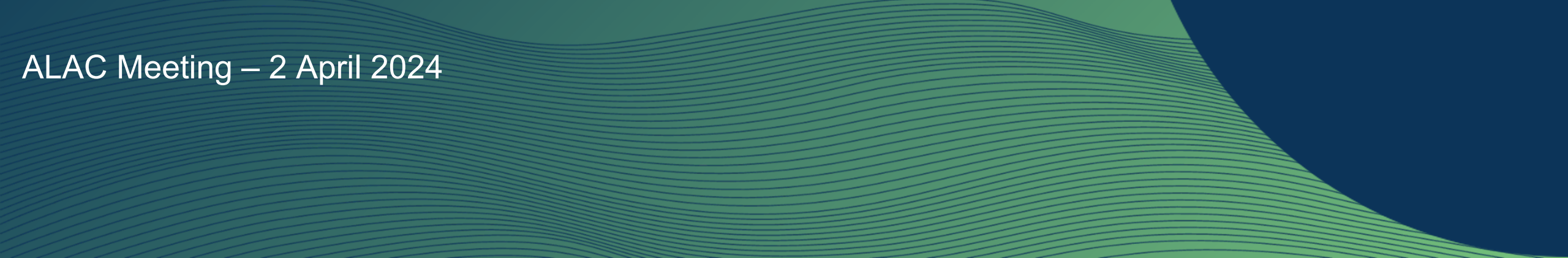


ICANN GRANT PROGRAM



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ALAC Meeting – 2 April 2024

Agenda

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About the ICANN Grant Program

02

First Cycle Key Elements

03

First Cycle Next Steps



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.

First Cycle Key Elements

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02

What funding is available?

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**

\$50,000

\$500,000

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

Must not be the subject of any U.S. sanctions

Have no conflicts of interest with ICANN

Meet all applicable standards for reputation and background checks

Have a bank account in the organization's name

What activities are eligible?

- A variety of activities may be proposed for consideration.
- All proposed activities must:

Be consistent with ICANN's mission

Not duplicate activities already funded by ICANN

Must support ICANN's legal status as a nonprofit public benefit corporation:

- No political or lobbying activity
- No activity that may lead to private financial benefit of individuals
- No unlawful activity according to the country where the applicant is based

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

What can be funded?



Under the vision and objectives of the program, ICANN requests applications that address the following work areas:

What can be funded?

Theme 1: The Internet's unique identifier systems

Work Areas

✓ 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?

Theme 2: A unified Internet

Work Areas



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?

Overarching themes to be considered by applicants in the design of their 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 20:00 UTC on 24 May 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 applications and provide a recommendation for funding based on criteria.

Evaluation criteria

Generally, the Independent Application Assessment Panel will assess proposals against the following criteria:

✓ Proposal objectives and activities are clearly aligned with the objectives of ICANN Grant Program and ICANN's mission to help ensure a stable, secure, and unified global Internet.

✓ The proposal clearly identifies a problem for a target population; describes strategies to solve the problem; presents key performance indicators to monitor progress; and outlines expected results.

✓ The proposed work plan is comprehensive and incorporates adequate planning for the expected activities.

Evaluation criteria

Generally, the Independent Application Assessment Panel will assess proposals against the following criteria:

✓ Applicant has considered potential risks with implementing this project (organizational, political, economic, environmental, etc) and presented strategies to mitigate those risks.

✓ The costs associated with the project are allowable, reasonable, clearly described, and aligned with the project activities.

✓ Project leadership and any consortium partners or subcontractors (if applicable) exhibit skills and experience to manage the project, administer grant funds, and address the technical aspects required.

First cycle next steps

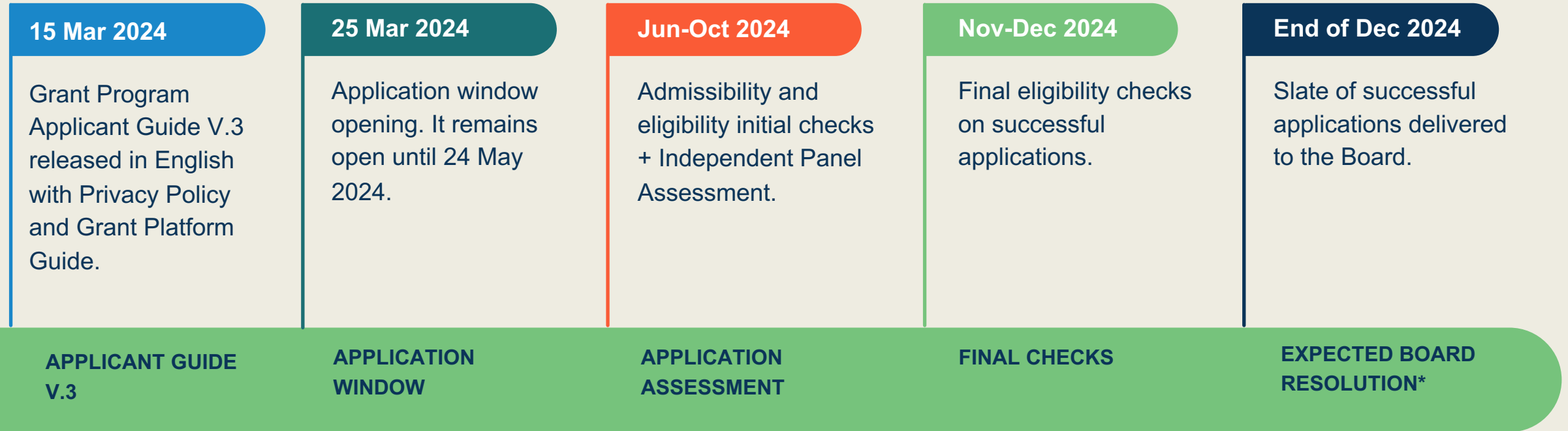
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Application Window

Open since
25 March 2024

Closing
24 May 2024

Upcoming Key Dates



*Subject to dependency on Recommendation 7 language refinement and Fundamental Bylaws amendment process.

Reviews

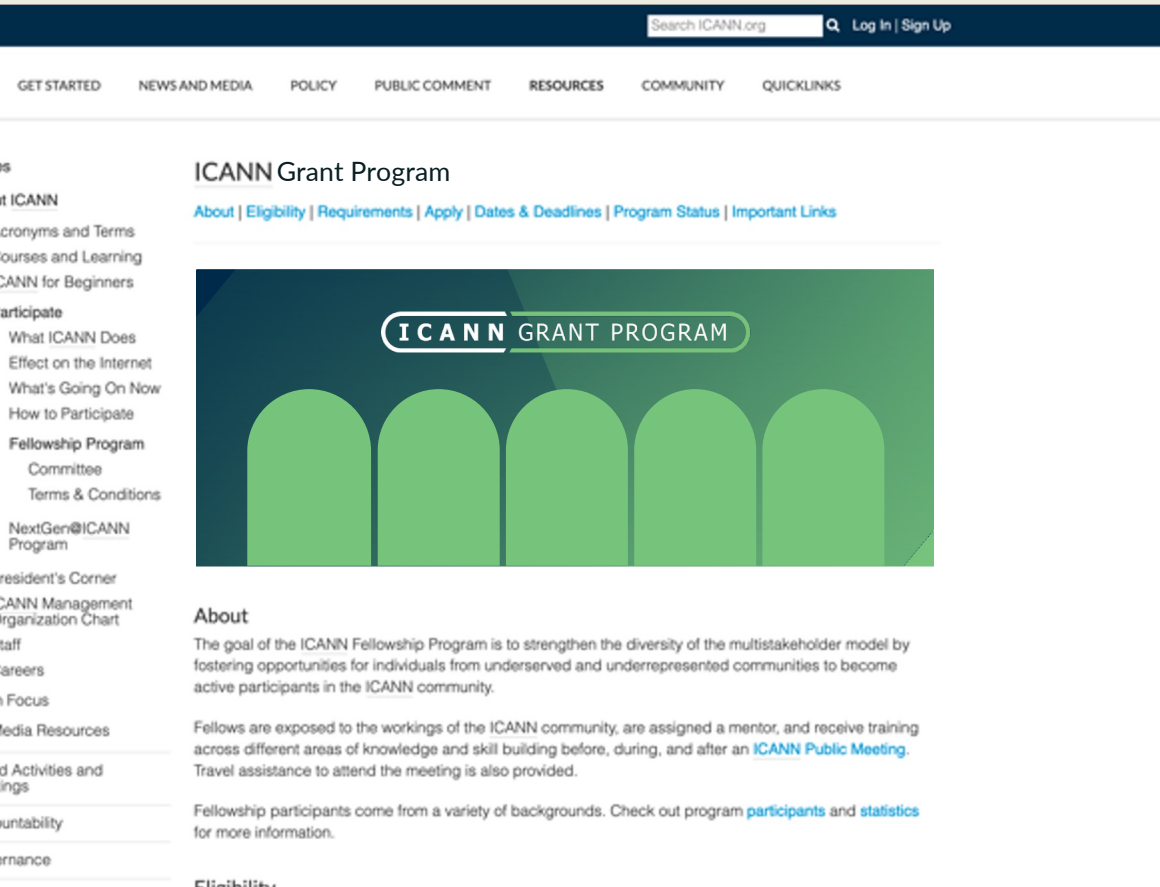
Continuous improvement is key to ensuring the ICANN Grant Program functions as intended and as optimally as possible to ensure transparency, accountability, and the best use of the proceeds in the public interest.

At the end of each cycle, ICANN will conduct an internal review to ensure that the program was implemented as planned and all processes and protocols were followed. This will also provide an opportunity to reflect and learn from the process to inform and improve the second and future cycles.

A less frequent strategic review will take place to ensure that the goals and impact of the program are being met.

The timing of this review will be conducted based on the needs of the program and are distinct and separate from ICANN's Bylaws-mandated reviews.

Where can I stay up-to-date?



Visit the ICANN Grant Program webpage at: <https://icann.org/grant-program>

I have questions, who can I contact?



For any comments, questions, or feedback regarding the Grant Program, please contact grantprogram@icann.org or the ICANN Helpdesk at <https://www.icann.org/en/help>

ICANN GRANT PROGRAM

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