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## **Volunteers Sought to Help Evaluate Generic Top-Level Domain Applicants Seeking Financial Support**

### **New Panel Will Help Expand Internet's Reach**

**Marina del Rey, California...** The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is seeking volunteers who will assist in the evaluation of those organizations seeking financial support to apply for a new generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD).

“These volunteers will be key to ICANN’s effort to assure that the less-developed parts of the world are able to participate in the new Domain name program,” said Kurt Pritz, Senior Vice President. “The panel members will make a real impact in ensuring that the opportunities for innovation and economic development created by the Internet are open to everyone.”

The volunteers will be chosen for their background and experience in areas such as running a small business, operating in developing economies, analyzing business plans, serving in the public interest, managing a domain name registry service, or awarding grants.

The financial assistance component of the Applicant Support Program offers a limited number of qualifying applicants the opportunity to pay a reduced evaluation fee of \$47,000 instead of the full evaluation fee of \$185,000.

The selected volunteers will assist in the evaluation of financial support applicants in the context of established public interest, financial capabilities and financial need criteria as outlined in the “[Financial Assistance Handbook](#).”

Those who are interested in applying, should review the criteria, time commitment and other expectations, which are detailed here: <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/candidate-support/sarp-eoi-request-03feb12-en.pdf>

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- To learn more about the Applicant Support Program, go here: <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/candidate-support>.
- To read the New gTLD Financial Assistance Handbook, go here: <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/candidate-support/financial-assistance-handbook-11jan12-en.pdf>

- To learn more about the New gTLD program, go here:  
<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/about/program/materials>

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**About ICANN:** *ICANN's mission is to ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. For more information please visit: [www.icann.org](http://www.icann.org).*