Statement

Consultation open: draft changes to .au Licensing Rules and implementation

12 November 2026

auDA has opened public consultation on proposed amendments to the .au Licensing Rules and a proposed implementation plan.

The draft changes are informed by recommendations made by the external Policy Advisory Panel, which undertook the Review across 2025-2026 and conducted public consultation on key issues related to the .au Licensing Rules.

auDA seeks feedback on how the proposed changes and implementation plan give effect to the recommendations of the Review.

Have your say
auDA invites the Australian community to have its say and provide feedback during the consultation period.

The following documents are available for consultation:

1. **A redlined version of proposed amendments to the .au Licensing Rules,** which sets out the draft changes that give effect to the Panel's recommendations
2. **A proposed implementation plan,** which includes the scope of the transition and two options for implementing the proposed rule changes.

auDA has also published an explanatory statement to support the consultation.

Submissions are open until 5.00pm Friday 15 January 2027 AEDT and can be made via the consultation page on the auDA website.

At the close of the consultation, auDA will review all submissions and they will be published to auDA's website.

In line with auDA's Process for the Development and Review of auDA Published Policies, the auDA Board will adopt the policy option that provides the greatest net benefit to the Australian community. The net benefit may be intangible, such as increased consumer confidence in transacting with entities using a .au domain name.

auDA will share information on the outcome of the consultation in the first quarter of 2027.

ENDS

Notes:
Additional information related to the .au Licensing Rules Review and external Policy Advisory Panel can be found on the following webpages:

- .au Licensing Rules Review 2025 webpage, which includes–The Policy Advisory Panel's Final Report and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Phase 1 consultation submissions
- Phase 2 consultation submissions

.au Licensing Rules changes are made in accordance with the Process for the Development and Review of auDA Published Policies.

For further information:

media@auda.org.au

About auDA:

.au Domain Administration Limited (auDA) is the trusted administrator of the .au domain name system (DNS), which is Australian critical infrastructure that underpins Australia's digital economy and society. Established in 1986, the .au DNS has served Australian and global internet users for four decades, and provides a stable foundation for innovation and emerging technologies to support Australia's digital future.

auDA is a not-for-profit, community-based organisation, endorsed by the Australian Government to innovate and invest in the Australian internet ecosystem to improve the utility of the .au domain for all Australians. Through its steady stewardship of the .au domain and support of internet governance through multi-stakeholder decision making, auDA strives to ensure the internet remains open, free, secure and interoperable. Follow auDA on social media for the latest .au and internet industry updates:

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