



Dear Registry Operator,

This is a courtesy notice and no action is required on your part at this time.

On 12 May 2026, ICANN published updates to the [Registration Data Policy](#) to account for implementation of the Board-adopted Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data (EPDP -Temp Spec) [Recommendation 18](#) (Rec 18) EPDP Temp Spec Phase 1 Rec 18 regarding a timeline for ICANN contracted parties to respond to urgent requests for lawful disclosure of nonpublic registration data.

Under the updated policy, upon receipt of an Urgent Request, a registry operator must acknowledge receipt within two hours and respond without undue delay, not to exceed 24 hours absent exceptional circumstances. If exceptional circumstances occur, the registry operator must notify the authenticated requestor without undue delay, and in all cases within 24 hours, if an extension is required. The notification must include the rationale for the extension and the timeframe within which the registry operator expects to respond, which cannot exceed 72 hours from receipt of the request. The newly added language can be found in Sections 3.8, 3.9, 10.7, and in Implementation Note K of the Registration Data Policy.

The obligations under Section 10.7 of the [Registration Data Policy](#) regarding the requirements for urgent requests for lawful disclosure will not become effective until an authentication mechanism for law enforcement is implemented. More information can be found in this [announcement](#). Note that ICANN will send a follow-up notice indicating when the requirements to respond to urgent requests for lawful disclosure of nonpublic registration data will be effective.

Background:

- The Registration Data [Policy](#) became effective 21 August 2025, with the understanding that the community would continue to work on the urgent request timeline called for in EPDP Temp Spec Phase 1 Rec 18.
- ICANN org published the Urgent Request proposed 24-hour timeline language for [Public Comment](#) in October 2025. There was broad [support](#) for integrating authentication with expedited timelines.
- The proposed Urgent Request timeline language, as well as next steps for integrating the Authentication Mechanism for Urgent Requests, were discussed extensively at ICANN85.
- On 29 April 2026, the GNSO Council [communicated](#) to the ICANN Board that the [proposed language](#) for inclusion in the [Registration Data Policy](#) aligns with the requirements in (EPDP Temp Spec) Phase 1 Rec 18, and the expectations provided by the [Generic Names Supporting Organization \(GNSO\) Council](#). Accordingly, the GNSO

Council agreed that ICANN org should proceed to publish the updated policy language in the [Registration Data Policy](#).

- The Council additionally agreed to continue discussion of authentication as part of its work on the SSAD Supplemental Recommendations to address the gap in enforcement created by the absence of reference to authentication in Rec 18.

If you have any questions, please email globalsupport@icann.org.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fessenden
VP GDD Accounts & Services
ICANN