



.gal Pioneers Program Call for Proposals

Do you want to be one of the 90 Pioneers?

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please note that this .gal Pioneer Program is still pending ICANN's approval. Without prejudice to this, the Call for Proposals for Pioneer Names is now open and proposals can already be submitted by email to pioneros@puntoGAL.org for evaluation.

Purpose of the .gal Pioneers Program

General Registration period for the .gal domain names is expected to begin in xxx 2014. Pending ICANN's approval, the Pioneer Program offers potential .gal domain name holders the possibility to register and start using .gal domain names approximately 120 days prior to the General Registration period. Such early registered domain names are called **Pioneer Names**.

The active and positive use of .gal Pioneer Names will provide their holders a unique opportunity to be among the very first to showcase their products or services to the Galician speaking community and the world, while driving public interest and increasing awareness of the .gal TLD.

Among all the eligible applications received, puntoGAL will select and allow registration of a maximum of 90 .gal Pioneer Names

Call For Proposals for .gal Pioneer Names

The publication of this document on puntoGAL website initiates a Call For Proposals for .gal Pioneer Names open to any party which meets the **eligibility requirements** set forth below. The Call For Proposals period will end on 13:00 hrs UTC

How to Submit Proposals for .gal Pioneer Names?



1. On What Criteria will .gal Pioneer Name Proposals be Selected?

puntoGAL will select and allow registration of a maximum of 90 .gal Pioneer Name. Such Pioneer Names will be selected by puntoGAL from among the **eligible applications**, based on a criteria of visibility, notoriety, diversity and commitment to the promotion of the interests of the Galician cultural and linguistic community as represented by the .gal TLD. puntoGAL realizará una promoción activa del programa entre los agentes relevantes que puedan estar interesados en formar parte del programa de pioneros

2. Who is eligible to Participate in the .gal Pioneer Program?

Any party, individual or legal entity, which complies with the **eligibility requirements** set forth below and demonstrates dynamism and interest associated with a commitment with the Galician language and culture may participate.

3. What Are the Eligibility Requirements for the .gal Pioneer Names?

3.1 General eligibility requirements. The Pioneer Name applied for must comply with the general eligibility criteria for all .gal domain names. Its use by the applicant must be generally accepted as legitimate, as well as commensurate with the role and importance of the registered domain name.

3.2 Eligibility and Name Selection

3.2.1 General eligibility requirements

Registrations are restricted to bona-fide members of the Galician linguistic and cultural community. This community consists of those who use (or commit to use) the Galician language for their online communications, and/or promote the different aspects of Galician culture online, and/or intend to specifically address their online communications and services to that community.

In addition, the registrant's use of the registered domain name must be beneficial to the cause and the values of the Galician linguistic and cultural community; and in good faith at the time of registration and thereafter.

At the time of announcing the selection, the Pioneer Name applied



for must not be registered at the Trademark Clearinghouse in favor of a third party (i.e. a party other than the Pioneer Name applicant), unless it is also registered at the Trademark Clearinghouse in favor of the applicant.

3.2.2 Specific eligibility requirements.

In addition to the above general eligibility criteria, the named applied for as Pioneer Name must be identical to the following:

- a) For the relevant Public Authorities (at any level) with competence in the areas where Galician is an autoctonous language:
 - i. Their own name, including clear variations and/or abbreviations thereof, or
 - ii. The name of a public service or public interest for which the applicant Public Authority has specific responsibilities; including at least the following services:
 - public order and public security
 - public affairs and institutional relations
 - public health
 - taxation, economic development and promotion
 - public utilities
 - transportation
 - urban planning and environmental protection
 - culture and education
 - citizen participation
 - tourism; or
 - iii. A Geographical name for any subdivision of the areas where Galician is an autochthonous language, local landmarks, and other locally-relevant and iconic names in the area, including clear variations and abbreviations thereof; provided that the applicant is a Public Authority exercising control over that place or local landmark under local law; or



- b) For registered right holders:
 - i. A TMCH-validated trademark;
 - ii. non TMCH-validated trademark with effect in the areas where Galician is an autochthonous language (i.e. Spanish trademark, EU Community trademark and/or WIPO International trademark with effect in Spain), or
 - iii. geographical indication of the areas where Galician is an autochthonous language and which is recognized by International, European Union, Spanish and/or Galician legislation; or
- c) For entities and individuals, which have a specific vocation in promoting Galician language and / or culture (including, e.g. Galician music, theatre, museums, sports, education, and media) well-known within the Galician community:
 - i. their own name or well-known artistic name (including clear variations and/or abbreviations thereof), and/or
 - ii. the online service/s they provide; or
- d) For legal entities proving prior online communications in Galician (e.g. through a website, mailing list, blog...):
 - i. their registered company names and trade names (including clear variations and/or abbreviations thereof); and
 - ii. the same domain names registered by them in other TLDs and effectively used.

In addition, applicant must be ready to demonstrate technical ability to announce the working website, which must be totally or partially written in Galician, no later than one (1) month after the signature of the Pioneer Agreement.



4. How must .gal Pioneer Names be Used?

Selected Pioneer Names are expected to contribute to the promotion, development and adoption of the .gal TLD. To this end, until the General Registration period begins, Pioneer Name holders will be required to:

- i. Set-up and maintain an active website for each Pioneer Name selected;
- ii. Actively use such website to promote the services products associated with the Pioneer Name. **The website using the Pioneer Name must not redirect to other web pages.**
- iii. Have all or a substantial part of the content published in such website written in Galician.
- iv. retain the domain name and not transfer it to a party alien to the Pioneer contract, unless it is an affiliate of the Pioneer Name holder.

5. What is the Required Economic Contribution to Have a Pioneer Name?

Pioneer Name holders must contribute to the development of the relevant TLD by either:

5.1 Financial Contribution: paying a Pioneer Fee per domain name; or

5.2 In-kind Contribution: The parties interested in this form of contribution must specify their interest in the in-kind contribution in their proposals. Moreover, they must also describe with sufficient detail in what areas the amount will be invested and how they expect such investment will benefit the visibility or public awareness of the .gal TLD, whichever applies. puntoGAL will decide, at its sole discretion and on a case-by case basis, whether a proposed in-kind contribution is accepted or not. If it is not accepted, the applicant will still be given the opportunity to register the .gal Pioneer applied for with pre-payment of the Pioneer Fee.

Category	Pioneer Fee
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Companies	3000 euros
Public Administrations	1000 euros
Not for profit entities and individuals	400 euros

6. How will Selected .gal Pioneer Names Be Registered?

Once a .gal Pioneer Name has been selected by puntoGAL, final registration of that Pioneer Name will be subject to:

- i. Prior payment of the **Pioneer Fees** per Pioneer Name or formal commitment previously approved by puntoGAL to make an **In-kind Contribution** in the promotion of the relevant TLD; and
- ii. Acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Pioneer Contract

Registration of the selected Pioneer Name will be carried out through an accredited registrar. The terms and conditions applicable to the registration of these domain names are the general registration terms and conditions for .gal domain names. These terms and conditions will be communicated to the selected applicants in due time.

7. Can Pioneer Name Applications be Challenged by Intellectual Property Right Owners?

Yes. During the Challenge Period of Pioneer Name Proposals (as described below), intellectual property right owners may challenge .gal Pioneer Applications. The challenge will be decided by puntoGAL under grounds set forth in the **Pioneer Name Challenge Procedure available here**. If the challenge prevails, the Pioneer Application will be rejected and the Pioneer Name applied for will not be delegated to the applicant. If no other Proposal has been submitted for that same Pioneer Name, and if the domain is not otherwise reserved based on the Reserved



Names Policies, the domain will be available for subsequent Start-Up Phases.

8. Send Us Your .gal Pioneer Name Proposal Now

puntoGAL invites any potential .gal registrants to submit their proposals for .gal Pioneer Names. Proposals must be sent by email to pioneiros@dominio.gal and must include the following information:

- a. Name of the applicant. If the applicant is a **Public Authority** of an **area where Galician is used**, this must be clearly specified.
- b. Pioneer Name(s) proposed. This portion must specify whether the proposed Pioneer Name is identical, a variation or an abbreviation of the:
 - i. Applicant's **registered trademark**: Jurisdiction and Registration number.
 - ii. Name of the **Public Authority** which applies for the Pioneer Name, as the case may be; or
 - iii. **Service rendered** by the **Public Authority** which applies for the Pioneer Name, as the case may be; or
 - iv. **Geographic names** of the areas where Galician is used;
 - v. Name of the **entity** or **individual** which applies for the Pioneer Name, as the case may be; or
 - vi. Any other name which the applicant has the right to use according to local law (e.g. denominations of origin).
- c. Brief description of the content, products, and/or services which the applicant is ready to offer on the website using the selected Pioneer Name and how the commitment to the Galician cultural and linguistic community would be fulfilled, should it be selected by puntoGAL. This portion must indicate the expected date at which the content or services will go live;
- d. Statement that all or good part of the contents of the website using the selected Pioneer Name will be written in Galician; and
- e. **In-kind contributions**: , the proposal must include a statement of the exact amount and valuation of the proposed in-kind contribution (no less than xxx Euros).



In case that the application does not contain all required information, puntoGAL may request additional information. If the information remains incomplete thereafter, puntoGAL may discard the application.

This Pioneer Program will be presented to ICANN and conducted according to the terms and conditions established in the present call for proposals and the provisions set by ICANN for the Qualified Launch Programs, that may be found in:

<http://www.icann.org/en/news/public-comment/qlp-addendum-13feb14-en.htm>