

ARIN's Policy Development Process

About ARIN

The American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN) is the nonprofit corporation that distributes Internet number resources, including Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, to Canada, the United States, and several islands in the Caribbean and North Atlantic Ocean.

What is a policy?

A policy is a documented decision made by the ARIN community that dictates the management of Internet number resources (IPv4 and IPv6 address space and Autonomous System numbers) in the ARIN region.

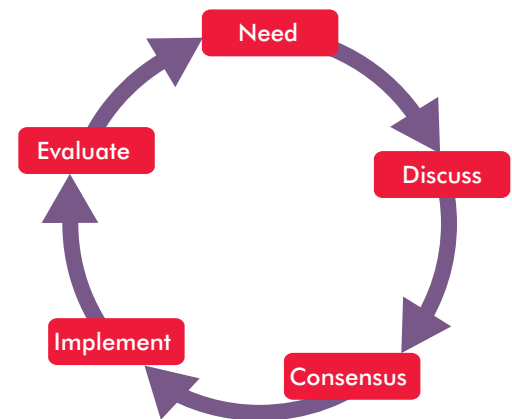
What is ARIN's policy development process?

The Internet Resource Policy Evaluation Process (IRPEP) is how the ARIN community proposes, discusses, and adopts policies. The IRPEP is cyclical and consists of five basic steps. They are:

- **Need:** A community member submits a proposal after seeing a need for a new or revised policy.
- **Discuss:** The community discusses the proposal on the Public Policy Mailing List and at Public Policy Meeting(s).
- **Consensus:** The Advisory Council evaluates consensus and, if found in favor, recommends ratification by the Board of Trustees. The Board ratifies proposals after ensuring the process was followed and conducting a full legal and fiscal review.
- **Implement:** The new policy takes effect.
- **Evaluate:** ARIN community and staff members evaluate all policies for relevance and unintended consequences based on implementation experience. This continuous review may result in additional needs.

Who can participate in policy development?

Anyone! Any interested party is welcome and encouraged to participate in ARIN's policy development process.



How do people participate?

- Subscribe to the Public Policy Mailing List and join the discussions. See more at: http://www.arin.net/mailling_lists/.
- Attend Public Policy Meetings or participate remotely through meeting webcasts. Active policy proposals are presented and discussed at each meeting. Meeting information is available at: <http://www.arin.net/meetings/>.
- Submit a proposal to create a new policy or revise current policy. Read the IRPEP at <http://www.arin.net/policy/irpep.html> and follow the instructions to submit a proposal.