



APAC Webinar: Introduction to Registrar Accreditation & Policy
Updates
9 October 2014
Questions & Answers

The APAC Hub received questions during the above webinar. We've provided responses to these questions below.

Q: Capitalization is only for that current year as at the point of application or does the applicant need to show this amount of working capital for X number of preceding years prior to the point of application?

A: For applicants seeking initial accreditation, demonstration of the ability to procure liquid capital immediately available in the applicant's name at the commencement of the accreditation period in an amount of US\$70,000 or more will be deemed adequate, although a lesser amount will be accepted upon a showing that in the circumstances it will provide adequate working capital. Evidence of independent verification of the capital could be in the form of a guaranteed bank loan or a guaranteed credit line or letter of credit from a recognized financial institution.

For applicants with existing registrar businesses, or proposing to convert their existing domain-name reseller businesses to registrar businesses, an independently verified financial statement (such as by an accountant's audit) showing the working capital devoted to the business should be presented with the application.

Q: [Slight Edits] For the quarterly variable fees, what is considered a small registrar?

A: We noted that smaller registrars may qualify for partial forgiveness of the quarterly variable fee. For the purpose of forgiveness eligibility, a smaller registrar is one with fewer than 350,000 registrations. Additionally, to receive forgiveness, the registrar must have had no significant batch activity (i.e., no more than 200 attempted adds for every successful add in any one gTLD) during the quarter.

Q: [Slight Edits] Does one legal entity have to be accredited by ICANN to do business as a Registrar? Is it mandatory to be ICANN-accredited?

Only ICANN-accredited registrars may register domain names on gTLD registries. Registrars may, however, employ resellers as part of their sales channels.



Q: [Slight Edits] Why do we need ICANN accreditation to become a registrar for gTLDs?

A: Only ICANN-accredited registrars may register domain names on gTLD registries. If an entity would like to sell domain names for new gTLDs, it has to be accredited under the 2013 RAA.

Q: Where can I see the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy?

A: The current policy can be found here:

<https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/policy-2012-03-07-en>

Do note that a new policy will take effect from 31 January 2015 and it is available here:

<https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/policy-transfers-2014-07-02-en>

Q: [Slight Edits] Should registrars deposit registration data with the RDE (Registrar Data Escrow) provider weekly?

A: Yes. All registrars must deposit data into escrow at least weekly. Registrars whose transaction volume meets or exceeds 100,000 registration-years per ICANN fiscal quarter are required to also submit incremental deposits daily.

Q: One of the accreditation criteria is "having viable business plans and business competency", what exactly are you looking out for?

A: Applicants must demonstrate that they have thought through their business plans and have planned for potential risks to their businesses. The business plan should demonstrate that the Applicant is capable of sustaining its business.

Q: [Slight Edits] Does the APAC hub manage Registrar Accreditation Applications?

A: Several teams are involved in the registrar accreditation process at the global level, including the Registrar Service team, which has staff who works on applications in ICANN's Singapore office.