

auDA Compliance Plan 2026–27

Under auDA's Terms of Endorsement from the Australian Government, auDA must administer a licensing regime for .au domain names, based in multi-stakeholder processes, that is transparent, responsive, accountable, accessible and efficient.

One of the ways we meet this core function is to publish an annual Compliance Plan that sets out the compliance activities we undertake to develop, maintain and ensure compliance with the .au Domain Administration Rules: Licensing (.au Licensing Rules).

This Compliance Plan sets out the priorities that will guide our compliance activities from July 2026 to June 2027. These compliance priorities align with our strategic focus on trust, innovation and capability to deliver outcomes that promote and enhance the security and integrity of the .au for the benefit of all Australians.

Our Compliance Posture

We take proportional, considered action, and work with auDA accredited registrars and .au domain name licence holders (registrants) to ensure compliance with the rules of the .au.

Our approach is to:

1. Communicate and educate
2. Guide and facilitate
3. Enforce where breaches are not rectified.

Our Compliance Priorities

1. Implement changes to .au Licensing Rules

auDA will implement changes to the .au Domain Administration Rules: Licensing (.au Licensing Rules) in 2026–27. These changes will reflect feedback from the Australian community and stakeholders.

In 2025/26, the auDA Board appointed an external multi-stakeholder Policy Advisory Panel to review the .au Licensing Rules. The Panel conducted a public consultation process throughout 2025–26 to inform recommendations for changes to the Licensing Rules to ensure these rules remain relevant and effective over time. The outcomes of that review will be reviewed by auDA's Board in early 2026–27. auDA will update the Rules in line with the Board's decisions, to ensure they continue to provide the greatest benefit for the Australian community.



2. Maintain low levels of DNS abuse in .au and expand the reach of auDA's DNS monitoring in the Pacific

We continue to prioritise and address DNS abuse to maintain the security of the .au. The level of DNS abuse in the .au is well below the global average, and we will work to maintain our position in the top 5 of global ccTLDs with the lowest rates of DNS abuse.

In addition, auDA is committed to expanding DNS abuse monitoring in the Pacific in consultation with Pacific ccTLDs.

3. Increase percentage of domain name renewals that are successfully validated

auDA will automate the identification of potential domain name validation failures to continue to drive improved validation processes. Alongside this automation project, auDA will review the validation plans of each registrar to improve validation processes across the .au. Improved validation means greater levels of compliance with licensing rules.

4. Uplift registrar compliance program

In 2026–27, auDA will review and provide feedback on Registrars' processes for validating registration data, deliver security assurance reports to Registrars to uplift security, review accreditation and onboarding processes for new registrars, and hold a Registrar Summit to work together to continue industry engagement.

Reporting on outcomes

We will report on outcomes achieved under this Compliance Plan in the auDA 2026–27 Annual Report.