

## Contract Execution Deadlines and Extensions FAQs

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### **Q1: Can applicants with Registry Agreement execution deadlines other than 29 October 2014 qualify for extensions?**

**A1:** Yes, applicants with Registry Agreement execution deadlines other than 29 October 2014 may qualify for extensions. In order to qualify for an extension, an extension request must be submitted to ICANN 45 days prior to the Registry Agreement execution deadline. Refer to the "[Request for Extension to Execute New gTLD Registry Agreements](#)" announcement for more information regarding extension requests.

### **Q2: Are extensions to execute the Registry Agreement available to .Brand TLDs only, or are all applicants eligible for extensions?**

**A2:** All applicants are eligible to receive an extension to execute the Registry Agreement if an extension request is submitted by the [specified deadline date](#), and if the applicant can demonstrate to ICANN's reasonable satisfaction that it is working diligently and in good faith toward executing the Registry Agreement. A .Brand TLD that wishes to be eligible for the 29 July 2015 extension must also meet other criteria specified in the "[ICANN Updates Specification 13 Process and Application Form](#)" announcement in order to be eligible for an extension.

### **Q3: Can applicants that do not meet the criteria to qualify as a .Brand TLD be eligible for a 9-month extension?**

**A3:** Section 5.1 of the Applicant Guidebook states:

*An applicant may request an extension of this time period for up to an additional nine (9) months if it can demonstrate, to ICANN's reasonable satisfaction, that it is working diligently and in good faith toward successfully completing the steps necessary for entry into the registry agreement.*

As per this section of the Applicant Guidebook, any applicant may be eligible for an extension of up to nine months upon demonstration that the applicant is "working diligently and in good faith" toward signing the Registry Agreement. In order to ensure progress and to help the applicant work toward "completing the steps necessary for entry into the registry agreement," ICANN has created a framework that includes interim deadlines for the applicant to perform certain steps necessary for executing the Registry Agreement. This [framework](#) is intended to set appropriate expectations among applicants. The unique circumstances of each applicant and application will dictate the length of the extension granted.

### **Q4: How will extensions be granted? Will ICANN automatically grant extensions, or will ICANN only grant extensions upon request?**

**A4:** ICANN will not grant automatic extensions. Generally, extensions will only be granted upon request. If the applicant anticipates not being able to execute the

Registry Agreement by the execution deadline, an extension request should be submitted at least 45 days prior to that deadline. Refer to the "[Request for Extension to Execute New gTLD Registry Agreements](#)" announcement for more information regarding extension requests.

**Q5: If an applicant is granted an extension and has until 29 July 2015 to execute a Registry Agreement, must the compliant COI be submitted to ICANN by 31 October 2014?**

**A5:** Yes, all applicants that are granted a 29 July 2015 extension must submit a compliant COI by 31 October 2014, if one is not already submitted. This interim deadline is in place to demonstrate that applicants are working toward "completing the steps necessary for entry into the registry agreement."

**Q6: If an applicant is granted a 29 July 2015 extension to execute the Registry Agreement, and then is informed by ICANN on 24 October 2014 that it will not be granted a Specification 13, will the applicant still be eligible for a 29 July 2015 extension to execute the Registry Agreement?**

**A6:** Yes, the applicant will still be eligible for a 29 July 2015 extension to execute the Registry Agreement, and will have until 7 November 2014 to inform ICANN whether the applicant intends to negotiate changes to the base Registry Agreement. If the applicant intends to negotiate, the requested changes would be due to ICANN by 1 February 2015.

**Q7: If an applicant with a 29 October 2014 Registry Agreement execution deadline submitted a Specification 13 application, but the Specification 13 application does not meet the minimum requirements to receive a 29 July 2015 extension, what extension will the applicant be eligible to receive?**

**A7:** The applicant would fall under scenario 3 posted at <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/agb/base-agreement-contracting#deadlines-extensions>, and will be provided with extension periods of 30 or 60 days to complete activities required to execute the Registry Agreement. If the applicant submits a complete Specification 13 application by 31 October 2014, the applicant may still have the opportunity to sign the Registry Agreement and Specification 13 concurrently by 30 March 2015. If the applicant does not submit a complete Specification 13 application by 31 October 2014, then the applicant will have until 30 December 2014 to sign the Registry Agreement, and may not be able to sign the Specification 13 concurrently with the Registry Agreement. The applicant would still have the opportunity to sign Specification 13 after entering into the Registry Agreement if eligible for Specification 13.

**Q8: If an applicant with a 29 October 2014 Registry Agreement execution deadline did not submit a Specification 13 application by the 1 September 2014 deadline, can it still submit a Specification 13 application at this time? Is there a deadline for such submission? And will the applicant be able to sign both the Registry Agreement and Specification 13 at the same time?**

**A8:** Yes, the applicant may submit a Specification 13 application at any time. If the applicant would like to be able to sign the Registry Agreement and Specification 13 at the same time, the Specification 13 application must be submitted by 31 October 2014. If the Specification 13 application is submitted after this date, the applicant may not be able to sign the Registry Agreement and Specification 13 concurrently. The applicant would still have the opportunity to sign Specification 13 after entering into the Registry Agreement if eligible for Specification 13.

**Q9: If an applicant does not submit an extension request by the deadline provided in the “[Request for Extension to Execute New gTLD Registry Agreements](#)” announcement, can the applicant still receive an extension?**

**A9:** Per this announcement, if extension requests are not submitted by the deadlines, the applicant will not be granted an extension and will be expected to execute the Registry Agreement by the previously communicated execution deadline date. If an applicant misses the extension request submission deadline and does not believe that it can execute the Registry Agreement by the Registry Agreement execution deadline, it should notify ICANN immediately by emailing [newgtld@icann.org](mailto:newgtld@icann.org).

**Q10: If a .Brand applicant with a 29 October 2014 Registry Agreement execution deadline has already received the Registry Agreement and Specification 13 for review and signature, can it still qualify for the 29 July 2015 extension?**

**A10:** Yes, the applicant may qualify for the 29 July 2015 extension if the applicant responded to the CIR before 1 September 2014, and submitted an extension request by 24 September 2014.