

Request For Tender

Part Two – Background Information

This is **PART TWO** of the Request for Tender
Registry Licence Agreement for .au Second Level Domains

There are seven Parts to the RFT. This Part must
be read in conjunction with the other Parts of the RFT.

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Part Two – Background Information

4. ABOUT THIS REQUEST FOR TENDERS

4.1 About auDA

.au Domain Administration Limited ACN 079 009 340 (**auDA**) is a non-profit organisation that was established by the Australian Internet community in 1999.

In December 2000, the Australian Federal Government formally endorsed auDA as the appropriate entity to hold the delegation of authority for administration of the .au domain space. auDA obtained the right from ICANN (the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) to administer the .au domain on 25 October 2001.

auDA's objective as the manager for the .au ccTLD is to develop the .au namespace in the interests of domain name users and the industry.

4.2 Background to RFT

In 2001, in implementing the recommendations of the Competition Model Advisory Panel (established by auDA), and through a public tender process, auDA appointed AusRegistry to be the Registry operator of the following five 2LDs: com.au, net.au, org.au, asn.au, id.au.

By separate arrangements, and in conjunction with the Commonwealth of Australia:

4.2.1 in the case of gov.au, through the Australian Government Information Management Office (who is the policy manager appointed by auDA for the time being for gov.au); and

4.2.2 in the case of edu.au, through the Australian Information and Communications Technology in Education Committee (who is the policy manager appointed by auDA for the time being for edu.au),

auDA appointed AusRegistry to be the Registry operator of gov.au and edu.au.

auDA entered into the AusRegistry RLA with AusRegistry for a period of four years, starting from 1 July 2002. The AusRegistry RLA will expire on 30 June 2006.

This Request for Tender seeks tenders for a successor Registry Operator.

Under the terms of the AusRegistry RLA, AusRegistry is eligible to tender to serve as the successor Registry Operator on a neutral, no disadvantage, basis.

4.3 This RFT

This RFT seeks tenders for the performance of Registry Services by a Registry operator for the Designated 2LDs. Tenders must be for all the Designated 2LDs registries.

5. INFORMATION ABOUT .au ccTLD

5.1 Designated 2LDs

5.1.1 The Registry Operator must provide Registry Services for the following 17 Designated 2LDs:

com.au	net.au	org.au	asn.au	id.au	conf.au
info.au	gov.au	edu.au	wa.au	nt.au	sa.au
qld.au	nsw.au	act.au	vic.au	tas.au	

5.1.2 The number of domain names registered in each of the Designated 2LDs is as follows:

2LD	Number of domain names at 30 June 2005
com.au	477,376
net.au	46,727
org.au	18,526
asn.au	2,800
id.au	5,826
conf.au	1
info.au	15 (approx)
gov.au	3,728
edu.au	6,830
wa.au	0
nt.au	0
sa.au	0
qld.au	0
nsw.au	2
act.au	0
vic.au	1
tas.au	0

5.2 Purpose and Policy of Designated 2LDs

Each 2LD has a purpose. For example, com.au is for commercial entities, and gov.au is for government bodies. The purpose of each 2LD dictates the eligibility and allocation policy rules applicable in that 2LD.

A brief summary of the purpose and policy of each of the Designated 2LD appears below:

2LD	Purpose	Policy (brief)
com.au	For commercial entities.	Registrants must be registered to trade in Australia (for example, company with ACN, business with RBN, TM owner, sole trader with ABN).
net.au	For commercial entities.	Registrants must be registered to trade in Australia (for example, company with ACN, business with RBN, TM owner, sole trader with ABN).
org.au	For non-profit organisations, associations, clubs, other informal groups.	Registrants must be non-profit.
asn.au	For non-profit organisations, associations, clubs, other informal groups.	Registrants must be non-profit.
id.au	For individuals.	Registrants must be Australian citizens or residents.
conf.au	For conferences.	Currently not accepting new registrations (one legacy registration). Future policy to be determined by auDA.
info.au	For informational websites.	Currently not accepting new registrations (approximately 15 legacy registrations). Future policy to be determined by auDA.
gov.au	For the government sector (structured into geographic 3LDs – for example, nsw.gov.au).	Registrants must be government departments or agencies. Registrations are accepted at the 3LD and 4LD.
edu.au	For the education and training sector (structured into geographic 3LDs – for example, vic.edu.au).	Registrants must be accredited education, training or research bodies. Registrations are accepted at the 3LD and 4LD.

2LD	Purpose	Policy (brief)
act.au	For use of geographic domain names by local communities (for example, bathurst.nsw.au).	Registrants must be non-profit and representative of the local community for the geographic name.
nsw.au		
nt.au		
qld.au		
sa.au		
tas.au		
vic.au		
wa.au		

5.3 Current Pricing to Registrars

As at 1 August 2005, AusRegistry charges Registrars the following prices (all excluding GST) for a two year domain name licence in the Designated 2LDs:

2LD	AusRegistry fee	auDA's Domain Name Fee	Total price to Registrars
com.au*	\$26.36	\$5.50	\$31.86
net.au*	\$26.36	\$5.50	\$31.86
org.au	\$0.00	\$5.50	\$5.50
asn.au	\$19.09	\$5.50	\$24.59
id.au	\$12.73	\$5.50	\$18.23
conf.au	N/A Currently not accepting new registrations. It is expected that auDA's Domain Name Fee will apply in future.		
info.au	N/A Currently not accepting new registrations. It is expected that auDA's Domain Name Fee will apply in future.		
gov.au**	\$10.00	\$5.50	\$15.50
edu.au	\$10.00	\$5.50	\$15.50

2LD	AusRegistry fee	auDA's Domain Name Fee	Total price to Registrars
wa.au	N/A	Currently not accepting registrations. auDA expects to introduce these 2LDs towards the end of 2005, at which time, auDA's Domain Name Fee will apply.	
nt.au			
sa.au			
qld.au			
nsw.au			
act.au			
vic.au			
tas.au			

* Subject to future price reduction according to cumulative volume of 2LD registrations. The next (and final) price reduction under the terms of the AusRegistry RLA is expected to occur in September 2005, with AusRegistry's fee decreasing to \$21.82 for these two 2LDs.

** There is currently no fixed domain name licence period in gov.au, however auDA expects that a two year licence period will be introduced before the AusRegistry RLA expires.

5.4 Registry Licence Fees

Under the terms of the Registry Licence Agreement, the Registry Operator is required to pay the following licence fee to auDA:

- 5.4.1 an initial registry fee of \$250,000.00 (excluding GST), payable on signing the Registry Licence Agreement; and
- 5.4.2 an annual registry fee, calculated on the total number of domain names cumulatively registered in all the Designated 2LDs on 30 June each year (starting from 30 June 2007), at \$0.50 (excluding GST) per domain name; and
- 5.4.3 auDA's Domain Name Fee, which is a per domain name fee of \$5.50 (excluding GST), which auDA expects the Registry Operator to pass onto the Registrars.

5.5 New 2LDs

There is no current proposal for the introduction of new 2LDs. However, auDA may, during the term of the Registry Licence Agreement, call for proposals for the introduction of one or more new 2LDs.

Under the terms of the Registry Licence Agreement, the Registry Operator may be required to provide Registry Services for those new 2LDs on the same terms as the other Designated 2LDs. Please see clause 8 of the Registry Licence Agreement for further information.