

REGISTRY POLICIES

.human Top-Level Domain

Operational policies published by the Registry Operator for the .human top-level domain

REGISTRY OPERATOR	Human Centered Holdings LLC
PRIMARY RSP	Identity Digital Limited
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Purpose and scope

This document sets out the operational Registry Policies of Human Centered Holdings LLC (the “Registry Operator”) for the .human generic top-level domain. These policies are adopted and published by the Registry Operator as public, binding registry policy for the .human namespace, and this document defines how they will be implemented in daily operation, supported by the standard registry services of the primary Registry Service Provider, Identity Digital Limited (the “RSP”). This document is filed with the .human gTLD application in ICANN's 2026 New gTLD Program Round. The commitments in it are commitments of the Registry Operator alone; they are designed to operate within the RSP's standard service offering and impose no obligation on the RSP beyond the Registry Services Agreement.

These policies apply to the Registry Operator, to registrars accredited to sell .human names, to registrants of .human names, and to third parties interacting with .human (including trusted notifiers, verification partners, and members of the .human Community Advisory Council).

The .human TLD is applied for as a Standard generic top-level domain. Registration is open. The policies below add trust signals, safeguards, and community accountability on top of open registration; they do not convert .human into a Community gTLD and do not impose eligibility gating as a condition of registration, except in the narrow reserved-name and impersonation-prevention circumstances described in Section 4.

Where any policy in this document is inconsistent with the Base Registry Agreement, ICANN Consensus Policy, or applicable law, the Base Registry Agreement, ICANN Consensus Policy, and applicable law control, in that order.

1. Mission and operating principles

.human exists to provide a trusted, dignity-centered, and creativity-affirming online namespace for organizations and individuals whose work advances the well-being, rights, and flourishing of people. Because every human advance in history has begun as a creative act, the .human namespace treats creative practitioners and creators as a first-class constituent of the human-centered community, on equal footing with civil-society, care, rights, ethical-AI, and dignity-focused sectors. The Registry Operator will operate .human with the following principles guiding every policy decision:

- Open by default, verified by choice. Registration is open to any lawful registrant. Registrants who wish to signal community alignment may verify at their option.
- Enforceable, not aspirational. Every commitment in this document is expressed as an operational rule with an owner, a service level, and a public metric.
- Community voice, registry accountability. The Community Advisory Council advises. The Registry Operator decides. Both act on the public record.
- Do the least restrictive thing that works. Where a lighter-touch mechanism can achieve the same safeguard outcome, prefer it.

- Transparent by construction. Metrics, decisions, and appeals are published rather than filed.

2. Definitions

Terms not defined here take their meaning from the Base Registry Agreement, ICANN Consensus Policy, or common gTLD industry usage.

Base RA: the Base Registry Agreement between the Registry Operator and ICANN for .human.

Community Advisory Council or Council: the body established under Section 6.

DNS Abuse: as defined in the DNS Abuse Framework and Section 5.

Eligibility Verification Program or EVP: the voluntary verification service defined in Section 3.

Registry Operator: Human Centered Holdings LLC.

Reserved Names: the second-level names withheld from open registration under Section 4.

RSP: the primary Registry Service Provider, Identity Digital Limited.

Trusted Notifier: a third-party organization recognized by the Registry Operator under Section 5 whose reports are actioned on an expedited basis.

Verified Registrant: a registrant that has completed the EVP and holds a current verification.

Registry Policy: a policy adopted and published by the Registry Operator in this document.

3. Eligibility Verification Program

3.1 Purpose

The EVP is a voluntary program that lets registrants demonstrate, on a verified basis, that they meet at least one recognized community-alignment criterion. Verification produces a registry-issued trust signal in a public, machine-readable verification directory published by the Registry Operator and, where the registrar supports it, a visible badge in the registrar's user interface.

3.2 Voluntariness

Participation in the EVP is not required to register or renew a .human name. Unverified registrants have the same registration and renewal rights as verified registrants, other than the trust signal itself.

3.3 Eligibility criteria

A registrant is eligible for verification if it meets at least one of the following:

- Civil-society or nonprofit status. Recognized nonprofit or charity status under the law of the registrant's jurisdiction (for example, U.S. IRS 501(c)(3), U.K. Charity Commission registration, or a substantially equivalent designation).

- Professional licensure in a human-centered field. Current professional licensure or credentialing in a field oriented around human care, dignity, or rights (for example, licensed clinical psychology, licensed social work, licensed medical practice, or accredited human-rights advocacy).
- Ethical-AI framework signatory. Documented signatory or endorsement status to a recognized ethical-AI framework, including but not limited to the Asilomar AI Principles, the Montreal Declaration for Responsible AI, IEEE Ethically Aligned Design, Partnership on AI, the OECD AI Principles, or the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI.
- Recognized creative-practitioner status. Membership in a recognized professional creative guild, association, or academy (for example, Authors Guild, AIGA, PEN America, Recording Academy, Directors Guild of America, Society of Illustrators, Poets and Writers, or a substantially equivalent body); documented accredited fine-arts, design, music, film, or writing credentials; or a documented body of published, exhibited, or performed creative work.
- .human Community Standards Acknowledgment. An executed acknowledgment, in the form published by the Registry Operator, affirming operation consistent with the .human Community Standards.

3.4 Verification workflow

1. The registrar or the registrant submits a verification request directly to the Registry Operator through the published intake channel, with registrant-provided evidence. The EVP is operated by the Registry Operator and requires no custom RSP tooling.
2. Requests are triaged by the Registry Operator within five business days.
3. Approved verifications are recorded by the Registry Operator and reflected in the public verification directory within one business day.
4. Denied verifications are returned to the registrar with the reason for denial and appeal instructions.

3.5 Cadence

Verification is confirmed at registration and re-attested at each renewal. A verification lapses if not re-attested by the renewal date. The Registry Operator may spot-check verifications between renewals and may revoke a verification on evidence that the underlying criterion no longer holds.

3.6 Public signal

The EVP trust signal is a machine-readable entry in the public verification directory indicating the criterion under which verification was granted and the date of last attestation. The signal does not disclose the underlying evidence. Should an RDAP-based signal later become available within the RSP's standard service offering, it would be introduced only through ICANN's Registry Services Evaluation Process (RSEP), as applicable.

3.7 Appeals

A denied or revoked verification may be appealed to the Registry Operator within thirty days. Appeals are decided by a person not involved in the initial determination and, at the appellant's request, may be reviewed by the Community Advisory Council for advisory input.

3.8 Data handling

Evidence submitted for verification is retained only for as long as needed to make the determination and to defend the determination on appeal, and is handled in accordance with the Registry Operator's published Privacy Policy and applicable data-protection law.

4. Reserved Names and name-selection safeguards

4.1 Categories of Reserved Names

The Registry Operator maintains a published list of Reserved Names. Reserved Names are second-level strings withheld from open first-come, first-served registration and allocated only through the procedure in Section 4.3. Reserved Names include:

- ICANN and Base RA reservations. All names required to be reserved by the Base RA or ICANN Consensus Policy.
- Registry-operational names. Names used for registry operations, abuse reporting, and testing.
- Community-meaningful short strings. A limited set of short, high-value strings whose open registration would foreclose community use, as determined by the Registry Operator on advice from the Community Advisory Council.
- Recognized organizing-body names. Names that identify recognized organizing bodies of the human-centered community.

4.2 Publication

The full Reserved Names list is published on the Registry Operator's public website and is updated as changes are made. Additions and removals are logged with the date and reason.

4.3 Allocation procedure

Reserved Names in the community-meaningful and organizing-body categories are allocated only through a transparent allocation procedure. The procedure runs on a periodic basis, is announced publicly in advance, and includes:

- an application window with published criteria,
- Community Advisory Council review of applications received,
- a Registry Operator allocation decision informed by the Council's review,
- public publication of the allocation decision and the reasons for it.

4.4 Impersonation prohibition

The Registry Operator will include in its Registry-Registrar Agreement a provision requiring registrars to include in their registration agreements a provision prohibiting any registration that, on its face or in light of registrant disclosures, impersonates a governmental entity, an intergovernmental organization, or a recognized organizing body of the human-centered community, without documented authorization from the impersonated entity. Upon verification of a violation, the Registry Operator will suspend the registration, or require the sponsoring registrar to suspend or delete it.

4.5 False-credential prohibition

Through the same Registry-Registrar Agreement flow-down and remediation mechanism as Section 4.4, the Registry Operator prohibits any second-level registration that, taken in context, falsely implies the registrant holds an EVP credential that the registrant does not in fact hold. This prohibition is directed at strings that appropriate the verified-credential trust signal, not at descriptive or generic names.

4.6 Decision and appeal

Decisions under Sections 4.4 and 4.5 are made by the Registry Operator with a written reason. Registrants may appeal within thirty days; appeals are decided by a person not involved in the initial determination.

5. DNS Abuse Policy

5.1 Scope of covered abuse

Consistent with the DNS Abuse Framework, “DNS Abuse” for purposes of this policy means: phishing, malware, botnet command-and-control, pharming, spam where spam is used as a delivery mechanism for any of the foregoing, and child sexual abuse material (“CSAM”). Additional categories may be added by published amendment.

5.2 Abuse-Reporting Endpoint

The Registry Operator publishes and maintains a monitored Abuse-Reporting Endpoint that accepts reports twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week. The endpoint accepts email submissions to a published abuse@ address and web submissions via a public form.

5.3 Service level

For domains verified to have been maliciously registered for the purpose of covered DNS Abuse, the Registry Operator will take action within twenty-four hours of verification. For compromised but otherwise legitimate domains, the Registry Operator acts in accordance with a published remediation playbook that prioritizes notification to the registrant and the sponsoring registrar, so that remediation does not needlessly disrupt lawful services. “Action” means one or more of the following, chosen to fit the harm: registrar notification and enforcement demand, registry-level

suspension (serverHold), or registry-level lock in accordance with the Base RA. For CSAM, action defaults to immediate registry-level suspension pending law-enforcement referral.

5.4 Trusted Notifier program

The Registry Operator will recognize at least one established Trusted Notifier program no later than the commencement of General Availability. Recognized programs at the time of application submission are expected to include the Internet Watch Foundation (for CSAM) and the Anti-Phishing Working Group (for phishing), or a substantially equivalent recognized notifier. The specific notifier partners and any changes to the roster will be published on the Registry Operator's public website. Reports submitted by a recognized Trusted Notifier are handled on an expedited basis, with a target action time of one hour for CSAM and four hours for other covered abuse.

5.5 Trusted Notifier onboarding criteria

A prospective Trusted Notifier is evaluated against published criteria: subject-matter expertise, demonstrated false-positive rate, transparency and appeals track record, jurisdiction and governance, and operational compatibility with the registry's reporting channels. Onboarding and removal decisions are logged.

5.6 Quarterly Abuse Metrics

The Registry Operator publishes quarterly DNS Abuse Metrics on its public website. Metrics include, at a minimum: total reports received; reports actioned; category breakdown; source (public, Trusted Notifier, law-enforcement referral); mean and median time-to-action; and recidivism counts. Metrics are published no later than thirty days after the close of each quarter.

5.7 Registrant notice and appeal

Where a registry-level action is taken against a domain, the affected registrar is notified with the reason and evidence. The registrar is expected to forward notice to the registrant. A registrant may appeal a registry-level action within thirty days. Appeals are decided by a person not involved in the initial action, and appeal outcomes are logged in the Abuse Metrics.

5.8 Law-enforcement cooperation

The Registry Operator cooperates with law-enforcement requests in accordance with applicable law and the Base RA. Requests are logged and reflected in an annual transparency summary published as part of the Annual Community Impact Report.

5.9 RSP integration

Day-to-day DNS Abuse monitoring and registry-layer enforcement use the RSP's standard abuse-mitigation services, including the RSP's Dynamic Defense solution, as provided under the Registry Services Agreement. The Registry Operator maintains its own remediation playbook governing how it directs registry-layer action; the current version is available to ICANN Contractual Compliance on request.

6. Community Advisory Council

6.1 Establishment

The Registry Operator establishes the Community Advisory Council no later than the commencement of General Availability and maintains it thereafter. The Council is advisory to the Registry Operator; it does not exercise operational or contractual authority.

6.2 Charter

The Council operates under a published Charter. The current Charter is titled “Community Advisory Council Charter” and is available on the Registry Operator's public website. This policies document incorporates the Charter by reference.

6.3 Composition

The Council is composed of seats representing the six constituent sectors of the human-centered community: (i) civil-society and nonprofit organizations; (ii) mental-health and wellness practitioners; (iii) human-rights advocates; (iv) ethical-AI signatories; (v) dignity-focused initiatives; and (vi) creative practitioners and creators (including artists, writers, designers, musicians, filmmakers, poets, makers, and inventors). Composition detail, term length, appointment process, and code of conduct are governed by the Charter.

6.4 Consultation scope

The Council is consulted on:

1. Reserved Name allocation under Section 4.3,
2. material changes to the policies in this document,
3. updates to the DNS Abuse Policy under Section 5, including Trusted Notifier onboarding and removal,
4. the Annual Community Impact Report,
5. any other matter the Registry Operator elects to refer to the Council, including the community reinvestment methodology under Section 8. The first four matters above are the Council's standing consultation matters.

6.5 Cadence

The Council meets at least quarterly. Additional meetings may be convened by the chair or at the request of the Registry Operator.

6.6 Transparency

The Council's Charter, current member roster, and meeting summaries are published on the Registry Operator's public website. Council recommendations are on the public record, together with the Registry Operator's action on those recommendations.

7. Annual Community Impact Report

Within one hundred twenty days of each fiscal year-end, the Registry Operator publishes an Annual Community Impact Report on its public website. The Report describes:

- registrant composition by verified category under the EVP,
- DNS Abuse metrics for the fiscal year, including trends against prior years,
- Reserved Name allocations made during the year,
- community-program reinvestment under Section 8,
- Community Advisory Council activity, including recommendations and Registry Operator responses,
- an annual transparency summary of law-enforcement requests received under Section 5.8,
- material policy changes made during the year.

The Report is machine-readable in addition to any narrative form, so that year-over-year comparisons are auditable.

8. Community reinvestment (Registry Policy)

8.1 Floor

The Registry Operator targets community reinvestment at no less than five percent of audited annual net surplus, subject to operational solvency. This commitment is maintained as published registry policy, and performance against it is disclosed in the Annual Community Impact Report.

8.2 Uses

Reinvestment is allocated across one or more of the following: grants to human-centered nonprofit and civil-society organizations, sponsorship of community programs, and capacity-building support for the human-centered community.

8.3 Methodology

The allocation methodology is recommended each year by the Community Advisory Council and adopted, in whole or in modified form, by the Registry Operator. The adopted methodology, the amount reinvested, and the recipients are disclosed in the Annual Community Impact Report.

8.4 Solvency reservation

The Registry Operator may reduce or defer reinvestment in any year in which reinvestment at the target floor would impair its ability to meet Base RA obligations, cover audited operating expenses, or maintain the financial reserves required by ICANN. Any such reduction is disclosed in the Annual Community Impact Report with the reason and with a plan for restoration.

9. Rights protection and dispute policies

.human complies with all mandatory ICANN rights-protection mechanisms, including:

- Sunrise for trademark holders during the launch period, as coordinated through the Trademark Clearinghouse;
- Trademark Claims service during the initial launch period;
- Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy (UDRP);
- Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS);
- Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedures as required by the Base RA.

The Registry Operator does not add rights-protection restrictions beyond ICANN requirements. The impersonation and false-credential prohibitions in Section 4 are name-selection safeguards, not rights-protection mechanisms, and apply independently of any trademark right.

10. Registrar relations

10.1 Registrar accreditation

.human is available through any registrar accredited by ICANN and onboarded by the RSP. The Registry Operator does not impose additional accreditation requirements beyond those imposed by ICANN and the RSP.

10.2 Registry-Registrar Agreement

Registrars accept the Registry-Registrar Agreement, which incorporates these policies by reference. Material changes to these policies are communicated to registrars with notice consistent with the Registry-Registrar Agreement.

10.3 EVP integration

Registrars may, but are not required to, present the EVP verification option to registrants during registration and renewal flows. Registrars that present the EVP will follow published integration guidance provided by the Registry Operator.

11. Data protection, RDAP, and privacy

11.1 Registration data

Collection, handling, and publication of registration data comply with the Base RA, ICANN Consensus Policy on registration data, and applicable data-protection law. Registrant Whois and RDAP disclosure follow the ICANN-approved framework in effect from time to time.

11.2 EVP data

Evidence submitted for EVP verification is treated as sensitive registrant data. It is stored securely, is not published, and is disclosed only where required by law or by the Base RA.

11.3 Abuse-report data

Abuse reports and evidence are retained for the period required to investigate, action, and defend actions on appeal, and to compile the quarterly metrics and Annual Community Impact Report. Personal data in abuse reports is minimized to what is necessary for the investigation.

11.4 Escrow

Registration data escrow is performed by Escrow4all B.V., an ICANN-approved Registry Data Escrow Agent, through the RSP's operator integration. The Registry Operator is the named TLD operator on the escrow agreement.

12. Security and stability

.human meets or exceeds the security and stability requirements of the Base RA and Specification 6. The primary registry services listed below are operated by the RSP under the contracted Registry Services Agreement:

1. Shared Registration System (SRS / EPP);
2. Authoritative DNS resolution;
3. DNSSEC signing and key management;
4. Registration Data Directory Services (Whois / RDAP);
5. Data Escrow (through the RSP's integration with Escrow4all B.V.).

The Abuse-Reporting Endpoint, the quarterly Abuse-Metric publication, and the voluntary EVP trust signal are policy-layer functions operated by the Registry Operator; they are not RSP services and are listed here only for completeness of the operational picture.

Security incident response and continuity are covered by the RSP's contracted service levels and by the Registry Operator's business-continuity plan.

13. Policy change process

13.1 Ordinary changes

Non-material changes to these policies (clarifications, corrections, form updates) are published by the Registry Operator with a version increment and change log.

13.2 Material changes

A material change is one that affects the substance of any policy in this document, the scope of DNS Abuse coverage, the EVP eligibility criteria, Reserved Names categories, or the community reinvestment methodology.

Material changes are made under the following process:

1. proposed change published for public comment on the Registry Operator's public website for a period of not less than thirty days;
2. Community Advisory Council review and advisory recommendation;
3. Registry Operator adoption decision, published with a written reason;
4. effective date not earlier than thirty days after adoption.

13.3 Alignment with the Base RA

Material changes must be consistent with the Base Registry Agreement and applicable ICANN policy. Where a material change would require amendment of the Base RA, the change is made only through the amendment process provided by the Base RA and the applicable ICANN policy.

14. Compliance and audit

14.1 ICANN Contractual Compliance

The policies in this document are adopted and published by the Registry Operator as registry policy, and the Registry Operator reports performance against them in the Annual Community Impact Report. The Registry Operator's obligations under the Base Registry Agreement remain enforceable by ICANN Contractual Compliance. The Registry Operator will respond to Contractual Compliance inquiries in accordance with the Base RA.

14.2 Internal audit

The Registry Operator maintains an internal audit posture proportionate to a small registry operator. Where an independent external audit is not commercially available for a given operational area, the Registry Operator will document the reason and describe the compensating controls in the Annual Community Impact Report. This posture is described in the Registry Operator's Audit-Unavailability Narrative.

14.3 Records

The Registry Operator maintains records sufficient to demonstrate compliance with each policy in this document. Records are retained for the period required by the Base RA and applicable law.

15. Division of responsibilities

This document describes what the Registry Operator commits to. The RSP performs the following core technical registry services under the Registry Services Agreement, in accordance with its standard service levels:

- SRS, DNS, DNSSEC, RDAP, and escrow (Section 12);
- registrar onboarding and support;
- standard abuse-mitigation services and execution of registry-layer actions directed by the Registry Operator (Section 5);
- standard platform reporting, which the Registry Operator uses to compile the quarterly Abuse Metrics and the Annual Community Impact Report;
- security incident detection and response at the platform layer.

All other commitments in this document, including the EVP, Reserved Names procedures, the DNS Abuse Policy, the Community Advisory Council, the Annual Community Impact Report, and community reinvestment, are owned and performed by the Registry Operator. Nothing in this document imposes an obligation on the RSP beyond the Registry Services Agreement.

16. Governance summary

For clarity, decision authority under this document is as follows:

Decision	Authority	Advisory input	Publication
EVP verification determination	Registry Operator	Applicant evidence	Verification directory
EVP appeal	Registry Operator (separate reviewer)	Community Advisory Council (on request)	Case-level to registrar
Reserved Names list changes	Registry Operator	Community Advisory Council	Public website + change log
Reserved Name allocation	Registry Operator	Community Advisory Council	Public website
DNS Abuse enforcement action	Registry Operator (standard RSP tooling)	Trusted Notifier reports	Quarterly Abuse Metrics
Trusted Notifier roster changes	Registry Operator	Community Advisory Council	Public website
Council appointments	Registry Operator	Sitting Council (per Charter)	Public website
Community reinvestment allocation	Registry Operator	Community Advisory Council	Annual Community Impact Report

Decision	Authority	Advisory input	Publication
Material policy change	Registry Operator	Public comment + Community Advisory Council	Public website, 30-day advance

17. Contact

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delegation)	

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