

Registry Service Provider Evaluation Program

**Registry Service Provider Evaluation Program and
Handbook
SubPro IRT Session
28 May 2024**

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28 May 2024



Agenda

- Overview of the RSP Evaluation Program
- Progression of Work Summary
- Review Handbook Comments
- RSP Fee
- Q and A

Overview: Why are we doing this?

GNSO Final Report on the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process – Recommendation 6.2

- The Working Group noted that where a single RSP provided registry services for multiple TLD applications in the 2012 round, ***that RSP was subject to duplicative evaluation and testing (in some cases hundreds of times).***
- The Working Group agreed that **duplicative evaluation and testing could be reduced by establishing a program in which RSPs are evaluated in advance** of an application round opening.

Recommendation 6.8: *The RSP pre-evaluation program must be funded by those seeking pre-evaluation on a cost-recovery basis.*

RSP Application Types

- Types of RSP:
 - **Main** (EPP, RDAP, data escrow, additional registry services)
 - **DNS** (DNS service)
 - **DNSSEC** (DNSSEC signing)
 - **Proxy** (“Registration Validation per Applicable Law with Proxy”)
- In case of **Main** RSPs:
 - Additional registry services
 - Internationalized Domain Name services
- “All-you-can-eat” model based on **one RSP fee**:
 - An organization may be evaluated to be one or more types of RSP
 - For example, an organization looking to be evaluated as DNS RSP only will pay the RSP fee.
 - A **Main** RSP may be evaluated for one or more additional registry services and IDN tables.

RSPs and the New gTLD Application Process



- List of evaluated RSPs
- List of pre-approved registry services including the service description
- List of pre-approved IDN tables
 - Level of support for IDNs
 - IDN Tables

RSPs and the New gTLD Application Process



- ICANN org will communicate with evaluated RSPs, sharing the list of gTLD applicants for which they have been selected in every RSP category (e.g., Main, DNS, DNSSEC, or Proxy).
 - In the case of Main RSPs, ICANN org will communicate additional registry services selected by the gTLD applicant.
- Evaluated RSPs will confirm which gTLD applications it will support and for which it has enough capacity. If a gTLD applicant elected an evaluated RSP, but the evaluated RSP is unwilling to support it, the applicant will be notified to correct their application.

Progression of Work Summary

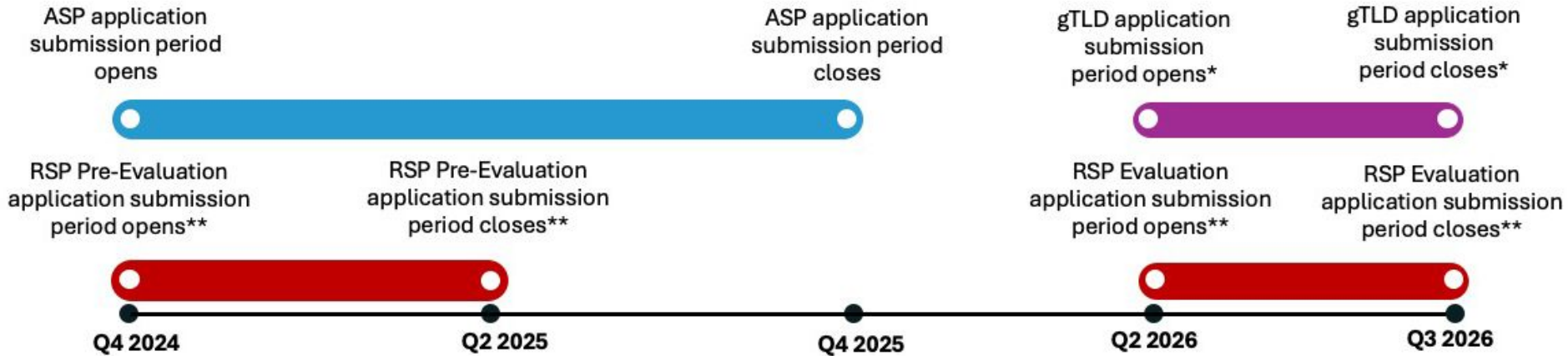
- SubPro IRT RSP sub-track sessions
 - 28 November 2023
 - Discussion of RSP types
 - 12 December 2023
 - Discussion of IDN and Registry Services applications
 - 8 February 2024
 - Introduction of the Draft RSP Handbook
- Session with the full SubPro IRT:
 - 22 February 2024
 - Discussion of the RSP Evaluation Program as described by the RSP Handbook.
 - 21 May 2028
 - Discussion of the RSP Handbook post public comments.
 - Discussion of the RSP fee.
- Public Comment
 - Comment period: 13 March 2024 through 22 April 2024
 - Summary publication: 17 May 2024

Comments in the RSP Handbook

- Review of comments since last IRT meeting:
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SkG7L-RJ9ht7TzrHJnLGYN9DZPCvVNGyhM7hUCImJtw/edit>

Program Timeline

Timeline



* The New gTLD application submission period is projected to open in April 2026 for 12-15 weeks.

** The two RSP Evaluation application submission periods are projected to open **19 November 2024** and close **20 May 2025 (pre-evaluation)** and then open again **April 2026 for 12-15 weeks**.

ICANN org plans to publish public portions and results of the RSP applications for the first time on 9 December 2025.

Cost estimates

Number of RSPs in the gTLD market	
Type	Number of RSPs
Main RSPs	35
DNS RSPs	10
New Entrants	Unknown
Total	≈45

Estimated total cost of the RSP Evaluation Program: \$4.1M

RSP fee

- The RSP Evaluation Fee will be set to recover costs based on the current, known estimates: **US\$92,000.00**
- At the conclusion of the pre-evaluation phase, the fee will be adjusted to reflect the number of RSP applicants at that time.
- Should the fee change, RSP applicants will be refunded the difference.

RSP Fee Schedule	
Number of RSP Applicants	Fee
0 - 49	USD \$92,000
50 - 59	USD \$77,000
60 and above	USD \$68,500

RSP fee - Breakdown cost

Item	Cost
Design and Implementation	2.0M
Total Evaluation cost	1.3M
Contingency (10%)	0.3M
Shared Services (15%)	0.5M
Total	4.1M

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