

ICANN GRANT PROGRAM

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NCUC
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Agenda

01

Overview and Key Elements

02

Q&A



Overview and Key Elements

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01

What is the ICANN Grant Program?



The ICANN Grant Program is a competitive, global program open to applications from eligible organizations for projects that are consistent with ICANN's mission and align with the objectives of the Grant Program.



The ICANN Grant Program will make a difference in the Internet ecosystem and positively impact people across the globe by investing in creative and innovative solutions that further our vision of a single, open, and globally interoperable Internet.



The expected outcome will be a broader and more diverse user base with greater capacity to further develop and improve the Internet around the world.

Grant Program Objectives

The types of efforts that ICANN will encourage and fund through the Grant Program includes those that support ICANN's mission by:

Benefitting the development, distribution, evolution of the structures that support the Internet's unique identifier systems

Providing needed capacity development and infrastructure support in communities that need them most

Advancing work related open access, future-oriented developments, innovation, and open standards for the Internet community

Addressing diversity, participation, and inclusion across regions and all stakeholder communities

How will the Grant Program Operate?

The ICANN Grant Program will operate in cycles until all funding is used

Each cycle, an allocated portion of available proceeds will be made available for grants

During this first cycle, up to \$10 million will be made available for grants to successful applicants

Awards of between \$50,000 and \$500,000 will be available



Cycle 3, 4, 5...

Cycle 2

Cycle 1

Up to **\$10m**

For future cycles, these amounts and the total amount allocated for the next cycles may differ

Who can apply?

Applications may be submitted by eligible organizations from across the globe. For the first cycle, applicants must:

Be a charitable organization

- ✓ U.S. organizations must have a 501(c)(3) determination from the Internal Revenue Service
- ✓ Organizations outside of the U.S. must be the equivalent of a U.S. charitable organization

Not be subject to any U.S. sanctions

- ✓ Based on protocols established by U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control

Have no conflicts of interest with ICANN

- ✓ No person that participated as a member (including temporary member appointments) of the Cross-Community Working Group on New gTLD Auction Proceeds is eligible to apply for or be included within funded proposal activities as principals, advisors, or in other roles

Meet all applicable standards for reputation and background checks

- ✓ Organizations should have no record of funds mismanagement

Have a bank account in the organization's name

- ✓ Account must legally be in the applicant's name and able to receive funds from the U.S.

Employees, contractors, or Board members of ICANN or its affiliates and their respective family members cannot apply or be included in funded proposal activities.

What can be funded?

Funding under this theme will support efforts on one or more of the following areas:

Theme 1: The Internet's unique identifier systems

- ✓ Supporting standards development in relation to the Internet's unique identifier systems.
- ✓ Supporting long term usability and sustainability of the Domain Name System.
- ✓ Strengthening the security and stability of the Internet's unique identifier systems.
- ✓ Enhancing Universal Acceptance to ensure truly multilingual and digitally inclusive systems.
- ✓ Promoting innovative projects that expand the use of the Internet's unique identifier systems.
- ✓ Improving the performance of the Internet's unique identifier systems.

What can be funded?

Funding under this theme will support efforts on one or more of the following areas:

Theme 2: Open and interoperable Internet

- ✓ Advancing work related to open access to the Internet.
- ✓ Enhancing Internet interoperability to cope with unexpected contingencies, including those that may exclude certain communities from the global DNS.
- ✓ Enhancing the resiliency and sustainability of the Internet at the local, national, or global level.

What can be funded?

The following two transversal themes should be considered by applicants in the design of their projects and will be taken into account by the Independent Application Assessment Panel when assessing the admissible and eligible projects:



Diversity, participation, and inclusion of underserved populations; and



Impact and outcome that can be sustained through capacity development.

How will applications be selected?

Applications received by 15:00 UTC on 25 March 2024 will pass through several stages to determine whether or not they will be successful in receiving a grant, including:

Admissibility Checks

to determine application meets administrative requirements such as application completeness, submission in English etc.

Eligibility Checks

to determine if applicant and the application meet the eligibility requirements to qualify for consideration.

Independent Application Assessment Panel Review

an independent panel will assess admissible and eligible applications and provide a recommendation based on a criteria-based assessment for which applications will receive funding for this first cycle.

Application Window

Open

25 March 2024

Closes

24 May 2024

Q&A

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02

I have questions, who can I contact?

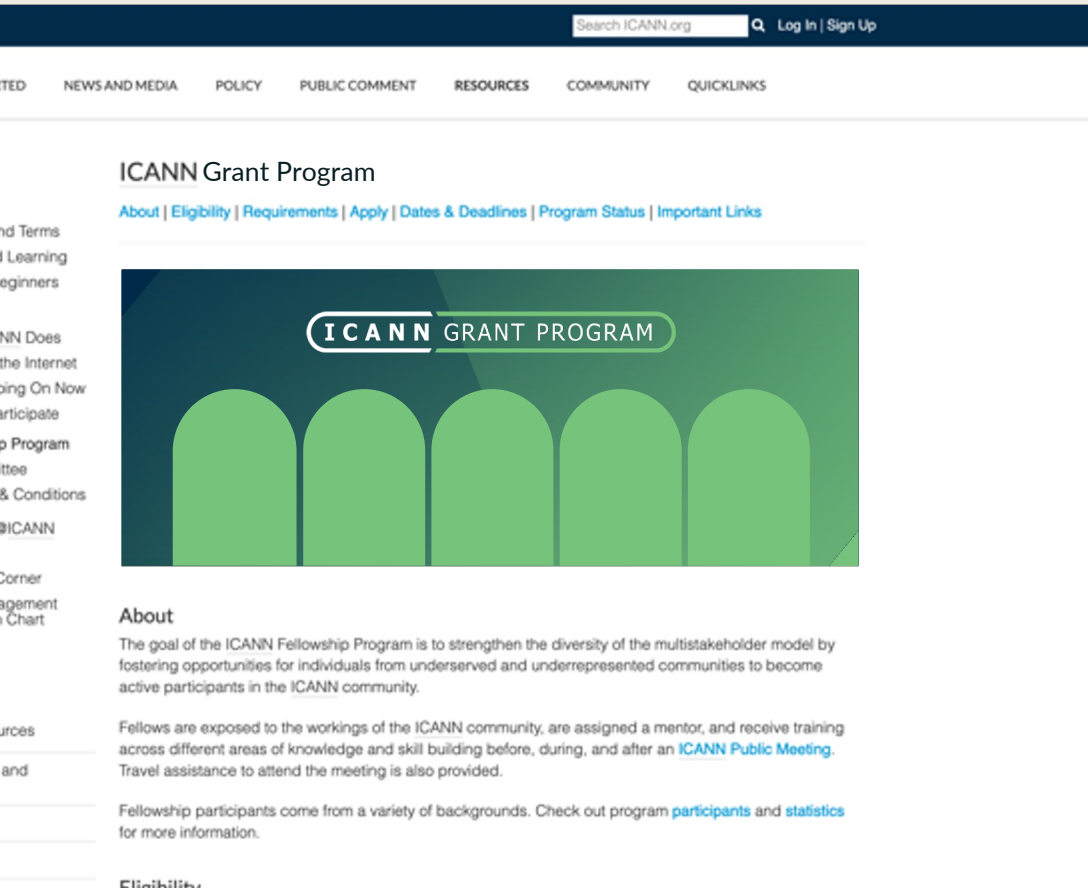


For any comments, questions, or feedback regarding the Grant Program contact:

grantprogram@icann.org



Website and Literature



Launch of ICANN Grant Program webpage at: <https://icann.org/grant-program> (Dec 2023)



Release of Applicant Guide (8 Jan 2024)



Announcement of Program and Start of Awareness Campaign Teaser Phase (9 Jan 2024)

ICANN GRANT PROGRAM

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