

Launch Policy

Version: 1.4

Definitions

In this policy:

Allocation means the method by which a domain name is created and assigned to an Applicant, **Allocated** shall have a corresponding meaning.

Applicant means a natural person, company or organisation in whose name an Application is submitted.

Application means the complete and technically correct request for a domain name, which complies with this policy and any other policy issued by us, or ICANN.

Claims Notice means a notice provided to an Applicant indicating that the applied for Label is a Trademark Match to a Trademark Record in the Trademark Clearinghouse.

Claims Period means any period during which the Claims Services are provided.

Claims Services means the services that collectively provide:

- Applicants with a Claims Notice, and
- Trademark Holders with a corresponding Trademark Record with notice that a Label that is a Trademark Match to the Trademark Record.

General Availability means the point in time following which requests to register a domain name may be received from any eligible party on a first come, first served basis.

ICANN means the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, its successors and assigns.

Label means a string of characters used to form part of a domain name.

Launch Program means the Claims Period described in this document but does not include General Availability.

Registrar means an entity that is authorised to offer domain name registrar services in relation to the TLD.

Service means the services that we provide in relation to the TLD.

SMD File means the Signed Mark Data file provided by the TMCH Sunrise and Claims Operator to a holder of a Validated Mark which is encoded with information such as the Labels that may be Allocated during a Sunrise Period

TLD means Top Level Domain and for the purpose of this policy the TLD means .monash.



TMCH Sunrise and Claims Operator means the providers appointed by ICANN to serve as the Trademark Clearinghouse by accepting, authenticating, validating and facilitating the transmission of information related to certain trademarks.

Trademark Clearinghouse Guidelines means the guidelines which can be found at the following link www.trademark-clearinghouse.com (as may be updated from time to time) which provide an overview of the requirements for the inclusion of trademarks in the Trademark Clearinghouse and the issuance of a SMD File.

Trademark Clearinghouse or **TMCH** means the central repository for information to be authenticated, stored, and disseminated, pertaining to the rights of Trademark Holders.

Trademark Holder means holders of marks that have been verified by the TMCH Sunrise and Claims Operator as meeting the requirements specified in the Trademark Clearinghouse Guidelines.

Trademark Match means that a Label is a match to a trademark, as described in the Trademark Clearinghouse Guidelines.

Trademark Record means a complete and correct set of information concerning a trademark or other mark submitted to the Trademark Clearinghouse.

Validated Mark means a mark that has been verified by the TMCH Sunrise and Claims Operation as meeting the requirements specified in the Trademark Clearinghouse Guidelines including those relating to proof of use.

We, us and **our** means Monash University ABN 12 377 614 012 or designated representatives.

You and **your** means the person or entity accessing the Service.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to describe our Launch Program for the TLD. This Launch Program has been designed such that it facilitates a fair, orderly and equitable introduction for the TLD whilst granting priority to certain rights holders (where applicable).

This document defines the implemented Launch Program by describing, amongst other things:

- the terms by which eligible parties may submit an Application during the Launch Program; and
- the manner in which Applications will be processed, validated and Allocated.

This policy applies to:

- persons or entities submitting an Application; and
- Registrars.

We have developed this policy with reference to applicable industry standards, ICANN mandated requirements, and to meet our operational requirements for the TLD.



All domain names in the TLD are subject to this and our policy issued by us. Further policies and procedures in relation to the TLD can be found at the following link: <http://www.nic.monash/>.

We may discontinue or amend any part or the whole of this policy from time to time at our absolute discretion. The latest version of this policy will be posted at the following link: <http://www.nic.monash/>.

Policy Statement

Introduction to the Launch Program

Where relevant to the TLD, this policy has been developed to describe the Launch Program for the TLD. The Launch Program has been designed to:

- provide certain protections to the various entities described in this document;
- comply with ICANN's requirements for the TLD; and
- to prioritise certain Applications for domain names.

The Launch Program will consist of a Claims Period as described in this document.

Background to the Launch Program

ICANN requires that we, in our management of the TLD, implement certain Rights Protection Mechanisms (often referred to as RPMs) to discourage or prevent registration of domain names that violate or abuse another party's legal rights.

Rights Protection Mechanisms may exist in different forms dependant on the stage or period of operation of the TLD. Some Rights Protection Mechanisms exist for a defined period of time, whilst others may subsist or become active as a result of certain conditions.

Details about ICANN's requirements for Rights Protection Mechanisms can be found on the ICANN website at the following link <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/about/trademark-clearinghouse>.

About us, Rights Protection Mechanisms and the Trademark Clearinghouse

ICANN has established the Trademark Clearinghouse and associated processes and procedures so that we can comply with our obligation to implement Rights Protection Mechanisms.

ICANN has appointed providers such as the TMCH Sunrise and Claims Operator(s), to operate the Trademark Clearinghouse. Our implementation of the Service has been integrated and tested with the TMCH Sunrise and Claims Operator. Information about the Trademark Clearinghouse and the TMCH Sunrise and Claims Operator can be found at the following link <http://trademark-clearinghouse.com/>.

Where applicable our role is to verify the information provided to us, with that information that is contained in the Trademark Clearinghouse. We do not make any decisions about the validity or use of a mark or its inclusion in the Trademark Clearinghouse.



Launch Program timing

The following is an overview of each of the periods that will be implemented in launching the TLD. These periods are described in greater detail in the relevant sections of this document.

	General Availability	Claims Period
Commencement Date/Time	27 June 2016 at 00:00:00 UTC	27 June 2016 at 00:00:00 UTC
Conclusion Date / Time	Ongoing	Concludes on 25 September 2016 at 23:59:59 UTC
Duration in Calendar Days	Ongoing	90

Our policy and your representations and warranties

All domain names or Applications for domain names as the case may be, are subject to our policies, and those policies, procedures and requirements as issued by ICANN from time to time. Our policy documents can be found at the following link: <http://www.nic.monash/>.

Without limiting any other agreement or policy, by submitting an Application for a domain name an Applicant will be deemed to have warranted that:

- it has the authority to make an Application; and
- the information provided is current, complete, and accurate, and that the Applicant agrees to correct and update the information to ensure that it remains current, complete, and accurate.

The Applicant and the Registrar understands and acknowledges:

- that the act of submitting an Application for a domain name in no way guarantees that domain name will be Allocated to the Applicant; and
- we may prevent an Applicant from making an Application and registering or renewing a domain name where that Applicant has been found to be in breach of our policies or procedures.

By submitting an Application for a domain name the Applicant and the Registrar agree:

- to be subject to this and any other policy reasonably issued by us, and acknowledge that any domain name may be subject to a dispute resolution process and that the outcome of such process may result in the domain name registration being transferred to another entity, being suspended or being cancelled;
- that we reserve the right to deny any Application, or cancel, lock, place on hold, transfer or delete any domain name that we deem necessary, in our sole discretion:
 - to protect the integrity and stability of the Service;
 - to comply with our obligations;
 - to comply with any applicable laws, government rules or requirements, requests of law enforcement, or in compliance with any dispute resolution policies or process;
 - to avoid any liability, civil or criminal, on our part, as well as our affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, employees and subcontractors;
 - to ensure compliance with our policies;
 - for the non-payment to us of any fee; or

- to correct mistakes made by us, or any Registrar, or any of our service providers in connection with an Application or a domain name; and
- to indemnify and keep us (including our employees, agents and subcontractors) fully indemnified from and against all suits, actions, claims, demands, losses, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses that may be made or brought against or suffered or incurred by us arising out of or in connection in any way with their breach of any policy or agreement that they may have with us.

Operation of the Claims Period

What is a Claims Period?

In order to meet ICANN's requirements, Claims Periods will operate during our Launch Program for the TLD.

Throughout the timeframe during which a Claims Period operates, when making an Application for a domain name, the Applicant will be notified (via a Claims Notice) if the applied for Label is a Trademark Match to a Trademark Record in the Trademark Clearinghouse. Should that Label be Allocated, the Trademark Holder with the corresponding Trademark Record will be notified of such by the TMCH Sunrise and Claims Operator.

How does a claims period operate?

The Claims Notice forms part of the process of submitting an Application for a domain name, and the Applicant for the domain name will be required to acknowledge the information contained within the Claims Notice before processing the Application.

When will a claims period operate for the TLD?

The Claims Period will be in effect during the first 90 calendar days after the commencement of General Availability as described in this policy.

Notice and duration

Once commenced we may extend the duration of the Claims Period. Where the Claims Period is extended we will provide such notice to you on our website and via any other means we deem appropriate.