

.boston Launch Phase Policies

Please note that the Registry may amend or modify these policies and documents from time to time in order to comply with applicable laws and terms and conditions set forth by ICANN and/or the Registry. Any revisions or modifications to this .BOSTON Launch Phase Policies shall be effective immediately upon the posting of such revisions or modifications on the Registry's website and such amendments shall be binding upon the Domain Name Registrant.

The background for the present policy is the orderly, fair and technically organized allocation of .BOSTON Domain Names to individuals and legal persons ("Applicants" or "Registrant") in accordance with this policy and the other integral parts of the contract. The other integral parts of the contract (also "Registry Policies") are:

- The Overview, including Definitions;
- The Naming Policy;
- The Acceptable Use Policy (AUP);
- The Registrant Agreement;
- The Privacy & whois Policies;
- The Registry-Registrar Agreement; and
- The BOSTON Launch Phase Policies, which describes the timing and other factors related to various selling periods for specific constituencies (i.e., this document)

In the event of conflicting and/or contradictory provisions in other integral parts of the contract agreed between the Registrant and their Registrar or reseller, the rules in the above paragraph have priority. Obligations of the Registrant arising from the above policies shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Applicant.

Applicants are notified that application for registration of a specific Domain Name does not necessarily result in actual registration of the desired Domain Name. Contractual rights and privileges only enter into force with actual registration by the Applicant, who is a Domain Name Registrant from the time of actual registration, and their chosen Registrar. In the event of successful application, this Registrar is the sole contact for all the Registrant's contractual questions for the full term of the domain contract.

The following phases are currently planned:

Phase	Date	Time
Sunrise Starts	01 August 2017	16:00 UTC
Sunrise Ends	31 August 2017	16:00 UTC
Boston Community Phase Starts	17 August 2017	16:00 UTC
Boston Community Phase Ends	15 September 2017	16:00 UTC
General Availability (GA)	26 September 2017	16:00 UTC
Trademark Claims Start	26 September 2017	16:00 UTC
Trademark Claims End	09 January 2018	16:00 UTC

1. General provisions

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Registrations submitted during the various phases must specifically meet the requirements of the Registry Policies, unless there are deviating provisions in the present policy.

The following provisions apply to all registrations submitted to the Registry during Sunrise and applications submitted during the Boston Community Phase.

2. Parties to the application, application procedure, costs

Sunrise Registrations and Boston Community Applications must be made through an ICANN-accredited Registrar that has signed the .BOSTON Registry-Registrar Agreement with the Registry for all phases, which in the case of a Boston Community Domain is the Boston Community Registrar. The fees to be paid by the Applicant in the relevant phases may be found on the websites of the relevant Registrars.

3. Trademark Clearinghouse

During the Sunrise period, mark rights which are the basis for registration of a specific Domain Name must be validated before actual registration. Applicants must have marks and other rights previously validated by the Trademark Clearinghouse ("TMCH"). The TMCH is a service independent of the Registry. Word marks and image marks which have a predominantly and clearly recognizable text element are accepted here for validation. The current validation guidelines of the TMCH can be found at www.trademark-clearinghouse.org.

The Registry is not obliged to offer any advice on this.

4. Trademark Claims Service

The Registry is obliged to support the Trademark Claims Service. This means that a Registrant who tries to register a Domain Name identical with a mark deposited in the Trademark Clearinghouse will receive an automatic notification via the Registrar. This notification contains more details on the mark involved, the classes of goods and services protected by the mark, and the territorial area of protection of the mark.

Registration of the Domain Name involved can only be completed if the Registrant explicitly confirms receipt of the notification that the requested Domain Name does not infringe any mark rights.

The Registrant is further notified that the holder of the mark right involved is being informed of the registration.

5. Registry Rights

The Registry is entitled to reject a registration at any time:

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- if the registration clearly does not meet the requirements of the present policy, or
- if the Domain Name is already registered, reserved or blocked, or
- if this is necessary to protect the integrity and stability of the Registry system and/or the operation and/or administration of the .BOSTON TLD, or
- if this is required to ensure legal action by the Registry and/or comply with ICANN provisions and/or follow court or official rulings, or
- to avoid liability on the part of the Registry and the associated companies, managing directors, senior executives, staff and/or subcontractors.

6. Sunrise Period

- a. The Sunrise Period is a limited-time opportunity for trademark holders who have entered their marks into the Trademark Clearinghouse database (TMCH) and who wish to register Domain Names in the .BOSTON Top Level Domain (“TLD”). Boston Community Organizations who have entered their marks into the TMCH and who to register Domain Names in the .BOSTON TLD are eligible to participate in the Sunrise Period.
- b. Trademark holders may apply for a domain name label that constitutes an “exact match” of their mark, in accordance with the Trademark Clearinghouse (“TMCH”) domain name matching rules. The Registry will charge a Sunrise domain registration fee, for registration of domain names during Sunrise.
- c. The Registry will offer an approximately thirty (30) day Start Date Sunrise, in which domain names will be allocated on a First-Come, First-Served basis.
- d. In addition to the eligibility requirements set forth in the .BOSTON Registration Policy, the Registry will abide by all policies and procedures adopted by the TMCH. The TMCH will maintain Sunrise Eligibility Requirements (<http://trademark-clearinghouse.com/content/who-can-apply>), and validate and authenticate marks as applicable. The Registry will only allow trademark holders with a valid signed mark data (SMD) file issued by the TMCH to apply for and register exact match domain names.

7. Sunrise Dispute Resolution Policy

Domain Names which are registered during the Sunrise may be the subject of the complaint procedure described in the Sunrise Dispute Resolution Policy (also “SDRP”). For details, see the policy in question.

This does not affect other legal protection mechanisms described in or referred to in the Registry Policies and/or other dispute resolution procedures.

8. Boston Community Period

- a) The Boston Community Period provides an opportunity for Boston Community Organizations to apply for a Boston Community Domain Name registration before .BOSTON Domain Names

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are made generally available. While no trademark or other rights are required, this period allows for eligible participants to register a Boston Community Domain Name if they meet the requirements of the Registry Policies, and in particular the specific requirements for application and registration of a Boston Community Domain Name.

- b) The Boston Community Phase is open to all Boston Community Organizations. A Boston Community Organization is either: (1) a governmental entity, or (2) a non-profit organization categorized under Sections 501(c) 3, 4, 8-10, 13, and 19 of the United States Internal Revenue Code that provides services or support to residents within Boston or is located within Boston and provide services outside of Boston.
- c) The Boston Community Registrar may request letters from the Internal Revenue Service or other documentation reasonably satisfactory to the Registry to verify a Boston Community Organization's eligibility as a Boston Community Domain Name Applicant and/or Registrant.
- d) During the Boston Community Phase, Boston Community Organizations are not allowed to use Whois Privacy and/or Proxy Services.
- e) The Boston Community Phase will run for approximately thirty (30) days.
- f) Applications for Boston Community Domain Name Registrations received during the Boston Community Phase will be evaluated and then be allocated to eligible Boston Community Organizations based on the criteria contained in this document and other Registry Policies.
- g) Boston Community Domain Name will be allocated on a "first come, first served" basis during the Boston Community Period.

9. General Availability

The last phase describes the general availability of the Domain Names not already allocated during the preceding phases.

From this point, the Domain Names are registered in accordance with the Registry Policies on a "first come, first served" basis, unless reserved, blocked or premium names are concerned. Within the first 90 days from the start of general availability, the Registry will support the Trademark Claims Service as described above.