

NEW gTLD PROGRAM: 2026 ROUND

gTLD

New gTLD Program 2026 Round: TAMS Q&A Webinar

26 May 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

02 TAMS Simulation

03 Pre-Submitted Questions and Answers

04 Wrap up and Next Steps

02

News and Information

New Learning Resource: TAMS Simulation

TAMS Simulation

A simulation is a **low-risk, interactive preview** that helps users build confidence before working in a live environment.

TAMS Simulation

- **Applicants:** can use to prepare users to work in TAMS.
- **ASP Applicants under evaluation:** can prepare for submission of a gTLD application.
- **Community members:** can explore TAMS without needing to clutter up TAMS with incomplete applications.

Resources

Access the complete list of **tools and resources** on the program website at [2026 Round Resources](#).

TAMS Demo Videos Available

New gTLD Program: 2026 Round | TLD ...
by ICANN
Playlist • 13 videos • 661 views

1 2026 Round | TAMS: Importing an ASP Organization into TAMS
ICANN • 87 views • 10 days ago
5:56

2 2026 Round | TAMS: Invoicing and Payments
ICANN • 74 views • 3 weeks ago
3:02

3 2026 Round | TAMS: Using the Messaging Inbox
ICANN • 152 views • 1 month ago
1:28

4 2026 Round | TAMS: Creating an Inquiry in TAMS
ICANN • 72 views • 1 month ago
1:11

5 2026 Round | TAMS: Creating Replacement Strings and Copying Existing Applications
ICANN • 102 views • 1 month ago

See: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQziMT9GXafVqHJ0mYhZ1dQ18nvTxCq8A>

03

Pre-Submitted Questions and Answers

Pre-Submitted Question #1

Question:

Do I need to pick a Registry Service Provider (RSP) and stick with it forever even if I intend to build my own registry for the TLD which I am applying for?

Response #1

Question:

Do I need to pick a Registry Service Provider (RSP) and stick with it forever even if I intend to build my own registry for the TLD which I am applying for?

Response:

Applicant will be able to either select their choice of RSP during application drafting or mark that they will select an RSP at a later time. Prior to the start of applicant/application evaluations, applicants must submit a Change Request to provide their RSP selections, including any Registry Services and IDN Tables. Applicants may change their choice of RSP(s) no later than the Contracting phase.

Pre-Submitted Question #2

Question:

How will you decide who gets a TLD in case there are more than one applications for the same?

Response #2

Question:

How will you decide who gets a TLD in case there are more than one applications for the same?

Response:

When there is more than one application for the same or confusingly similar TLD, these applications are placed in a “contention set” and the contention will be resolved via Contention Set Resolution Procedures, described in Module 5 of the Applicant Guidebook. These procedures include Community Priority Evaluation (CPE), if an application has been designated as a community application and the applicant opts to participate in CPE, or via ICANN Auction.

Pre-Submitted Question #3

Question:

How and why did you guys come up with only 105 days window period when this application opens once in a decade. I guess more time would have been apt and better. At least give 6 months so that everybody gets a fair chance at this otherwise I see only some people who knew this is gonna happen will grab the opportunity. I really don't think 3.5 months is enough of time as all the legal process time. This is not fair and I would like to know how, when, where and why this decision was made?

Response #3

Question:

How and why did you guys come up with only 105 days window period when this application opens once in a decade. I guess more time would have been apt and better. At least give 6 months so that everybody gets a fair chance at this otherwise I see only some people who

Response:

Please note that the window for applications is determined by the recommendations developed by the ICANN community and adopted by the ICANN Board. These recommendations require that the window for applications is between 12 and 15 weeks. Accordingly, the maximum time permitted per the policy recommendations, namely 15 weeks, means that applicants have until 12 August to submit their applications. Do note that this is only the timeframe to submit your application. Subsequent steps in the process, including evaluations, contention resolution, and contracting, follow the close of the application window.

Pre-Submitted Question #4

Question:

Question 191 of the TLD application asks if the applicant is a publicly traded company on one of the top 25 public stock exchanges. It refers applicants to <https://focus.world-exchanges.org/issue/december-2025/market-statistics> as the resource to use to see which are the top 25 exchanges.

I'm referring the stock exchanges that qualify for the top 25 financial profile. Is it the same list as for the organization?

Response #4

Question:

Question 191 of the TLD application asks if the applicant is a publicly traded company on one of the top 25 public stock exchanges. It refers applicants to <https://focus.world-exchanges.org/issue/december-2025/market-statistics> as the resource to

use

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Response:

The World Federation of Exchanges (WFE) is a leading source for exchange statistics, which sources data directly from its membership. For the purposes of the Financial and Operational Evaluation, and in accordance with SubPro Implementation Guidance 27.18, we utilize the WFE to identify the top 25 exchanges based on domestic market capitalization when considering those eligible for the Top 25 Public Stock Exchange profile. The London Stock Exchange had been a member of the WFE; it is currently no longer a member and as a result is not providing such data to be published with the WFE. Taking this into account, ICANN has added the London Stock Exchange to our list of exchanges eligible for Top 25 Public Stock Exchange profile. ICANN will update an FAQ to account for this addition.

Pre-Submitted Question #5

Question:

In TAMS, phone numbers have to be provided for several stakeholders including directors, shareholders, officers.

When providing the phone number, TAMS automatically deletes the first “1”. A fictitious example: the phone number “177 88990011” is changed in TAMS to “(778) 899-0011” even though the proper Country Code has been selected. It appears that this change is based on the US structure of phone numbers.

Please change the TAMS settings so Non-US phone numbers can be saved correctly.

Response #5

Question:

In TAMS, phone numbers have to be provided for several stakeholders including directors, shareholders, officers.

When providing the phone number, TAMS automatically deletes the first “1”. A fictitious

ex

Response:

We fixed TAMS to correctly display 11-digit phone numbers provided by applicants in the organization questionnaire, where the system was initially hiding the first digit and showing only the remaining 10 digits.

Pre-Submitted Question #6

Question:

Has ICANN had any reported accessibility/usability issues with TAMS? If so can ICANN provide any estimate to the size of these issues and have they all been resolved or is that pending any software updates?

Response #6

Question:

Has ICANN had any reported accessibility/usability issues with TAMS? If so can ICANN provide any estimate to the size of these issues and have they all been resolved or is that pending any software updates?

Response:

TAMS has now been live for over three weeks. During that period, ICANN has received a limited number of user reports and support inquiries related to the system use, including usability questions. ICANN is not aware of any issue that has prevented applicants from accessing or using TAMS for intended application activities.

Pre-Submitted Question #7

Question:

Is a digital signature acceptable?

Response #7

Question:

Is a digital signature acceptable?

Response:

ICANN would accept a signature that is in a legally binding format, consistent with your local jurisdiction's laws for executing this type of document. ICANN reserves the right to request additional verification or documentation where necessary.

Pre-Submitted Question #8

Question:

The AGB says that Annual Reports are not acceptable, but does that include Annual Securities Reports, as well?

Response #8

Question:

The AGB says that Annual Reports are not acceptable, but does that include Annual Securities Reports, as well?

Response:

When it says that Annual Reports are not acceptable, it is considering Annual Reports in which we have seen as additional marketing-type material and other information. However, we understand Form 10-K to include an auditor's report, audited financial statements, and accompanying notes. Specifically Form 10-K we consider meets the criteria set forth in the AGB to be acceptable.

Additional Question and Answer

Please submit
questions in the
Q&A Pod.



04

Wrap-up and Next Steps

Additional Webinars

Objections and Appeals: overview of the objection and appeal grounds, processes and timelines

- **ICANN** | 26 May 6:00 UTC
- **WIPO** | 27 May 6:00 UTC
- **ICC** | 28 May 6:00 UTC

To view all upcoming webinars, visit the Webinars and Presentations page:
<https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/en/resources/webinarspresentations/2026>

Evaluation Survey

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