

ICANN Community Digest



The ICANN organization Policy Development Support function publishes this twice-weekly digest to help ICANN community groups track requests and follow updates.

How Domain Name System Policy is Developed, and How You Can Get Involved

Do you have any ideas for improving the ICANN Community Digest?
Write to us at policyinfo@icann.org!

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ICANN79

NEXT WEEK: ICANN79 Community Childcare Grants Program: Now Accepting Applications

Grants of up to \$750 per family are available for ICANN Public Meeting participants who meet the criteria, are bringing children, and will incur expenses associated with babysitting and/or local childcare services.

Deadline: **Friday, 26 January 2024**, at 23:59 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

[Read more.](#)

Information Sharing

NEW: ICANN Launches RDRS, Releases First Metrics Report

We are encouraged by the level of interest in the service just one month since the launch. ICANN organization (org) staff will continue outreach and engagement efforts to support registrars and potential requestors, including providing training and educational materials.

[Read more.](#)

NEW: Chair's Blog: January Board Workshop Preview

The year has only just begun, and the members of the ICANN Board of Directors already are hard at work. Please read the [Chair's Blog](#) to learn more about the January Board workshop on 19-21 January 2024.

NEW: ICANN announces ICANN Grant Program

Last week, ICANN announced the ICANN Grant Program. The program will make millions of dollars in funding available for projects that support the growth of a single, open, and globally interoperable Internet.

[Read the Press Release here.](#)

NEW PUBLICATION: ICANN Grant Program Applicant Guide

ICANN released the Applicant Guide for the ICANN Grant Program. Read Sally Costerton's blog on this exciting milestone and the program [here](#) and view the Applicant Guide on the Grant Program webpage [here](#).

NEXT WEEK: ICANN Webinars to Provide First RDRS Metrics Report Findings and Gather Feedback

The webinars will be offered at two time slots and you only need to register for one. Both sessions will be presented in English. Click on one of the links below to register.

[Webinar #1](#) | Wednesday, 24 January 2024 at 00:00 UTC for 60 minutes

[Webinar #2](#) | Thursday, 25 January 2024 at 15:00 UTC for 60 minutes

[Read more.](#)

REMINDER: Call for SOs/ACs to Nominate Fellowship Program Mentors

ICANN invites the Supporting Organizations (SOs) and Advisory Committees (ACs) to nominate volunteers to serve as Fellowship Program Mentors. Each group is welcome to nominate one individual for this role. Individual self-nominations will not be considered.

- Mentors generally must plan on a time commitment of approximately 30-40 hours before, during, and immediately after each ICANN Public Meeting. This includes extensive pre-meeting preparation, on-site support for their assigned fellows, and post-meeting reporting.
- Mentors will serve a term that includes three consecutive ICANN Public Meetings, beginning with ICANN81 (from ICANN81 - ICANN83 inclusive).
- Mentors are expected to follow Fellowship Program guidelines to help ensure consistency in capacity development opportunities for fellows and to help fellows actively participate in ICANN's work.
- Mentors will receive travel funding support (if applicable).

For more information on the guidelines and expectations, please read about the mentorship program [here](#).

Mentors cannot serve on the Selection Committee at the same time they are serving as mentors.

Interested SOs/ACs should select their respective Fellowship Program mentor representative by **31 January 2024** and notify ICANN Fellowship Program Manager, Siranush Vardanyan at siranush.vardanyan@icann.org.

Action Items

❑ ACTION ITEM: Questionnaire for the 20-year review of WSIS implementation

Please consider responding to the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CTSD) regarding WSIS implementation by **31 January 2024**.

□ **ACTION ITEM: Calling for NextGen@ICANN Applications for ICANN80**

ICANN wants to hear from university students living and studying in the African region who are interested in the future of the Internet and in participating in the ICANN80 Policy Forum. ICANN80 is scheduled to be held in Kigali, Rwanda, from 10–13 June 2024.

Deadline: 23 February 2024

[Read more.](#)

□ **ACTION ITEM: Apply Now for ICANN Leadership Positions**

Selected individuals will have a unique opportunity to work with accomplished colleagues from around the globe to help shape the policy development and technical coordination of the Internet's unique identifiers.

Deadline: 15 March 2024 at 23:59 UTC

[Read more.](#)

Public Comment

[Draft Final Report of the 2023 Africa Domain Name Industry Study](#)

Open for Submissions: 21 December 2023

Closed for Submissions: 08 February 2024

[Draft ICANN FY25 Plans](#)

Open for Submissions: 12 December 2023

Closed for Submissions: 12 February 2024

[Draft PTI FY25 Operating Plan and Budget](#)

Open for Submissions: 12 December 2023

Closed for Submissions: 12 February 2024

See [upcoming proceedings](#).

See [other public consultations](#).

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