

First, to propose a gTLD, applicants, which can be any established public or private organization in the world, must meet the eligibility criteria as well as demonstrate the operational, technical, and financial capability to run a registry and comply with additional specific requirements. Along with this, applicants must pay an evaluation fee of around \$185,000 as well as a \$5,000 deposit fee per requested application which will be credited towards the evaluation fee.

Once the application window closes, evaluations begin. Applications will go through a multitude of stages before a final decision is made. These stages include an Administrative Check, Initial Evaluation, Extended Evaluation, String Contention, Dispute Resolution and Pre-delegation. Moving along the shortest path approval could take around 2 months while the longest applications which has to go through every stage and may have other complications could take upwards of 2 years or longer.

<https://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/global-support/faqs/faqs-en>