

.brussels

.vlaanderen

LANDRUSH

During this phase, anyone can lodge an application for the .vlaanderen or .brussels domain name of their choice.

Who can apply?

Anyone. In this phase there are no restrictions, either in terms of applicant (company, government department, organisation, private individual) or location or place of residence (both in Belgium and abroad).

What can be applied for?

Any domain name, on condition it is still available. This means that the following domain names are excluded:

- domain names already registered in a previous phase
- domain names that appear on the list of reserved domain names.

So, to apply for a domain name in this phase, there is no need to have a particular entitlement to the name, such as a trademark, company name or family name.

Special characters, spaces, accents, etc.

A name can contain special characters, such as ‘, @, !, &, %, § and so on. It can also contain hyphens, spaces and accent marks (é, ç, à, ê).

The general rule is that you convert these characters to characters that can be registered as a domain name. To do this, you replace these marks by other characters that are permitted, such as a hyphen. Or you can drop these characters altogether. Spaces must always be left out. Hyphens can be included, if the applicant prefers, or left out. [IDN accents](#) can also be included in the domain name.

The detailed rules used for conversion will be made available at our website well before the start of this phase. Your registrar or registration partner can also give you additional assistance if you have any specific questions about this.

Exceptions

Some domain names cannot be registered, or cannot be registered yet. DNS Belgium is required to abide by a number of rules imposed by ICANN.

A number of domain names will be placed on a reserved list. The domain names on this list can only be registered if they meet specific conditions. For example, this relates to the names of countries and states, the names of international organisations such as the Red Cross and the International Olympic Committee, 2-letter codes for countries such as BE for Belgium, etc.

When

You can lodge an application for 'mydomain.vlaanderen' or 'mydomain.brussels' from **Tuesday 16th December 2014 (10.00 CET) until 15th January 2015 (10.00 CET) inclusive.**

How

Applying for the registration of your domain name is a 2-stage process:

1. applying for the domain name

Choose your registrar or service-provider and inform him about the specific domain name(s) you want to apply for.

2. registering the domain name

All applications for domain names will be collected. Actual registrations are made at the end of this phase. If you are the only applicant for a particular name during this landrush phase, once the period has expired, you can proceed with the registration of your domain name via the registrar or service-provider you used to make your application.

If it appears that there has been more than one applicant for the same domain name, our **auction partner** will be notified. If the domain name of your choice has also been applied for by someone else, for example, you will receive an invitation from our auction partner to open an account at the auction platform. Once you have created the account and gone through a number of steps, you can lodge a bid to try and secure the domain name of your choice. The winning bidder will be notified and that person will be able to set up the domain name via their registrar. The specific rules on how the bidding process works and the procedures that go with it will be published well in advance at our website. At a later stage, you will also find the information you need at the platform of our auction partner.

There are no other formalities you need to fulfil. There's no need to send in any documents (such as a copy of your identity card) or have documents verified by other people.

Why register now?

At the end of the process, .vlaanderen and .brussels will be opened to the public (in phase 5). This means that anyone (so not just Belgians and Belgian companies or organisations) will be able to apply for and register domain names with these extensions, provided they are available. Once that happens, no specific allocation rules will apply.

We will be using this landrush phase to open up registrations gradually. Once this phase is over, when 'open registrations' begin and .vlaanderen and .brussels domain

names are available to everyone on a free and unrestricted basis, there is likely to be significant demand. This means that your chances of registering a particular domain name could then become more limited. The landrush phase is designed to enable anyone who wants to register a specific domain name to do so. Also, if you are the only applicant for the name you want, you will pay the same registration fee as during the 'open registration phase'.

Costs

The registration charges for this phase may vary, because it is possible that **an auction may have to be held** for the domain name in question. (But only if more than one applicant has requested the same domain name). In any event, DNS Belgium will not bill you simply for having applied for a domain name.

If you are the only applicant for a particular domain name, once the landrush phase is over, you can register that name through your registrar at the usual rate of **€20**. NB: this is only the **wholesale price**. Any additional fee that the registrar charges to the end-customer is not included. The payment requested covers the registration for one year. You can also register the domain name for multiple years, in which case other charges apply.

If there is more than one applicant for a particular domain name, an auction will decide who will be able to register that name in the end. The 'winner' of the auction will pay the final bid price to our auction partner. After that, he or she will be able to register the domain name via his or her registrar. At registration, the standard registration fee of €20 per domain name will be charged to the registrar. Once again, this is only the wholesale price; any additional fee that the registrar charges to the end-customer is not included.