

2015-02 PRICING POLICY

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Background

This policy outlines how the edu.au Domain Administration Committee (eDAC) is to approach the pricing of domain name licences in the edu.au domain in order to ensure that the fees for an edu.au domain licence are kept to a minimum.

There are two cost components to domain name licences: the fixed costs of maintaining the edu.au domain and a per-unit cost for each additional domain name licence. Fees for an edu.au domain name licence are intended to cover both of these costs. With the agreement of eDAC, the edu.au Registrar (“the Registrar”) may also provide registrants with other additional services, with the approval of eDAC.

This Policy is intended to cover only those additional services which the edu.au Registrar provides as a sole (monopoly) provider on a non-contestable basis. These additional services are listed in Appendix 1.

Other services which the Registrar provides in open competition with other providers, such as hosting, are not subject to this policy.

1 SCOPE OF PRICING POLICY

1.1 The edu.au Pricing Policy applies to fees for:

- a) Domain name licences; and
- b) Other services offered by the Registrar as a sole (monopoly) provider as agreed by eDAC and listed in Appendix 1.

2 GENERAL PRICING PRINCIPLES

2.1 eDAC shall have regard to the following pricing principles when setting the fees for domain name licences in the edu.au domain and other services covered by this policy:

- a) The edu.au domain shall operate on a not-for-profit basis for the benefit of the Australian education and training sector;.
- b) The domain shall be operated on a financially self-sustaining basis whilst keeping fees for domain names at a minimum and maintaining sufficient cash reserves to cover financial risks to the domain;
- c) Domain name licence fees for the edu.au domain shall be set on a cost-recovery basis.
- d) Pricing must be transparent, easy to understand, and accessible from the Registrar website; and
- e) The Registrar may offer discounted prices to registrants who hold multiple domain name licences.

3 PRICING NOTICE

- 3.1 From time to time as required, eDAC must publish a Pricing Notice that outlines:
- a) Current fees for domain name licences;
 - b) Current fees for other Registrar services listed in Appendix 1; and
 - c) Any available discounts.

4 EXTERNAL PRICING REVIEW

- 4.1 Every four years from a date determined by eDAC within 12 months of the commencement of this policy a major external pricing review must be carried out by a Registered Company Auditor or Authorised Audit Company that is independent from the Registrar and approved by eDAC.
- 4.2 The external review must examine whether changes are required to the amount and structure of edu.au domain name licensing fees and other fees covered by this policy.
- 4.3 The external review must have regard to the General Pricing Principles specified in Section 2.

5 ANNUAL INTERNAL PRICING REVIEW

- 5.1 Except where Section 4 applies, the Registrar must conduct an annual internal review of edu.au domain name pricing.
- 5.2 The internal review must examine whether changes are required to the amount and structure of edu.au domain name licensing fees and other fees covered by this policy.
- 5.3 When undertaking an internal review, the Registrar must have regard to the General Pricing Principles specified in Section 2.

6 INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL AUDITING OF INTERNAL REVIEW REPORT

- 6.1 If the internal review required by Section 5 recommends a change to edu.au domain name pricing, the Registrar must arrange for an independent external audit of the recommendation.
- 6.2 The independent external audit must be carried out by a Registered Company Auditor or Authorised Audit Company that is independent from the Registrar and approved by eDAC.
- 6.3 The independent external audit must:
- a) Review the accuracy and source of the figures and calculations used by the Registrar; and
 - b) Review whether the process followed by the Registrar is well documented and takes into account the General Pricing Principles specified in Section 2.

7 EXTERNAL OR INTERNAL REVIEW REPORT

- 7.1 At the conclusion of an external review or internal review, eDAC must be provided with a Review Report containing:
- a) The recommendations arising from the review;

- b) Evidence to support the recommendations made including modelling of the likely impact of the pricing change on the number of registrations, revenue and costs of the domain over at least a two year period; and
- c) The results of any independent external audit undertaken in accordance with Section 6.

7.2 eDAC must consider an External or Internal Review Report and may:

- a) Accept the recommendations of the Review Report or agree to an amended version of the recommendations;
- b) Request further information;
- c) In the case of an Internal Review Report, commission an external pricing review in accordance with Section 4; or
- d) Reject the recommendations of the Review Report.

7.3 Once eDAC has made a decision on a Review Report, it must publish within 60 days a summary of the review, its findings and eDAC's decision.

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF REGISTRAR SERVICES COVERED BY THE PRICING POLICY

As of 1 July 2015, the following Registrar Services are covered by the edu.au Pricing Policy:

Service	Description
.auLOCKDOWN	.auLOCKDOWN is a security measure for .au domain names that provides an added level of security to domain name Registrants. Domain names are locked at the Registry level, and changes are only possible through direct communication between the Registrar authorised contact and the Registry, by following a strict authentication process.
Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC)	Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) is a security extension that facilitates the digital signing of Internet communications.