



# The 2026 New gTLD Program: Australia's approach

In 2026, organisations and brand owners had the opportunity to apply for a new generic top-level domain (gTLD), through the 2026 New gTLD Program. This program is being run by Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the organisation responsible for coordinating the domain name system.

| A <b>gTLD</b> is the part of a domain name which follows the final dot, like <b>.com</b> in <a href="http://www.example.com">www.example.com</a> | Original gTLDs | 2012 Round gTLDs | 2026 Round gTLDs |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                  | .com           | .sydney          | TBC              |
|                                                                                                                                                  | .org           | .google          |                  |
|                                                                                                                                                  | .net           | .computer        |                  |

The window for applications was open between 30 April and 12 August 2026. Over 1,600 applications were received during this period, all of which will be published for community feedback in October 2026. Successful applicants will become the registry operator for the applied-for gTLD.

## The Australian Government's role in this process

The Australian Government is monitoring the 2026 New gTLD Program to:

- prevent applications for Australian place names and protected terms, unless permission is granted;
- defend Indigenous language and cultural terms against misuse;
- identify and address potentially sensitive or problematic applications, which can limit fraud and abuse.

We can achieve these outcomes by:

- issuing an Early Warning about an application, which explains how the applicant can address our concerns;
- with other Governments, providing advice to ICANN, who must take this advice into consideration;
- engaging in public comment and objection processes, which are open to anyone in the community.

## How you can share your views

The Australian Government will seek community views between October 2026 and early 2027.

If you want to participate, you can express your interest by email to [GACAustralia@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:GACAustralia@infrastructure.gov.au)

You also have opportunities to provide feedback on applications directly, once they are made public:

- You can submit comments on posted applications to express your views to the evaluators.
- You can file an objection to an application. You need to pay ICANN a fee to file an objection.

More information on how to provide feedback to ICANN can be found at [newgtldprogram.icann.org/en](https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/en)