

NEW gTLD PROGRAM: 2026 ROUND

gTLD

New gTLD Program 2026 Round: TAMS Q&A Webinar

21 April 2026




01

Introduction and Agenda

Readiness Content Disclaimer

The authoritative source for all information about New gTLD Program: 2026 Round rules, evaluations, restrictions, processes, and systems is the English version of the [New gTLD Program: 2026 Round Applicant Guidebook](#). All New gTLD Program: 2026 Round readiness and training content is supplementary to the Applicant Guidebook, and has been developed to provide a high-level summary of key topic areas of interest to prospective applicants and the broader ICANN community. In case of discrepancy, the Applicant Guidebook prevails.



Objective

Create greater understanding of the TLD Application Management System (TAMS) to inform prospective applicant preparations to apply.

Agenda

01 Intro and Agenda

03 Pre-Submitted Questions and Answers

02 Technical and Application Support

04 Wrap up and Next Steps

02

Technical and Application Support

How applicants can access support

Key Applicant Resources

www.newgtldprogram.icann.org/en/resources

New gTLD Program: 2026 Round Applicant Guidebook

- The authoritative document outlining the rules and procedures of the 2026 Round.

New gTLD Program: 2026 Round Website

- Source of 2026 Round news, announcements, information, and resources.

ICANN Learn

- eLearning courses to build knowledge of ICANN and the DNS Industry.

Applicant Readiness Pathway

- Curated learning resources organized by phases and learning outcomes.

2026 Round FAQs

- Frequently asked questions, organized by category

TAMS Support and Resources

- TAMS FAQs
- TAMS Demo videos
- COMING SOON: TAMS Applicant User Guide

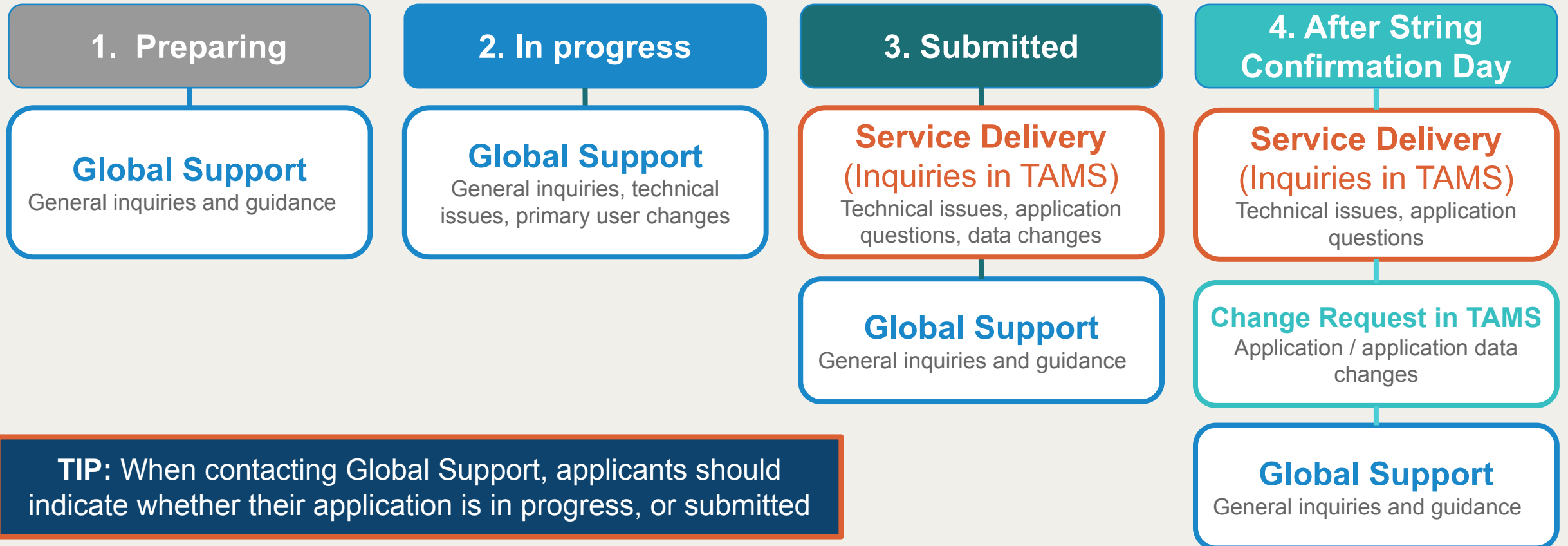
2026 Round Webinars and Presentations

- Register for future webinars, or access recordings of past events.
- Access presentations used in past webinars

Have more questions or need other support?

Follow the appropriate path based on application status

Where are you in the application process?



TIP: When contacting Global Support, applicants should indicate whether their application is in progress, or submitted

Hours and Contact Methods

Applicants may access support 24 hours x 7 days per week during the application window

<p>CONTACT</p>	<div data-bbox="784 468 1352 662" style="border: 2px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Global Support</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email: globalsupport@icann.org • Phone: Numbers found here • Web Form (<i>coming June 2026</i>) 	<div data-bbox="1569 468 2140 662" style="border: 2px solid orange; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Service Delivery (Inquiries in TAMS)</p> </div> <p>TAMS “create inquiry” function available after application is submitted</p>
<p>SCHEDULE (until mid-August)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email: 24 hours x 7 days • Phone: 24 hours x 5 days (M-F) • Web Form: 24 hours x 7 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiries in TAMS: 24 hours x 7 days
<p>RESPONSE TIME</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 hour first response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 hour first response

03

Questions and Answers

Pre-Submitted Question #1

Question:

Must the conditional evaluation fee be paid by the same payer designated by the applicant for the base evaluation fee, given that our payment process may take longer than 30 days?

Pre-Submitted Question #2

Question:

Can ICANN explicitly confirm that TAMS is purely a submission and workflow tool and has no interpretive authority over the ICANN Applicant Guidebook? In cases where TAMS field structures or prompts appear inconsistent with AGB language, which source prevails and how should applicants proceed?

Pre-Submitted Question #3

Question:

Will ICANN publish a mapping document showing how each TAMS field aligns to AGB questions (e.g., Q164, Q165)?

Pre-Submitted Question #4

Question:

How will TAMS ensure that .BRAND applications are not inadvertently funneled into Safeguard categories (e.g., via Q164 responses)?

Pre-Submitted Question #5

Question:

If an applicant selects “Yes” to Q164 in TAMS: Does the system automatically assign Safeguard Group 1 classification? Or is this purely informational and subject to panel evaluation?

Pre-Submitted Question #6

Question:

Will all ICANN communications (questions, clarifications, deficiency notices) be exclusively managed through TAMS?

Pre-Submitted Question #7

Question:

Can applicants: Engage in two-way dialogue within TAMS, or is it a one-directional request/response system? Upload supplemental materials proactively, or only upon request?

Pre-Submitted Question #8

Question:

Can applicants configure: Role-based access controls (e.g., legal, technical, finance teams)?

Pre-Submitted Question #9

Question:

Will it be possible to download a snapshot of the current state of the application draft? (like text of PDF)?

Pre-Submitted Question #10

Question:

Proposed Question (AGB Q215 – Supporting Contracts and Upload Requirements) Regarding Q215 and the instruction to provide “Pre-evaluated RSP and all other outsourced contracts, Letters of Intent (LOIs), or proposals (except employment agreements)”:

Could you please clarify what exactly is expected in terms of documentation and submission format? The Input Instructions state that the Financial Evaluation Template should be uploaded one time for Questions 213–219 as part of Q213. How should supporting contracts (e.g. RSP agreement, Data Escrow agreement, or other outsourced service agreements) be provided in this context?

Specifically: Are applicants expected to upload full executed contracts (e.g. with the RSP or Data Escrow provider) as part of the application? Or is it sufficient to reference and describe these agreements within the Financial Evaluation Template?

If uploads are required: Where should these documents be submitted, given that only a single template upload is necessary for Q213–219?

Are summaries, redacted versions acceptable instead of full agreements? A clear example of a compliant submission would be helpful.

Pre-Submitted Question #11

Question:

Can applicants validate submissions prior to final filing (e.g., completeness checks, error detection)?

Pre-Submitted Question #12

Question:

If issues arise due to: TAMS system design, Ambiguity in prompts or workflows, what is the formal escalation path within ICANN?

Additional Question and Answer

Please submit
questions via the
Q&A Pod in Zoom



04

Wrap-up and Next Steps

Additional Q&A Sessions

- **Webinar #3**

12 May, 16:00 UTC

Register here: https://icann.zoom.us/meeting/register/3K3vxv7sTluXZ_I0WndBNA

- **Webinar #4**

26 May, 16:00 UTC

Register here: <https://icann.zoom.us/meeting/register/Ypin5WwpQVOLwMFwz4IM5w>

To view all upcoming webinars, visit the [Webinars and Presentations](https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/en/resources/webinarspresentations/2026) page:

<https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/en/resources/webinarspresentations/2026>



Evaluation Survey

We kindly request you to take a few minutes to complete this brief feedback form.



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