Profile
- New UA Expert Working Group formed
 - SO/AC appointed nominees from APAC: Edmon Chung (ALAC), Nitin Walia (GNSO)
 - ICANN President & CEO appointed nominees from APAC: Jiankang Yao (CNNIC)
 - Co-chairs: Edmon Chung (ALAC) & Sarmad Hussain (ICANN)

Engage with ICANN



Thank You and Questions

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