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, many Caribbean and North Atlantic islands, and the United States.

What is a policy?
A policy is a documented decision made by the ARIN community that determines 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 Policy Development Process (PDP) is how the ARIN community proposes, discusses, and adopts policies. The PDP 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 ARIN Advisory Council develops technically sound and useful draft policies and forwards them for community discussion 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 a draft policy after ensuring the PDP was followed and conducting an examination of each draft policy in terms of fiduciary risk, liability risk, conformity to law, and adherence to the ARIN Articles of Incorporation and ARIN Bylaws.
- **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 [https://www.arin.net/participate/mailing_lists](https://www.arin.net/participate/mailing_lists).
- **Attend** Public Policy Meetings or participate remotely through meeting webcasts. Draft policies are presented and discussed at each meeting. Meeting information is available at [https://www.arin.net/participate/meetings](https://www.arin.net/participate/meetings).
- **Submit** a proposal to create a new policy or revise current policy. Read the PDP at [https://www.arin.net/policy/pdp.html](https://www.arin.net/policy/pdp.html) and follow the instructions to submit a proposal.

For more information, visit us at [www.arin.net](http://www.arin.net) or email us at info@arin.net.