
Community Priority Evaluation (CPE)

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1. Community Priority Evaluation

In the 2007 GNSO Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains, Implementation Guidance F states that “[i]f there is contention for strings, applicants may: i) resolve contention between them within a pre-established timeframe[;] ii) if there is no mutual agreement, a claim to support a community by one party will be a reason to award priority to that application.”¹ In the Final Report on the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process, the SubPro PDP Working Group affirmed “the continued prioritization of applications in contention sets that have passed Community Priority Evaluation (CPE).”²

CPE is an independent analysis conducted by a third-party expert panel. The panel’s role is to determine whether a community-based application fulfills the CPE criteria and should receive priority in the contention set.

CPE will only occur if a community-based applicant is in contention and selects this option.³ Applicants will be given the opportunity to opt into CPE once all contention sets have been finalized and all applications in the contention set are eligible to proceed to contention resolution.

1.1. Eligibility for Community Priority Evaluation

As described in subsection [Section X.X TLD Types], applicants will have the opportunity to designate their application as community-based.⁴

All applicants designating their applications as community-based⁵ are required to respond to a set of questions in the application form to provide relevant information about their community (see Application Questions). This information will be used in CPE (and evaluated against the Criteria in Section 1.6) if a community applicant is in contention and elects to participate.

1.2. Required Documentation

While only community-based applications that are in contention are eligible to participate in CPE, all community applicants must provide the requisite information regarding their identified

¹ See: <https://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/pdp-dec05-fr-part-a-08aug07.htm>.

² See Affirmation with Modification 34.1.

³ Note that CPE is one contention resolution method. However, to potentially reduce the instances of string contention, applicants are encouraged to designate a Replacement String alongside their original choice of string. See more regarding the process for Replacement Strings in [Section X.X String Contention Procedures].

⁴ Note that an application may have more than one type, e.g., an application could be both a geographic name and community-based. See [Section X.X TLD Types] for more information.

⁵ Applicants for community-based gTLD strings are also required to submit written endorsements of the applied for gTLD string from the community. If an applicant for a community-based gTLD string is also seeking one or more variants, the endorsements must also apply to the requested variants.

community at the time of application submission, including information related to their Community Registration Policies (see Application Questions).

Community Registration Policies proposed for inclusion in the applicable registry agreement (RA) must be evaluated and approved by ICANN before an applicant can participate in CPE, as applicable. Only Community Registration Policies that are approved by ICANN will be scored in CPE. For more information, see Topic 9 - Public Interest Commitments, Registry Voluntary Commitments, and Community Registration Policies, Section 4, Community Registration Policies, and [Section 1.6.3](#) below.

Additionally, as part of their application, applicants must submit written endorsements from the majority⁶ of the community as identified. It should be noted, however, that during the application comment period additional organizations may express their support or opposition to the community-based applicant (see Application Comment section for more information). While applicants are encouraged to submit as much supporting documentation as possible with their application, the panel may also consider additional endorsements received during the comment period.

1.3. Conditional Fees

Once contention sets have been finalized, any community-based applicants within a contention set will be notified of the opportunity to participate in CPE and will be requested to submit the requisite fees within 21 days of transmission of the notification. If the fees are not received within 21 days, the applicant will forfeit the opportunity to participate in CPE. See [Section X.X Application Fees](#) for more information regarding fees.

1.4. Community Priority Evaluation Outcomes

CPE will be performed by a third-party expert panel appointed by ICANN. The panel's role is to determine whether a community-based application fulfills the CPE criteria and receives priority over other applications in the contention set. ICANN anticipates that the CPE process will take approximately six months from the time that an applicant elects CPE until the publication of results.

The panel may conduct independent research deemed necessary to evaluate the application according to the criteria (the "Limited Research"); however, the evaluator must disclose the results of such Limited Research to the applicant. The applicant shall be provided 30 days to respond before the evaluation decision is rendered.⁷ When conducting any such Limited Research⁸, panelists are cautioned not to assume an advocacy role either for or against the

⁶ "Majority" is defined according to the size of the identified community by the applicant. See [Section 1.6.4](#) below for more information.

⁷ The panel is expected to focus its "limited research" on "fact-checking" of the information provided by the applicant in response to the [Section X.X Application Questions](#).

⁸ If the panel relies on research as part of its evaluation, it will include a citation or link to the relevant research as part of its results determination.

applicant or application. Additionally, panelists may issue Clarifying Questions and/or engage in written dialogue with CPE applicants, as well as those who submit letters of opposition to community-based applications, in order to address potential issues (see [Section 1.4.1](#) for more information).

If a single community-based application is found to meet the CPE criteria (see [Section 1.6](#) below), that applicant will prevail and may proceed to the next step in the application process, subject to meeting all other Program requirements. Other applications in the contention set will be ineligible to proceed at that time.⁹

If more than one community-based application is found to meet the criteria, these applicants will proceed to an ICANN auction, while other applications in the contention set will be ineligible to proceed. [\[See Section X.X Contention Resolution for more information\]](#).

If the community-based applications (as there could be more than one) in a contention set do not meet the criteria set forth below, then all of the applications in the contention set will proceed to an ICANN auction. [\[See Section X.X Contention Resolution for more information.\]](#)

1.4.1. Clarifying Questions

The panel will have the opportunity to issue CPE Clarifying Questions¹⁰ to community-based applicants that choose to participate in CPE. Clarifying Questions will be used to address issues to the extent possible provided that responses to Clarifying Questions do not constitute a material change to the application. The panel may also issue Clarifying Questions to those who submit a letter of opposition to a CPE applicant, to address any potential issues.

1.4.1.1. Challenge Mechanisms for CPE¹¹

If the panel determines that the application has not met the CPE criteria and the applicant believes the evaluation panel has made a factual or procedural error, the applicant will have the opportunity to initiate an Evaluation Challenge proceeding. To trigger an Evaluation Challenge proceeding, the applicant must file a challenge within 21 days from the date of transmission of the evaluation determination. The Evaluation Challenge will be reviewed by the same CPE Provider who performed the review during the initial evaluation period. CPE Service Providers are encouraged to use a different set of panelists to evaluate an Evaluation Challenge where practicable. If the CPE Service Provider finds a factual, procedural, or system error, the application will be reevaluated for CPE taking into account the findings from the Evaluation

⁹ See [\[Section X.X. Applicant Journey\]](#) for more information regarding procedures for applications in different statuses.

¹⁰ These clarifying questions should not be confused with any other clarifying questions that might be issued to applicants during applicant or application evaluations.

¹¹ Please note the challenge mechanism for CPE is separate from ICANN Accountability Mechanisms. ICANN Accountability Mechanisms provide additional avenues for review of ICANN actions, such as a Reconsideration Process, the Independent Review Process, and the ICANN Ombudsman. See here for more information on Accountability Mechanisms: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/mechanisms-2014-03-20-en>.

Challenge. If the CPE Service Provider does not find a factual, procedural, or system error, the application will continue to the next stage in the process of contention resolution.

1.5. Community Priority Evaluation Scoring

The CPE panel will review and score the application of a community-based applicant that elects to participate in CPE against the four criteria listed in [Section 1.6 Community Priority Evaluation Criteria](#). An application must achieve a score of at least 80% (12 / 15 points) to prevail in CPE.

The scoring process is designed to identify qualified community-based applications, while preventing both “false positives” (awarding undue priority to an application that refers to a “community” construed merely to get a highly desired generic word as a gTLD string) and “false negatives” (not awarding priority to a qualified community application). This calls for a holistic approach, taking multiple criteria into account, as reflected in the process. The scoring will be performed by a panel and be based on information provided in the application plus other relevant information available (such as: public information regarding the community represented, responses to CPE Clarifying Questions, letters of support or opposition, or any limited research conducted by the panel).

It should be noted that a qualified community application will receive priority over all directly contending applications. This means that the prevailing application will proceed to the next stage in the application process and all other contenting applications cannot proceed. This is a fundamental reason for stringent requirements for qualification of a community-based application, as embodied in the criteria below. A finding by the panel that an application does not meet the scoring threshold to prevail in a community priority evaluation is not an indication the community itself is in some way inadequate, invalid, or does not exist, but rather that the application does not qualify to receive priority over all other applications in the contention set.

1.6. Community Priority Evaluation Criteria

CPE is based upon the panel’s evaluation of the application against four main criteria:

- Criterion 1: [Community Establishment](#) ([5] points)
- Criterion 2: [Nexus between Proposed String and Community](#) ([4] points)
- Criterion 3: [Registration Policies](#) ([2] points)
- Criterion 4: [Community Endorsement](#) ([4] points)

1.6.1. Criterion 1: Community Establishment

This criterion relates to the community as explicitly identified according to statements in the application. The panel will seek to answer the following core questions in evaluating the application against this criterion:

- A. **Organization (2 points):** Is the applicant the organizing body for the community? If not, is the applicant able to demonstrate that the community is organized, with an organizing body(ies) relevant to the community or to each member category of the community?
- B. **Engagement (1 point):** Is the applicant able to demonstrate that there is active engagement with community members?
- C. **Awareness (1 point):** Is the applicant able to demonstrate awareness among and between community members of the identified community?
- D. **Longevity (1 point):** Is the applicant able to demonstrate the longevity of the community's pursuits, showing that they are enduring and sustainable rather than temporary?

1.6.1.1. Scoring for Criterion 1: Community Establishment

An application can receive up to five (5) points, with a maximum of two (2) points awarded for the organization sub-criterion, and a maximum of one (1) point for the engagement, awareness, and longevity sub-criteria. See scoring guide below:

A. Organization (2)

2 - Applicant is the organizing body for the identified community	1 - Community has evidence of organizing bodies	0 - Community has no evidence of organizing bodies
The applicant serves as the sole organizing body for the identified community and all its member categories, with exclusive responsibility for representing or administering the community.	The applicant is not the sole organizing body for the identified community, but is able to demonstrate that the community has an organizing body or bodies relevant to the identified community as a whole or relevant to each identified member category of the community. These organizing bodies may either represent or administer the community.	The applicant is not able to demonstrate that there is an organizing body or bodies relevant to the identified community or to each member category of the identified community.

- The following are the guidelines for **Organization**:
 - a. Is the applicant able to demonstrate that it is the sole organizing body for the community, whether to represent or administer it? If not, is the applicant able to demonstrate that there are organizing bodies relevant to the identified community?

- b. Is there one association dedicated to the community as a whole, or are there multiple individual organizations that represent, administer or are relevant to different segments or groups within the community?
 - i. Multiple entities may administer or represent a community. An organization *representing* a community should be regarded with the same level of importance and legitimacy as one that *administers* the community.
- c. In support of providing evidence related to organization, the applicant should provide:
 - i. An overview of the community structure, as applicable, and whether it is formal or informal:
 - 1. Formal communities typically have well-defined organizational structures and membership lists, such as economic communities or coalitions of nonprofit organizations.
 - 2. Non-formal communities may consist of self-identified members, or individuals, such as those in linguistic or cultural groups.
 - ii. The names of relevant organizations
 - iii. Relevant leaders within the community, as applicable
 - iv. Information regarding how an individual would join the community, such as through paying membership fees, skill and/or accreditation requirements, or certifications aligned with community goals; or, any privileges or benefits entitled to members upon joining a community.
 - v. Information regarding whether organizing bodies were established to administer or represent the community. Relevant information may include the mission statements of the identified organizing bodies.
- d. Does an internet search corroborate the evidence provided by the applicant of organization within the community, e.g., the existence of bodies or groups that are relevant to the community, or, if applicable, evidence of the applicant acting on behalf of the community?

B. Engagement (1)

1 - Demonstration of engagement activities	0 - Limited or no demonstration of engagement activities
Applicant is able to sufficiently demonstrate ¹² its active and consistent efforts to engage and connect with community members.	The applicant is not able to sufficiently demonstrate its active and consistent efforts to engage and connect with community members.

- The following are the guidelines for **Engagement**:
 - a. As noted in the Organization sub-criterion, a community may have one or multiple organizations representing or administering it. In the same way, there

¹² Either as the organizing body itself or through the organizing bodies which it has identified as relevant to the community. In the latter case, the applicant, in submitting their application, may be acting as an “aggregator” for the community, obtaining the relevant information on and support from the community.

may be one or multiple organizations or entities conducting engagement activities on behalf of the identified community.

- b. “Active and consistent efforts” may be indicated by the applicant demonstrating recent activity within the community as identified. In support of demonstrating “active and consistent” Engagement, the applicant should provide documentation of the following practices, which should have occurred within the two years¹³ leading up to application submission:
- Offering support;
 - Sharing information;
 - Responding to specific community needs;
 - Fostering and strengthening relationships within the community.
 - Note that the inability to demonstrate recent Engagement-related activities may be an indicator of a community that lacks engagement. However, the panel should take into account different types of communities in evaluating this sub-criterion and the relevance of recent activity.
- b. Does an internet search corroborate the evidence provided by the applicant regarding activities held by the community’s organizing body(ies) (or the applicant itself)?

C. Awareness (1)

1 - Demonstration of awareness among community members	0 - No demonstration of awareness among community members
Applicant is able to demonstrate ¹⁴ an awareness among and between the community members of the identified community and its various sub-groups or member categories.	Applicant is not able to demonstrate an awareness among and between the identified community and its various sub-groups or member categories.

- The following are the guidelines for **Awareness**:
 - a. Are community members aware of the existence of the identified community? Do community members recognize the identified community? The views of the relevant community-related experts, especially in cases where recognition of awareness of the community is not measurable (for example, where such recognition is prevented by national law), may provide additional insight.
 - b. In support of demonstrating Awareness, the applicant should provide documentation of the following practices, which should have occurred within the two years leading up to application submission:
 - Surveys conducted;

¹³ The inability to demonstrate recent “active and consistent” Engagement may be an indicator of an inactive community. However, the panel should take into account different types of communities in evaluating this sub-criterion and the relevance of recent activity.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

- Records of activities involving a diversity of community groups, segments, or members;
 - Note that the inability to demonstrate recent Awareness-related activities may be an indicator of a community that lacks awareness. However, the panel should take into account different types of communities in evaluating this sub-criterion and the relevance of recent activity.
- b. Does an internet search corroborate the evidence provided by the applicant regarding awareness among community members, including across different segments, e.g., interaction in community activities or on online forums?

D. Longevity (1)

1 - Demonstration of longevity of community's pursuits	0 - No demonstration of longevity of community's pursuits
Applicant is able to demonstrate ¹⁵ that the community's pursuits are enduring and sustainable.	Applicant is not able to demonstrate that the community's pursuits are enduring or sustainable.

- The following are the guidelines for Longevity:
 - a. Is the community a relatively short-lived congregation (e.g., a group that is formed to represent a one-off event)? Is the community forward-looking (i.e., will it continue to exist in the future)?
 - b. In support of demonstrating evidence related to longevity, the applicant should provide documentation of the following practices which should have occurred within the two years leading up to application submission:
 - i. Evidence of recurring or scheduled activities that demonstrate continuity over time;
 - ii. Documented records of past activities that demonstrate a long-standing tradition or practice;
 - iii. Records of discussions emphasizing the community's enduring presence or its cultural significance.
 - iv. Note that the inability to demonstrate recent Longevity-related activities may be an indicator of a community that does not demonstrate longevity. However, the Panel should take into account different types of communities in evaluating this sub-criterion and the relevance of recent activity.
 - c. Does an internet search corroborate the evidence provided by the applicant regarding the community's activities, whether past or planned, and its enduring presence, e.g., availability of information on community events or articles on community presence within a community?

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

1.6.2. Criterion 2: Nexus

This section evaluates the relevance of the applied-for string to the identified community. The panel will seek to answer the following core question in evaluating the applied-for string against this criterion:

Nexus (4 points): Does the string match the name of the community or is it a well-known alternative of the community name?

1.6.2.1. Scoring for Criterion 2: Nexus

An application can receive up to **4 points**. See scoring guide below:

4 - Full Match	2 - Strong match	1 - Partial match	0 - Weak or No match
String matches the name of the community or is a well-known alternative name of the community. The general public would associate the string with the identified community.	String matches the name of the community or is a well-known short-form or abbreviation of the community, but there may be other meanings of the string—while not in common usage—that the general public may associate with the string.	String partially matches the community or the community members but may have a meaning or connotation beyond the identified community—which is commonly used—that the general public may associate with the string.	String does not match or identify the community or has a weak association with the community. The general public would likely not associate the string with the identified community.

- The following are the guidelines for Nexus:
 - a. What is the “name” of the community? A reference to the “name” of the community is a reference to the established name by which the community is commonly known by others.¹⁶
 - “Others” refers to individuals outside of the community itself. It also refers to recognition from other organization(s), such as quasi-official, publicly recognized institutions, or other peer groups.
 - The name may be, but does not need to be, the name of an organization dedicated to any member category within the community.
 - b. Will the general public instinctively think of the applying community when thinking of the applied-for string? Additional limited research can be conducted to help understand whether the string identifies the community and is known by others. The limited research should also reveal whether there are repeated and frequent

¹⁶

references to legal entities or communities other than the community referenced in the application.

- c. Does the string identify a wider geographic or thematic remit than is related to the identified community? Does the string indicate a community of which the applicant is a part, but is not specific to the applicant's community?
- d. Is the size or definition of the identified community consistent with the string?
- e. Does an internet search corroborate the evidence provided by the applicant regarding the string as it relates to the identified community? This may include verifying whether the applicant's responses to the application questions align with the mission statements of the relevant organizing bodies.

1.6.3. Criterion 3: Registration Policies

This section evaluates the applicant's registration policies as indicated in the application. Registration policies are the conditions that the future registry will set for prospective registrants, i.e., those desiring to register second-level domain names under the registry.

Please note that the evaluation of an applicant's proposed registration policies during CPE serves a different purpose than ICANN's evaluation of proposed Community Registration Policies at the time the commitments are proposed. The Registry Commitments Evaluation (RCE), which is a prerequisite to the evaluation of such policies during CPE, ensures community registration policies proposed by applicants for inclusion in the applicable RA are enforceable as a practicable matter and are compatible with the ICANN Bylaws. [See Topic 9, Section 3.2] In contrast, registration policies are evaluated during CPE to determine whether a community-based applicant should receive priority and eliminate other applications in the contention set. If a Community Registration Policy proposed for inclusion in the applicable RA is not approved, it will not be considered in the CPE process and cannot be included in the RA.

The panel will seek to answer the following core questions when evaluating the application against this criterion:

- A. Eligibility (1 point):** Is eligibility for registrants restricted? Who is qualified to register a domain in the TLD? Are there specific qualifications provided that entities or individuals must meet to be eligible as registrants by the registry?
- B. Name selection (1 point):** Do the applicant's policies include name selection rules? Are name selection rules consistent with the mission statement and articulated community-based purpose of the applied-for gTLD? What domain names are acceptable in the TLD? Are there specific conditions provided that must be fulfilled for a second-level domain name to be considered acceptable by the registry?

1.6.3.1. Scoring for Criterion 3: Registration Policies

- A. Eligibility (1)

1 - Restricted	0 - Unrestricted
Eligibility is restricted to members within the identified community.	The identified community has an unrestricted approach to eligibility.

- The following are the guidelines for **Eligibility**:
 - a. What limitations are imposed on potential registrants?
 - b. With respect to "Eligibility," the limitation to community "members" may involve formal membership or be fulfilled in other ways, depending on the structure and focus of the community at hand. Some informal communities may have different methods for determining membership in a particular community.
 - i. For example, for a geographic location community TLD, a limitation to members of the community can be achieved by requiring documentation, such as a business license or proof of a local address to verify physical presence in the associated geographic location.

B. Name Selection (1)

1 - Consistent with community-based purpose	0 - Not consistent with community-based purpose
Policies include name selection rules ¹⁷ that are consistent with the articulated community-based purpose of the applied-for gTLD ¹⁸ .	Policies do not include name selection rules consistent with the articulated community-based purpose of the applied-for gTLD.

- The following are the guidelines for **Name Selection**:
 - a. Do the applicant's policies include name selection rules?
 - b. Are name selection rules consistent with the articulated community-based purpose of the applied-for gTLD?

1.6.4. Criterion 4: Community Endorsement

This section evaluates community support and/or opposition to the application. The panel will seek to answer the following core question when evaluating the application against this criterion:

Support and Opposition (4 points): Is the applicant the organizing body for the identified community? Or does the applicant have support from a majority of the identified community? Does the applicant have any opposition?¹⁹

¹⁷ "Name Selection" means the conditions that must be fulfilled for any second-level domain name to be deemed acceptable by the registry.

¹⁸ As detailed in the responses to the application questions.

¹⁹ Please note that CPE, and the Community Endorsement criterion, is separate from the Community Objection process, which allows for a party with standing to object to a gTLD application on the basis that there that there is well-substantiated opposition to an applied-for gTLD string and/or one or more

1.6.4.1. Scoring for Criterion 4: Community Endorsement

4 - Applicant is the organizing body and does not have relevant ²⁰ opposition	3 - Applicant is the organizing body and does have relevant ²¹ minority opposition Or Applicant has majority ²² support and does not have relevant opposition ²³	2 - Applicant has majority support and has relevant minority opposition	0 - Applicant does not have majority support
The applicant serves as the sole organizing body for the identified community and all its member categories, with exclusive responsibility for representing or administering the identified community and does not have any relevant opposition.	The applicant has demonstrated support with clear rationale from the organizing body(ies) from the identified community. The applicant does not have any relevant opposition.	The applicant has demonstrated majority support with clear rationale from the identified community. However, the applicant has relevant minority opposition with clear rationale.	The applicant has not demonstrated majority support with clear rationale from the identified community.

1. The following are the guidelines for determining **relevant organizations**:

applied-for allocatable variant string(s) from a significant portion of the community which the gTLD string may be explicitly or implicitly targeting. Please see [\[Section X.X Objections\]](#) for more information.

²⁰ “Relevance” or “relevant” refer to the organizations, groups, or communities with an association to the string. This means that opposition from communities not identified in the application but with an association to the applied-for string would be considered relevant.

²¹ “Relevance” or “relevant” refer to the organizations, groups, or communities with an association to the string. This means that opposition from communities not identified in the application but with an association to the applied-for string would be considered relevant.

²² “Majority” and “Minority” are defined according to the size of the identified community by the applicant. The burden is on the applicant to define its community with clear estimates of size of the entire community and any sub-categories/groups within the community. A majority of the overall community may be determined by, but not restricted to, considerations such as headcount or the geographic reach of the organizations. See [\[Application Questions\]](#) for more information on what information is expected from the applicant at the time of application.

²³ See notes below on what constitutes “Opposition.”

-
- a. Do the organizations providing support or opposition have an association to the string or identified groups or communities?
 - b. Does limited research help determine relevance and size of the objecting or supporting organization(s)?
 - c. As noted in [Criterion 1](#), there may be one organizing body mainly dedicated to a community or multiple entities dedicated to a community.
 - i. Are multiple institutions/organizations supporting the application, with documented support from institutions/organizations representing a majority of the overall community addressed? or,
 - ii. Does the applicant have support from the majority of the recognized community institution/member organizations? or,
 - iii. Has the applicant provided full documentation that it has authority to represent the community with its application?
2. The following are the guidelines for reviewing the **content of the documentation of support²⁴ or opposition**:
- a. Does the documentation clearly express the organization's support or opposition for the community-based application?²⁵
 - b. Does the documentation demonstrate the organization's understanding of the string being requested?
 - c. Is the documentation submitted by the applicant valid (i.e., the organization exists and the letter is authentic)?
 - d. Does the documentation contain a description of the process and rationale used in arriving at the expression of support or opposition? Consideration of support or opposition is not based merely on the number of comments or expressions of support or opposition received. Support or opposition will not be considered if the documentation lacks a clear rationale or explanation for the support or opposition.
3. These are the guidelines for the level of support or **opposition**:
- a. Is the applicant the sole organizing body for the community and, as such, does it have the full support of the community?
 - b. Is the applicant the sole organizing body for the community, but does not have full support of the community?
 - c. If the applicant is not the sole organizing body, is the applicant able to demonstrate that a majority of the community as identified supports the applicant?
 - d. Is the applicant able to demonstrate that there is relevant support or no relevant opposition from outside the community as identified? This may apply in cases where the applied-for string carries more than one meaning.
 - e. Are there objections to the application or comments from the same application round noting opposition to the application?

²⁴An applicant for a Community-based TLD string and its allocatable variant label(s) is required to submit a written endorsement of its applied-for primary gTLD.

²⁵ It should be noted that the information provided by the applicant in response to [Criterion 1: Community Establishment](#) will play an important role in the panel's scoring of Criterion 4: Endorsement. .

- i. Although these will be taken into account and assessed in this context, there will be no presumption that such objections or comments would lead to any particular score for “Opposition.”
- f. Are the sources of opposition clearly spurious, unsubstantiated, or filed for the purpose of obstruction?
- g. Is there opposition by some other reputable organization(s), such as a quasi-official, publicly recognized organization(s) or a peer organization(s)? Does the opposition amount to a minority or majority of the community?

See table X.X below for a more detailed explanation of how a panel would evaluate different levels of support and opposition.

Support	Opposition	Scenario	Points
Applicant is the sole organizing body	No Opposition	Applicant is the sole organizing body with exclusive responsibility for representing or administering the identified community	4
Applicant is the sole organizing body	Minority opposition	Applicant is the sole organizing body with relevant minority opposition	3
Majority support	No opposition	Majority support with no relevant opposition	3
Majority support	Minority opposition	Majority support with relevant minority opposition	2
Minority support ²⁶	No opposition	Minority support with no relevant opposition	0
Minority support	Minority opposition	Minority support with minority relevant opposition	0
Minority support	Majority opposition ²⁷	Minority support with majority relevant opposition	0
No support	No opposition	No support and no relevant opposition	0
No support	Minority opposition	No support with minority relevant opposition	0
No support	Majority opposition	No support with majority relevant opposition	0

²⁶ Note: applicants without support from a majority of the community as identified will not receive points.

²⁷ Note: applicants with opposition from a majority of the community as identified will not receive points.