DRAFT – New gTLD Evaluation Process v4 – Detailed View

	Applicant process	ICANN Board/staff process	Public comment process	Evaluation process	Objection process	Contention process
Phase 0	Application period opens Applicants submit applications & application fees **End Phase 0: Closing of application period**					
Phase 1		Staff prepares applications for posting & media announcements Staff reviews applications for completeness and payment of fee **End Phase 1: Posting of applications**				

Phase 2

Applicants may submit public comments/ responses

Staff/experts review for technical concerns with strings

Staff/experts review for confusing similarity between applications or between applications and existing TLDs

Public comments submitted on applications

End Phase 2: Close of public comment period on applications

Expert panels review qualifications

Panels send applicants confidential detailed evaluation results

Panels prepare public summaries of evaluation results

Objectors may file objections until end of Phase 4

Phase 3

Staff composes draft Initial Evaluation Report (IER), including:
-public comments
-public summaries of evaluator reports
-objection status

Staff posts draft IER

End Phase 3: Publication of draft IER

Phase 4

Applicants may respond to:
-evaluation results
-draft IER
-public comments

Public comments submitted on draft IER

End Phase 4:

Providers review objections for completeness (form + fees paid)

Phase 4

End Phase 4: Close of public comment period on draft IER

Phase 5

Staff summarizes public comments for IER

Evaluators consider changes to reports based on comments & responses

Providers notify ICANN of objections filed

Staff/experts consider changes to determinations on technical concerns w/ string and confusing similarity between strings

Evaluation panels send confidential detailed initial evaluation results & public summaries to ICANN and applicants

End Phase 5: Evaluation and Objection status reports sent to ICANN

Phase 6

Staff posts IER

End Phase 6: Publication of IER

Applicants may submit comments on IER

Public comments submitted on IER

submit comments on IER

submitted on IER

End Phase 7: Close of public comment period on IER

Phase 7

Staff composes Board report

Board considers IER: Applications are: A) approved, B) not approved, or C) referred to extended evaluation

Staff posts Board resolutions

End Phase 8: Posting of Board resolutions on initial evaluation process

Phase 8

Applicants referred to extended evaluation may proceed by paying extended evaluation fee

Successful applicants without contention enter contract and IANA process for delegation

Applicants subject to objections may proceed by paying fees and filing responses

Applicants may be eligible for early contention resolution if they and no competing applicants are subject to extended evaluation

End Phase 9: Deadline for electing to enter extended evaluation

Phase 9

If a community-based applicant elects comparative evaluation, all contending applicants enter comparative evaluation and pay fees

or

If no community-based applicants choose comparative evaluation, or no contenders are community-based applicants, goes to auction

Phase

electing to enter extended evaluation

evaluation, all contending applicants enter comparative evaluation and pay fees

or

evaluation, or no contenders are community-based applicants, goes to auction

Phase 10

Applicants respond to questions from evaluators

Staff/technical experts conduct extended evaluation re: string issues

Evaluation panels conduct extended evaluation of applicant qualifications

Providers conduct objection resolution procedure (depending on objection, might include public hearings, expert consultations, lab tests, surveys, regional outreach, or other elements)

Community-based application evaluators perform comparative evaluation

Auction provider conducts auction for early contention resolution process

Staff/experts conduct extended evaluation re: confusing similarity

Evaluation panels send confidential detailed extended evaluation results & public summaries to ICANN and applicants

Evaluators notify ICANN of comparative evaluation results

Winners of early auction process may proceed to contract and IANA process for delegation

Providers send objection resolution reports to parties and ICANN

End Phase 10: Evaluation panels and providers send reports to ICANN

Phase 11

Applicants may pay fee and appeal negative findings on qualifications, objections, or comparative evaluation

Qualification appeals panels hear appeals (if necessary)

Objection appeals panels hear appeals from applicants or losing objectors (if necessary)

Comparative evaluation appeals panels hear appeals (if necessary)

Qualification appeals panels notify parties and ICANN of results

Objection appeals panels notify parties and ICANN of results

Comparative evaluation appeals panels notify parties and ICANN of results

End Phase 11: All appeals panels notify ICANN of results

Phase 12

Staff compiles draft EER, including results of appeals and comparative evaluation process, if applicable

End Phase 12: Publication of draft EER

Phase 13

Applicants may submit comments on draft EER

Staff monitors public comments/applicant responses on draft EER

Public comments submitted on draft EER

End Phase 13: Close of public comment period on draft EER

Phase 14

Staff summarizes comments and responses into EER

End Phase 14: Publication of EER

Applicants may submit comments on EER

Public comments submitted on EER

Phase 15

on EER

Public comments submitted on EER

End Phase 15: Close of public comment period on EER

Phase 16

Board consideration
Applications are:
A) Approved
or B) Not approved

End Phase 16: Posting of Board resolutions on extended evaluation process

Phase 17

Successful applicants without contention enter contract and IANA process for delegation

If a community-based applicant elects comparative evaluation, all contending applicants enter comparative evaluation and pay fees

or

If no community-based applicants choose comparative evaluation, or no contenders are community-based applicants, goes to auction

End Phase 17: Deadline for electing comparative evaluation

Community-based application evaluators perform comparative evaluation

Auction provider conducts auction for contention resolution process

perform comparative evaluation

contention resolution process

Evaluators notify ICANN of comparative evaluation results

Winners of auction process may proceed to contract and IANA process for delegation

End Phase 18: Comparative evaluation results sent to ICANN

Phase 18

Applicants may pay fee and appeal results of comparative evaluation

Comparative evaluation appeals panels hear appeals (if necessary)

Comparative evaluation appeals panels notify parties and ICANN of results

End Phase 19: Comparative evaluation appeals panel sends appeal results to ICANN

Phase 19

Staff compiles draft Comparative Evaluation Report (CER)

End Phase 20: Publication of draft CER

Phase 20

Phase 20

End Phase 20: Publication of draft CER

Phase 21

Applicants may submit comments on draft CER

Staff monitors public comments/applicant responses on draft CER

Public comments submitted on draft CER

End Phase 21: Close of public comment period on draft CER

Phase 22

Staff summarizes comments and responses into CER

End Phase 22: Publication of CER

Phase 23

Applicants may submit comments on CER

Public comments submitted on CER

End Phase 23: Close of public comment period on CER

Phase 24

Board consideration
Applications are:
A) Approved
or B) Not approved

End Phase 16: Posting of Board resolutions on extended evaluation process

Successful applicants without contention enter contract and IANA process for delegation