



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Miami

WELCOME TO THE ARIN 58 PUBLIC POLICY AND MEMBERS MEETING!

Policies in the ARIN region are developed by the Internet community using the open and transparent ARIN Policy Development Process (PDP). The Internet community develops policies via discussion on the ARIN Public Policy Mailing List (PPML), at ARIN Public Policy Consultations (PPCs), and at ARIN Public Policy and Members Meetings. Anyone may participate in the process – ARIN membership is not required.

The ARIN Board of Trustees adopts Recommended Draft Policies forwarded by the ARIN Advisory Council if the Board determines that the PDP has been followed, that support and consensus for policies has been reached among the community, and if the Draft Policies are consistent with ARIN's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and applicable laws and regulations.

The ARIN Public Policy and Members Meeting is conducted in an orderly manner to understand the sense of the majority, to respect the views of the minority, and to protect the interests of those absent. Accordingly, the flow of the meeting is structured according to a published agenda and participants are expected to follow Meeting Courtesies, Expected Standards of Behavior, and Rules of Discussion.

The American Registry for Internet Numbers, a nonprofit member-based organization, supports the operation of the Internet through the management of Internet number resources throughout its service region; coordinates the development of policies by the community for the management of Internet Protocol number resources; and advances the Internet through informational outreach.

WHAT'S INSIDE

FOR DISCUSSION

This document contains the Recommended Draft Policies and Draft Policies on the agenda for this Public Policy and Members Meeting.

Draft Policies are works in progress and are included in this document to assist with discussion. This text is subject to change, and the most up-to-date text is always available on the ARIN website at: <https://www.arin.net/participate/policy/drafts/>

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ARIN PARTICIPANTS EXPECTED STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

Those who take part in any ARIN meeting, conference or event including but not limited to Public Policy and Member Meetings, ARIN on the Road, ARIN in the Caribbean, etc., and related activities (including but not limited to ARIN staff, members of the Board of Trustees, Advisory Council ["AC"], Address Supporting Organization Address Council ["ASO AC"], and ARIN meeting attendees) must:

- Treat each other with civility, courtesy and respect (both face-to-face and online), regardless of the sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, age, religion, creed, disability, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, occupation, line of business, or any other classification protected by law, or policy position of other participants.
- Make reasonable and informed comments when participating in policy development and decision-making discussions and processes.
- Listen respectfully to the views of all stakeholders when considering policy issues.
- Those who take part in the ARIN Policy Development Process must take responsibility for the success of the model by trying to build consensus with other participants and find solutions to issues.
- Act fairly and in good faith with other participants in the ARIN process.
- Act in accordance with ARIN's Policy Development Process when participating in ARIN public policy events. The ARIN model is based on a bottom-up, consensus-driven approach to policy development.
- Refrain from inappropriate photography or recording of individuals without their knowledge or permission.
- Follow the rules and regulations of the event venue or hotel.

Further, those who participate in ARIN events and related activities must foster an environment that is free from any form of discrimination and conduct that is harassing, coercive, or disruptive. ARIN prohibits harassment in any form – verbal, physical or visual – and will not tolerate discriminatory harassment or inappropriate conduct of a harassing nature directed against any individual on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, age, religion, creed, disability, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, occupation, line of business, or any other classification protected by law, or policy position of other participants.

Sexual harassment is a form of gender discrimination that is unlawful and violates this policy. For purposes of this policy, sexual harassment is defined generally to include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when such conduct is made a condition of an individual's employment or participation, used as the basis for decisions,

or has the effect of substantially interfering with an individual's performance or creating a hostile environment. Sexually harassing conduct, as well as inappropriate conduct of a harassing nature, is prohibited. Examples of prohibited conduct include, but are not limited to: (1) sexually-oriented kidding, teasing, gestures or jokes; (2) offensive or unwelcome sexual flirtations, advances, or propositions; (3) verbal abuse of a sexual nature; (4) graphic or verbal comments, epithets, or slurs about an individual's body; (5) sexually degrading words used to describe an individual; (6) the display or transmission (e.g., e-mail, text or social media) of sexually suggestive or sexually explicit materials (such as magazines, videos, pictures, cartoons or posters); (7) inquiries into another individual's sexual experiences and activities or discussion of one's own sexual experiences and activities; and (8) unwelcome intentional touching of another person or other unwanted intentional physical conduct.

ARIN is committed to supporting a productive and safe environment for all participants at ARIN events. Any ARIN participant who feels that another participant has violated these standards is asked to immediately notify any of the following: ARIN's President and CEO, Chief Human Resources Officer, or General Counsel; the Chair of ARIN's Board; or the Ombudsperson. Contact information for these individuals can be found here. Any ARIN participant who believes there has been a violation of this policy on the ARIN mailing list should report it via the ARIN Mailing List Acceptable Use Policy.

All allegations of violations that are reported will be reviewed as promptly as possible and will be treated with as much confidentiality as possible, consistent with the need to conduct a thorough review and investigation if necessary.

ARIN prohibits retaliation against any ARIN community member or participant who, in good faith, alleges a violation of these standards, even if sufficient evidence is not found to substantiate the allegation. ARIN also prohibits retaliation against any ARIN participant or community member participating in a review or an investigation of an allegation. An ARIN community member or participant will not be penalized in any way for reporting a potential violation of these standards.

Violations of these standards may result in disciplinary action without warning, which correlates with the nature and gravity of the violation. Discipline can include but is not limited to:

- A reprimand.
- Removal from ARIN-related activities and/or initiatives.
- Any other measure deemed necessary to maintain a productive and safe working environment for all participants.

RULES OF DISCUSSION

The Chair moderates discussions of formal draft policies so that all can speak and all can be heard. Accordingly, every person who participates in a Public Policy Consultation is asked to follow these simple rules and customs:

1. All persons have equal rights, privileges, and obligations.
2. Full and free discussion of all draft policies is the right of every person participating in the meeting.
3. Only one policy is considered at a time.
4. Persons should not speak in the discussion until they have moved to a designated speaker's position and have been recognized by the Chair and granted the floor.
5. Every time a speaker is recognized by the Moderator, speakers should do the following:
 - State their name and affiliation.
 - State intent to support or not support the policy under discussion.
6. No person should speak a second time on the same topic if anyone who has not spoken on that topic wishes to do so.
7. No person should speak for more than three minutes unless the Moderator gives consent.
8. Speakers should direct all remarks to the Moderator. They should not debate with other speakers or otherwise attack or question the motives of other speakers.
9. While the discussion is in progress, speakers may suggest amendments or other secondary proposals to the Moderator, who will see them acted on accordingly.
10. Only the Moderator may call for a poll to gain a sense of the participants regarding the policy under discussion, any part of that policy, any proposed amendment to that policy, or any secondary proposal. The Chair will state all questions before polling responses mean.

RECOMMENDED DRAFT POLICY

ARIN-2025-1

Clarify ISP and LIR Definitions and References to Address Ambiguity in NRPM Text

https://www.arin.net/participate/policy/drafts/2025_1

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: Leif Sawyer and Elizabeth Goodson

Current Text (13 August 2026)

AC ASSESSMENT OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNET NUMBER RESOURCE POLICY

Draft Policy ARIN-2025-1, in accordance with the principles of the ARIN Policy Development Process, has been found to be fair, impartial, and technically sound, and has moved to Recommended status. This policy, upon adoption, will clarify the relationship between the terms Local Internet Registry (LIR) and Internet Service Provider (ISP), establish an explicit definition for ISP, and update NRPM text to consistently utilize LIR throughout, while resolving long-standing ambiguities.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Section 2.4 of the NRPM defines an LIR but does not explicitly define an ISP. An ISP is defined in the context of an LIR, but the explicit definition is otherwise assumed.

Through implication and in common business practice, all ISPs are LIRs, but not all LIRs are ISPs.

This proposal adds clarity by creating an explicit definition for ISP, clarifying the historical and out-of-region usage for the term LIR, and replaces LIR with ISP throughout the NRPM as appropriate.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Update the Table of Contents, replacing ISP with LIR as follows:

4.2. Allocations to Local Internet Registries

4.2.2. Initial Allocation to Local Internet Registries

4.2.3.4.2. Downstream Local Internet Registries

4.2.4. Local Internet Registry Additional Requests

6.5.4. Reassignments from Local Internet Registries

Section 2:

Rewrite the LIR definition to provide clarity and relationship to ISP

2.4. Local Internet Registry (LIR)

A Local Internet Registry (LIR) is an Internet Registry that is a member of an RIR, receives allocations of internet numbers from that RIR, for allocation to its customers, end-users, and infrastructure. LIRs include, but are not limited to, large enterprises, universities, and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) whose customers are primarily end users and possibly other ISPs.

Replace ISP with Local Internet Registry:

2.15. Provider Assignment Unit (IPv6)

When applied to IPv6 policies, the term “provider assignment unit” shall mean the prefix of the smallest block a given Local Internet Registry assigns to end sites (recommended /48).

Add new definition for ISP:

2.18 Internet Service Provider (ISP)

An Internet Service Provider (ISP) is a type of organization that provides Internet services to other organizations, its customers, and/or individuals other than its employees. Internet services include, but are not limited to, connectivity services, web services, colocation, dedicated servers, virtual private servers, and virtual private networks.

Section 3:

Replace first ISP with Local Internet Registry, remaining with LIR

This policy applies to every Organization that has Internet number resources issued by ARIN (or one of its predecessor registries) or a reallocation from an upstream Local Internet Registry. This includes but is not limited to upstream LIRs and their downstream LIR customers, but not reassignments made to their downstream end user customers.

Section 4:

Replace ISP with Local Internet Registry: in the following sections:

4.2. Allocations to Local Internet Registries (Requirements for Requesting Initial Address Space)

4.2.1.1. Purpose

ARIN allocates blocks of IP addresses to Local Internet Registries for the purpose of reassigning and reallocating that space to their customers.

4.2.1.5. Minimum Allocation

In general, ARIN allocates /24 and larger IP address prefixes to Local Internet Registries. If allocations smaller than /24 are needed, LIRs should request address space from their upstream provider.

4.2.2. Initial Allocation to LIRs

All Local Internet Registry organizations without any IPv4 addresses from ARIN automatically qualify for an initial allocation of a /24. LIRs providing a 24-month utilization plan for the request size specified may receive up to a /22. LIRs holding reallocations and/or reassignments must show the efficient utilization of their resources consistent with the requirements in sections 4.2.3 and 4.2.4.

4.2.3.1. Efficient Utilization

Local Internet Registries are required to apply a utilization efficiency criterion in providing address space to their customers. To this end, LIRs should have documented justification available for each reassignment and reallocation. ARIN may request this justification at any time. If justification is not provided, future receipt of allocations may be impacted.

4.2.3.2. VLSM

To increase utilization efficiency of IPv4 address space, Local Internet Registries reassigning IP address space to their customers should require their customers to use variable length subnet mask (VLSM) and classless technologies (CIDR) within their networks. LIRs should issue blocks smaller than /24 wherever feasible.

4.2.3.3. Contiguous Blocks

IP addresses are allocated to Local Internet Registries in contiguous blocks, which should remain intact. Fragmentation of blocks is discouraged. To avoid fragmentation, LIRs are encouraged to require their customers to return address space if they change LIRs. Therefore, if a customer moves to another service provider or otherwise terminates a contract with an LIR, it is recommended that the customer return the network addresses to the LIR and renumber into the new provider's address space. The original LIR should allow sufficient time for the renumbering process to be completed before requiring the address space to be returned.

4.2.3.4. Downstream Customer Adherence

Local Internet Registries must require their downstream customers to adhere to the following criteria:

4.2.3.4.1. Utilization

A downstream customer requesting address space from an upstream Local Internet Registry must document a plan to the allocating LIR for their utilization to conform to Section 4.3.3. Reassignment and reallocation information for prior allocations must show that each customer meets the 80% utilization criteria and must be available via SWIP / a distributed service which meets the standards set forth in section 3.2 prior to issuing them additional space.

4.2.3.4.2. Downstream Local Internet Registries

Customers must follow ARIN policy for Local Internet Registries.

4.2.3.6. Reassignments to Multihomed Downstream Customers

If a downstream customer has a requirement to multihome, that requirement alone will serve as justification for a /24 allocation. Downstream customers must provide contact information for all of their upstream providers to the Local Internet Registry from whom they are requesting a /24, and utilize a border routing protocol between the customer and the LIR. Customers may receive a /24 from only one of their upstream providers under this policy without providing additional justification. LIRs may demonstrate they have made an assignment to a downstream customer under this policy by supplying ARIN with the information they collected from the customer, as described above, or by identifying the AS number of the customer.

4.2.3.7. Registration

Local Internet Registries are required to demonstrate efficient use of IP address space allocations by providing appropriate documentation, including but not limited to assignment histories, showing their efficient use.

4.2.3.8. Reassignments for Third Party Internet Access (TPIA) over Cable

IP addresses reassigned by a Local Internet Registry to an incumbent cable operator for use with Third Party Internet Access (TPIA) will be counted as fully used once they are assigned to equipment by the underlying cable carrier provided they meet the following requirements:

4.2.4. Local Internet Registry Additional Requests

4.2.4.1. Utilization Percentage (80%)

Local Internet Registries must have efficiently utilized all allocations, in aggregate, to at least 80% and at least 50% of every allocation in order to receive additional space. This includes all space reassigned or reallocated to their customers.

4.2.4.3. Request Size

Local Internet Registries may request up to a 24-month supply of IPv4 addresses.

Section 6:

Update terminology section to reference how ISP and LIR are used

6.5.1. Terminology

a. (retired)

Replace ISP with Local Internet Registry in the following sections:

6.5.2.1 Size

a. All allocations shall be made on nibble boundaries.

b. In no case shall a Local Internet Registry receive smaller than a /32 unless they specifically request a /36 or /40. In order to be eligible for a /40, an LIR must meet the following requirements:

Hold IPv4 direct allocations totaling a /24 or less (to include zero)

Hold IPv4 reassignments/reallocations totaling a /22 or less (to include zero)

In no case shall an LIR receive more than a /16 initial allocation.

g. A Local Internet Registry that requests a smaller /36 or /40 allocation is entitled to expand the allocation to any nibble aligned size up to /32 at any time without renumbering or additional justification. /40 allocations shall be automatically upgraded to /36 if at any time said LIR's IPv4 direct allocations exceed a /24. Expansions up to and including a /32 are not considered subsequent allocations, however any expansions beyond /32 are considered subsequent allocations and must conform to section 6.5.3. Partial returns of any IPv6 allocation that results in less than a /36 of holding are not permitted regardless of the LIR's current or former IPv4 address holdings.

6.5.2.2. Qualifications

An organization qualifies for an allocation under this policy if they meet any of the following criteria:

a. Have a previously justified IPv4 allocation from ARIN or one of its predecessor registries or can qualify for an IPv4 allocation under current criteria.

6.5.4. Reassignments from Local Internet Registries

6.5.5. Registration

Local Internet Registries are required to demonstrate efficient use of IP address space allocations by providing appropriate documentation, including but not limited to reassignment and reallocation histories, showing their efficient use.

6.5.5.4. Registration Requested by Recipient

If the downstream recipient of a static assignment of /64 or more addresses requests publishing of that assignment in ARIN's registration database, the Local Internet Registry shall register that assignment as described in section 6.5.5.1.

6.5.8.1. Initial Assignment Criteria

f. By providing a reasonable technical justification indicating why IPv6 addresses from a Local Internet Registry are unsuitable.

Staff & Legal Review (15 June 2026)

STAFF UNDERSTANDING

ARIN staff understands this Draft Policy adds a definition for "Internet Service Provider (ISP)" to Section 2, and updates the existing definition for "Local Internet Registry (LIR)". This Draft Policy also replaces applicable

instances and variations of “Internet Service Provider (ISP)” with “Local Internet Registry (LIR)” throughout the NRPM.

Staff understands the intent of this Draft Policy is to clarify the relationship between ISP and LIR, with ISP treated as a type of LIR rather than as an equivalent term. Staff notes that while the term “Local Internet Registry (LIR)” exists in the NRPM, it has not historically been the primary term used in the ARIN service region. As a result, implementation may require updates to customer-facing materials and staff guidance to support consistent understanding and use of the revised terminology.

This Draft Policy would not materially change current registry operations, or how ARIN evaluates requests. However, the terms “Internet Service Provider” and “ISP” are used throughout ARIN’s web content, documentation, internal procedures, and applications. Implementation would require review and updates across those materials and systems to ensure consistent terminology. Staff estimates six months for implementation.

Staff has the following comments and suggestions intended to improve clarity, consistency, and implementation of the proposed text.

2.4

Staff suggests adding additional examples to clarify the scope of LIRs. For example: “LIRs include, but are not limited to, large enterprises, universities, and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) whose customers are primarily end users of the network services they provide and, in some cases, other ISPs.”

Staff notes that the phrase “at a local level” may be ambiguous and recommends clarifying or removing it.

Staff recommends removing the sentence: “Historically in the ARIN service region ‘ISP’ was used as an equivalent, albeit incomplete, term.” Staff believes the operational distinction can be addressed without including historical explanation in the policy text.

2.15

Staff recommends updating “Provider Assignment Unit (IPv6)” to “Provider Allocation Unit (IPv6)” for consistency with the use of allocation terminology in this section.

Staff recommends removing “(recommended /48)” from the definition. This parenthetical may be interpreted as policy guidance within the definition itself and may be better addressed elsewhere if needed.

4.2.1.5

Staff recommends removing “In general” from the sentence, “In general, ARIN allocates /24 and larger IP address prefixes to Local Internet Registries.” Removing this phrase would make the statement clearer and more consistent with the minimum allocation language.

4.2.3.1

Staff recommends modifying “should” to “must” in the following sentence: “LIRs should have documented justification available for each reassignment and reallocation.”

Suggested revision: “LIRs must have documented justification available for each reassignment and reallocation.”

Staff believes this change better aligns the sentence with the existing requirement that ARIN may request this justification at any time and that future receipt of allocations may be impacted if justification is not provided.

6.5.1

Staff recommends retiring 6.5.1.a. If this update to LIR terminology is adopted, the distinction between ISP and LIR will no longer need to be explained separately in this section.

If 6.5.1.a is retained, staff recommends removing the final sentence. If instances of ISP are removed from the section, the sentence would no longer be necessary.

IMPLEMENTABLE AS WRITTEN? Yes

IMPACT ON ARIN REGISTRY OPERATIONS AND SERVICES: None

LEGAL REVIEW: No material legal issue

IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME ESTIMATE: 6 months

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Staff Training, Updates to public documentation (web and print), Updates to internal procedures and guidelines, Updates to applications

PROPOSAL/DRAFT POLICY TEXT ASSESSED: 7 May 2026

RECOMMENDED DRAFT POLICY

ARIN-2025-3

Change Section 9 Out Of Region Use Minimum Criteria

https://www.arin.net/participate/policy/drafts/2025_3

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: Gerry George and Matthew Wilder

Current Text (20 August 2026)

AC ASSESSMENT OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNET NUMBER RESOURCE POLICY

The proposal seeks to remove some perceived usage minimums, particularly to the benefit of smaller operators operating within the ARIN service region, by reducing the required minimum space threshold to qualify for allowing use of ARIN IPv4 resource assignments outside of the ARIN region.

This recommendation has been generally supported overwhelmingly by the community, although some community members have expressed a preference to see the elimination of all out-of-region restrictions. The Advisory Council found that this view is not representative of the feedback overwhelmingly expressed by the community and that it maintains key restrictions to prevent attempts to bypass, manipulate, or exploit unintended gaps in this policy to limit potential abuse, and that the policy is suitable to be advanced to recommended status.

This policy, upon adoption, lowers the minimum IPv4 utilization threshold within the ARIN region required for organizations to qualify to deploy ARIN-assigned IPv4 resources outside the ARIN region.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Section 9 of the NRPM, Out of Region Use, requires organizations to use at least a /22 in the ARIN region before they can justify out of region use. This harms smaller organizations that have less than a /22 in region but do require some out of region use.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Modify the following text in Section 9:

FROM:

IPv4: At least a /22 used in region.

TO:

IPv4: At least a /24 used in region.

Out-of-Region Usage Justification may not be used to receive IPv4 address space from the ARIN Waiting List (4.1.8), the Micro-allocation Pool (4.4), or the Dedicated IPv4 Block to Facilitate IPv6 Deployment (4.10).

Any organization already on the Waiting List at the time this policy is implemented will be exempted and shall remain eligible under the rules in effect at the time of its placement on the Waiting List.

RESULT:

Out of region use of ARIN registered resources are valid justification for additional number resources, provided that the applicant has a real and substantial connection with the ARIN region which applicant must prove (as described below) and is using the same type of resources (with a delegation lineage back to an ARIN allocation or

assignment) within the ARIN service region as follows:

IPv4: At least a /24 used in region

Out-of-Region Usage Justification may not be used to receive IPv4 address space from the ARIN Waiting List (4.1.8), the Micro-allocation Pool (4.4), or the Dedicated IPv4 Block to Facilitate IPv6 Deployment (4.10).

Any organization already on the Waiting List at the time this policy is implemented will be exempted and shall remain eligible under the rules in effect at the time of its placement on the Waiting List.

IPv6: At least a /44 used in region

ASN: At least one ASN present on one or more peering sessions and/or routers within the region

Staff and Legal Review (11 September 2026)

STAFF UNDERSTANDING: NRPM Section 9, Out of Region Use, for IPv4 addresses requires that to justify out-of-region use, an organization must utilize at least a /22 within the ARIN region before additional resources may be approved for use outside the region. Section 9 applies to IPv4 address requests in conjunction with section 4 “IPv4”, section 8.3 “Transfers Between Specified Recipients Within the ARIN Region”, and section 8.4 “Inter-RIR Transfers to Specified Recipients”. This section does not apply to section 4.4 or 4.10 space, these sections have their own restrictions.

Draft Policy 2025-3 proposes reducing the in-region IPv4 utilization threshold from a /22 (or equivalent) to a single /24. Under this change, an organization would need to demonstrate use of only one /24 within the ARIN region to justify receiving additional ARIN-issued IPv4 resources for use outside the ARIN region. Neither the current policy text nor this draft policy establishes any maximum on the amount of IPv4 space that may be justified to be used outside the ARIN region, so long as at least a single /24 is utilized within the ARIN region, meaning a single in-region /24 could, in practice, unlock requests for substantially larger blocks for deployment entirely outside the ARIN region.

Staff further understands that the policy would add explicit text providing that out-of-region usage may not be used as justification to receive IPv4 address space from the ARIN Waiting List (Section 4.1.8), the Micro-allocation Pool (section 4.4), or the Dedicated IPv4 Block to Facilitate IPv6 Deployment (Section 4.10). Organizations that are already on the Waiting List when the policy is implemented would remain eligible under the rules in effect when they were placed on the Waiting List.

This draft policy does not modify the current Section 9 threshold for Autonomous System Number and IPv6 usage.

IMPLEMENTABLE AS WRITTEN?: Yes

IMPACT ON ARIN REGISTRY OPERATIONS AND SERVICES: None

LEGAL REVIEW: No material legal issue

IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME ESTIMATE: 3 months

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Staff Training; Updates to public documentation; Updates to internal procedures and guidelines

PROPOSAL/DRAFT POLICY TEXT ASSESSED: 20 August 2026

RECOMMENDED DRAFT POLICY

ARIN-2025-7

Make Policy in 6.5.8.2 Match the Examples

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: Lily Botsyoe and Leif Sawyer

Current Text (20 May 2026)

AC ASSESSMENT OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNET NUMBER RESOURCE POLICY

Recommended Draft Policy ARIN-2025-7 conforms to the principles of the ARIN Policy Development Process. If adopted, this policy fixes a math loophole in NRPM Section 6.5.8.2 to clarify that a single-site organization receives a /48 IPv6 allocation. To align with current registry procedures, it also updates the terminology throughout the section from “assignment” to “allocation.” These clarifications match ARIN’s actual current practices, introduce no operational changes, and have received strong community support both on the PPML and at recent ARIN meetings. We have found this policy to be fair, impartial, and technically sound. Additionally, we have had no concerns expressed by the community for this policy.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

6.5.8.2 states “An organization qualifies for an assignment on the next larger nibble boundary when their sites exceed 75% of the /48s available in a prefix.” and then follows with “For example: More than 1 but less than or equal to 12 sites justified, receives a /44 assignment;” implying that a single site should only receive a /48. However, 1 /48 exceeds 75% of the /48s available in a /48 (1), so per the rule an organization with a single site should receive a /44, which differs from the example.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Current Text:

6.5.8.2. Initial Assignment Size

Organizations that meet at least one of the initial assignment criteria above are eligible to receive an initial assignment of /48. Requests for larger initial assignments, reasonably justified with supporting documentation, will be evaluated based on the number of sites in an organization’s network and the number of subnets needed to support any extra-large sites defined below.

The initial assignment size will be determined by the number of sites justified below. An organization qualifies for an assignment on the next larger nibble boundary when their sites exceed 75% of the /48s available in a prefix. For example:

- More than 1 but less than or equal to 12 sites justified, receives a /44 assignment;
- More than 12 but less than or equal to 192 sites justified, receives a /40 assignment;
- More than 192 but less than or equal to 3,072 sites justified, receives a /36 assignment;
- More than 3,072 but less than or equal to 49,152 sites justified, receives a /32 assignment; etc...

Proposed Text:

6.5.8.2. Initial Allocation Size

Organizations that meet at least one of the initial allocation criteria above are eligible to receive an initial allocation of /48. Larger initial allocation sizes will be determined by the number of sites justified below; an

organization will qualify for an allocation on the next larger nibble boundary when their sites exceed 75% of the /48s available in a prefix. For example:

- 2 to 12 sites justified will receive a /44 allocation;
- 13 to 192 sites justified will receive a /40 allocation;
- 193 to 3,072 sites justified will receive a /36 allocation;
- 3,073 to 49,152 sites justified will receive a /32 allocation, etc.

Staff and Legal Review (15 June 2026)

STAFF UNDERSTANDING: Section 6.5.8.2 of the NRPM describes the requirements for an initial allocation of IPv6 addresses to end user organizations based on the number of sites in the organization's network. Staff understands this Draft Policy intends to clarify how these requirements apply to organizations with only one site.

Staff also understands this draft policy updates instances of "assignment" to "allocation" since Assignments are no longer issued by ARIN.

This policy would not result to any change in existing allocation practices and only adds clarity.

IMPLEMENTABLE AS WRITTEN?: Yes

IMPACT ON ARIN REGISTRY OPERATIONS AND SERVICES: None

LEGAL REVIEW: No material legal issue

IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME ESTIMATE: 3 months

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Staff Training; Updates to public documentation

PROPOSAL/DRAFT POLICY TEXT ASSESSED: 20 May 2026

RECOMMENDED DRAFT POLICY

ARIN-2025-8

Reserve 4.10 Space for In-Region Use

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: Kaitlyn Pellak and E. Marie Brierley

Current Text (14 July 2025)

AC ASSESSMENT OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNET NUMBER RESOURCE POLICY

Recommended Draft Policy ARIN-2025-8 conforms to the principles of the ARIN Policy Development Process. This policy, if adopted, clarifies within the NRPM ARIN's current practices for managing IPv4 addresses allocated to facilitate IPv6 Deployment (IPv4 allocations governed by Section 4.10 in the NRPM). There were concerns from a small subset of the community that the added language was too ambiguous. Follow-ups to both the PPML and at the ARIN 57 in-person meeting did not reveal any additional concerns about the ambiguity of the language in this policy, nor did they yield any suggestions for how the wording could be made less ambiguous. This policy did receive community support both at the most recent ARIN meeting and in prior meetings. We have found this policy to be fair and impartial, and technically sound."

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

ARIN 4.10 allocations, reserved to facilitate IPv6 deployment, currently have no restrictions for out-of-region use beyond the general restrictions laid out in Section 9. As the use of these allocations outside of the ARIN region seems to be contrary to the intentions for use of this space - and ARIN staff has interpreted the policy as such - the prohibition of this practice should be codified in policy.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Change the second sentence in NRPM Section 4.10 from:

"This IPv4 allocation will be set aside and dedicated to facilitate IPv6 deployment."

to:

"This IPv4 allocation will be set aside and dedicated to facilitate IPv6 deployment within the ARIN service area"

TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION: Immediate.

Staff and Legal Review (12 November 2025)

STAFF UNDERSTANDING: The current implementation of Section 4.10 (Dedicated IPv4 Allocations to Facilitate IPv6 Deployment) requires that IPv4 addresses be used within the ARIN region. Draft Policy ARIN-2025-8: Reserve 4.10 Space for In-Region Use codifies the current practices applied by ARIN staff when processing requests under Section 4.10. This policy does not alter existing review practices; it formally documents the longstanding approach ARIN staff has used and will continue to apply.

IMPLEMENTABLE AS WRITTEN?: Yes

IMPACT ON ARIN REGISTRY OPERATIONS AND SERVICES: None

LEGAL REVIEW: No material legal issue

IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME ESTIMATE: 3 months

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Staff Training; Updates to public documentation; Updates to internal procedures and guidelines

PROPOSAL/DRAFT POLICY TEXT ASSESSED: 14 July 2025

DRAFT POLICY ARIN-2026-1

Taking IP To Other Planets (TIPTOP)

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: Alison Wood and Brian Jones

Current Text (27 May 2026)

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Organizations conducting space exploration missions are deploying IP-based networking infrastructure beyond Earth orbit, including on the Moon and in other deep-space environments. These networks currently utilize address space allocated independently from multiple RIRs, including ARIN.

As international missions expand and networks operated by multiple agencies interconnect to share communications infrastructure and provide operational redundancy, the use of unrelated terrestrial address allocations introduces routing scalability concerns. Existing allocations are not aligned with the topology of outer space communications networks, which may require the advertisement of numerous disaggregated prefixes when networks interconnect.

Outer space communications infrastructure is expected to develop around natural clusters near celestial bodies, with limited communication links between those regions. Addressing structures that reflect these topological boundaries could improve route aggregation and long-term routing scalability.

Implementation of any such addressing framework would depend upon broader coordination within the Internet technical and registry communities, including determination by the IETF and IANA that dedicated address resources and registry coordination are necessary, concurrence among the RIRs regarding operational responsibilities, and a determination by the ARIN Board of Trustees that participation is consistent with ARIN's mission.

For the purposes of this policy, outer space includes the Moon and regions beyond Earth orbit, but excludes low Earth orbit (LEO) and geostationary Earth orbit (GEO).

POLICY STATEMENT:

ARIN may allocate IPv4 and IPv6 address space to organizations operating IP networking infrastructure in outer space, including beyond Earth orbit and on the Moon. Allocations are intended to support interagency connectivity, operational redundancy, and scalable routing in emerging space networks.

Addressing structures should be organized hierarchically to reflect major celestial regions—such as the Moon, Earth–Moon Lagrange points, asteroid belt, and other planetary systems—enabling route aggregation where feasible. Participation in aggregation is voluntary, and organizations may advertise more specific prefixes when necessary.

This policy applies to government, research, and commercial space operators, and encourages coordination among agencies to facilitate efficient address usage and scalable routing for outer space networks.

Definitions (Add to NRPM Section 2)

2.xx Extra-Terrestrial Network (ETN) An ETN is defined as any IP-based networking infrastructure operating physically beyond the Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO) arc, including but not limited to Lunar, Martian, or deep-space deployments.

IPv4 Policy (Add to NRPM Section 4)

4.11 IPv4 Allocations for Extra-Terrestrial Networks ARIN shall maintain a dedicated pool or specific registration guidelines for organizations operating ETNs to ensure routing scalability.

4.11.1 Eligibility: Applicants must demonstrate a direct operational requirement for networking infrastructure located beyond Earth's orbit. Eligible entities include government agencies, research institutions, and commercial operators.

4.11.2 Topological Hierarchy: To prevent global routing table exhaustion, allocations for ETNs should be issued from contiguous blocks where possible, designated by "Celestial Regions" (e.g., Luna, Mars, Lagrange Points).

4.11.3 Utilization Requirements: Standard utilization requirements (Section 4.2.4) apply, but ARIN may grant exceptions for high-latency "cold storage" nodes or orbital relay constellations where traditional "active host" pings are impractical for verification.

IPv6 Policy (Add to NRPM Section 6)

6.12 IPv6 Allocations for Extra-Terrestrial Networks Due to the vast distances and high-latency nature of deep-space communications, IPv6 is the preferred protocol for ETN deployments.

6.12.1 Minimum Allocation: The minimum allocation size for an ETN operator shall be a /48, or a size sufficient to allow for hierarchical subnetting per celestial body.

6.12.2 Planetary Aggregation: Organizations are encouraged to aggregate all prefixes within a specific gravity well or orbital system to a single aggregate route for advertisement back to Terrestrial Ground Stations (TGS).

6.12.3 Sparse Allocation: ARIN will employ sparse allocation techniques within the ETN block to allow for the future growth of lunar and planetary colonies without fragmenting the space.

Staff and Legal Review (1 April 2026)

STAFF UNDERSTANDING: The Draft Policy seeks to establish provisions within the NRPM for the allocation of address space to organizations operating IP networking infrastructure beyond Earth orbit (Extraterrestrial Networks, or ETNs). The Draft Policy introduces definitions, eligibility criteria, and allocation practices intended to support routing scalability through hierarchical addressing aligned with celestial regions.

Specifically, the Draft Policy calls for:

- A. Establishment of a dedicated allocation pool or registration guidelines within ARIN for address space used by networks operating in outer space.
- B. Introduction of new definitions and eligibility criteria for Extraterrestrial Networks (ETNs) within the NRPM.
- C. Development of allocation practices intended to facilitate routing aggregation for deep-space networking environments, including hierarchical addressing aligned with celestial regions.

Per discussion on ARIN-PPML, the Draft Policy appears primarily motivated by concerns regarding current operational practices among space agencies deploying deep-space networking infrastructure. In particular, the Draft Policy seeks to address current use of address space from existing allocations without coordination for long-term routing aggregation across shared deep-space communications infrastructure and to establish a coordinated addressing framework intended to improve routing scalability in such environments.

The Draft Policy amends the NRPM directly and therefore falls within the procedural scope of ARIN's Policy Development Process (PDP). However, it raises several considerations related to clarity, implementability, and alignment with ARIN's role in the Internet number resource system.

The Draft Policy seeks to improve routing aggregation through coordinated allocation practices for ETNs from dedicated, contiguous address blocks reserved for deep-space use. Without such address space, networks built using ad hoc IPv4 and IPv6 allocations would not support meaningful aggregation. Accordingly, the availability and source of dedicated address space are prerequisites for achieving the Draft Policy's stated objectives and should be clearly specified as an underlying assumption of the policy.

The IETF could direct IANA to allocate dedicated address space for this purpose, including coordination with the RIR system for appropriate allocation and registry services for the relevant operational community (including, for example, interim administration by an existing RIR of registry and policy development functions until such time as the establishment of a distinct Internet number registry organization by that community).

While ARIN served a "rest of world" role at the time of its formation (i.e., requests not handled specifically by RIPE NCC or APNIC were handled by ARIN), it is not clear that the ARIN Board would consider ARIN serving as the "default" registry for this purpose, even on an interim basis, to fall within the scope of ARIN's current mission. If the Board were to determine that providing such services is compatible with ARIN's mission (e.g., until such time as there is a deep-space Internet Number Registry organization), then ARIN could provide such services pursuant to policy recommended by the community and adopted by the Board. Such a determination would likely depend on both community sentiment and explicit acknowledgment by the other RIRs that such a role is acceptable.

The Draft Policy, as written, presumes that these prerequisite conditions have already been satisfied, and these conditions should be clearly stated in the policy to provide a shared understanding of the circumstances under which the policy could be adopted: (a) that the IETF has determined that a dedicated address block is required; (b) that IANA has allocated appropriate IPv6 and/or IPv4 address space for this purpose and coordinated with the RIRs to provide operational registry services for that space; (c) that the ARIN Board of Trustees has determined that providing such services is consistent with ARIN's mission; and (d) that the other RIRs have concurred with ARIN serving in this capacity.

Due to the complexity of this Draft Policy, active discussions, and necessary confirmations described above, a comprehensive staff review will be necessary once this Draft Policy is further developed.

IMPLEMENTABLE AS WRITTEN?: No

IMPACT ON ARIN REGISTRY OPERATIONS AND SERVICES: n/a

LEGAL REVIEW: At this preliminary stage, Legal has identified several areas for further consideration, including potential jurisdictional questions, coordination with other RIRs, and the source of IP resources. Additional clarity in definitions and alignment with the service region model will also be important. These observations are based on the Draft Policy in its current form, and a more comprehensive legal analysis may be provided if and when the Draft Policy is further developed.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME ESTIMATE: n/a

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: n/a

PROPOSAL/DRAFT POLICY TEXT ASSESSED: 24 March 2026

DRAFT POLICY ARIN-2026-2

NRPM Section 6.5 Revision

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: Matthew Wilder and Alicia Trotman

Current Text (4 May 2026)

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Current NRPM Section 6.5 contains allocation mechanisms that are complex and formula driven. These mechanisms include rigid sizing calculations, utilization-based thresholds, and IPv4-dependent qualification criteria.

IPv6 deployment is based on hierarchical planning, aggregation, and projected growth.

ARIN's IPv6 network planning guide emphasizes structured planning instead of mathematical formulas, including the use of hierarchical addressing, aggregation, and multi-year growth projections.

The current policy is complex, is difficult for applicants to interpret consistently and does not align with ARIN's published guidance.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Modify NRPM Section 6.5 (IPv6 Allocations) to simplify allocation criteria and align policy with IPv6 network planning practices.

The revised policy replaces formula-based and utilization-based allocation mechanisms with a planning-based evaluation model.

Under this model:

- Eligibility is based on demonstrated operational requirements for IPv6 address space, including service provider operations, multihoming, and internal infrastructure needs
- All requests must include a network plan describing intended addressing use, hierarchical structure, and projected growth over defined time horizons
- Allocation sizes are determined based on the documented network plan and need for aggregation and contiguous growth
- Subsequent allocations are based on demonstrated implementation consistent with prior plans and updated growth projections
- End-user allocations and LIR allocations are evaluated using consistent planning-based criteria appropriate to their operational context

Section 6.5: IPv6 Allocations

6.5 Policies for IPv6 Address Space

IPv6 address space is issued to support scalable, hierarchical network design, efficient aggregation, and long-term operational requirements.

IPv6 policy emphasizes minimizing fragmentation of the global routing table and supporting structured network growth.

6.5.1 Eligibility

An organization is eligible to receive IPv6 address space if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

- a. It operates as a Local Internet Registry (LIR) or intends to make reallocations to downstream networks or customers; or
- b. It operates infrastructure or internal networks that require provider-independent IPv6 address space to meet operational or architectural requirements.

6.5.2 Network Plan Requirements

Requests for IPv6 address space must include a documented network plan. Consistent with IPv6 network planning best practices, the plan must:

- a. Identify typical assignment sizes for your remote sites or customers (e.g., /48, /56, or /64);
- b. Describe the addressing hierarchy and logical structure of the network;
- c. Provide projected utilization of addressing units at approximately 1-year, 2-year, and 5-year intervals.

Policy Statement: 6.5.3 Initial Allocation to LIRs

An organization acting as a Local Internet Registry (LIR) may receive an initial IPv6 allocation when it demonstrates a requirement to make assignments or reallocations to downstream networks or customers.

Initial allocation requests must include a network plan that:

- a. Identifies the intended customer or downstream assignment model, including typical prefix sizes;
- b. Describes how address space will be distributed across the network to support aggregation;
- c. Provides projected growth in the number of assignments or sites over approximately 1-year, 2-year, and 5-year intervals.

In evaluating initial allocation requests, ARIN will consider:

- i. The anticipated number and type of downstream assignments;
- ii. The need to support hierarchical addressing and route aggregation;
- iii. The ability to accommodate growth through contiguous address space.

Initial allocations will be issued at sizes sufficient to support the documented plan and allow for efficient expansion. Assignments will be no smaller than a /48, unless the documented network plan justifies a different size.

6.5.4 Subsequent Requests

To ensure scalable growth while maintaining registry integrity, additional IPv6 address space may be granted when an organization demonstrates:

- a. The organization has assigned or reallocated at least 75% of the prefix units defined in its current 2-year network plan;
- b. Documented evidence that the address space has been deployed according to the hierarchical structure previously submitted, or a technical justification for architectural changes;
- c. A revised network plan showing projected requirements for additional prefix units over a new 5-year horizon;
- d. The request supports the continued aggregation of prefixes. To minimize global routing table growth, ARIN will—whenever possible—issue additional space contiguously by extending the organization's existing allocation.

6.5.5 Deployment Timeline

Organizations are expected to begin using issued IPv6 address space within 12 months of issuance.

6.5.6 End-User Allocations (Provider-Independent)

End-user organizations may receive provider-independent (PI) IPv6 address space when they demonstrate a need

for stable, non-provider-dependent addressing for internal infrastructure or operational continuity.

Requests must include a documented network plan that:

- a. Identifies the number of sites and associated addressing requirements;
- b. Describes the internal addressing structure, including segmentation of infrastructure, services, and end systems;
- c. Supports hierarchical addressing and aggregation within the organization;
- d. Includes projected growth in addressing requirements over approximately 1-year, 2-year, and 5-year intervals.

Initial allocations will be issued on nibble boundaries and will be based on the organization's network plan and projected growth.

In evaluating requests, ARIN will consider:

- i. The number and type of sites or operational units;
- ii. The need to support internal hierarchy and segmentation;
- iii. The ability to accommodate growth without renumbering.

Allocations will be issued at sizes sufficient to support the documented plan and allow for efficient expansion.

6.5.7 Registration (Whois/RDAP)

Organizations must maintain records sufficient to document their use of IPv6 address space.

Reassignments or reallocations to external entities of a /64 or larger must be registered in ARIN's directory services, in accordance with applicable requirements.

DRAFT POLICY ARIN-2026-3

NRPM Section 6.4.1 Retirement

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: E Marie Brierley and Gerry George

Current Text (11 June 2026)

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Current NRPM Section 6.4.1 contains language referring to property rights of IPv6 direct allocations made by ARIN. Past references to any rights on IP resources was defined in legacy versions of the Resource Services Agreement between an entity and ARIN. Any mention of property or other rights do not belong in the Number Resource Policy Manual, this should be referenced in the Registration Services Agreement. Section 6 of the Number Resource Policy Manual was modeled on a framework the other RIRs added to their policy manuals going back as far as 2004.

POLICY STATEMENT

Retire 6.4.1 Address Space Not to be Considered Property

DRAFT POLICY ARIN-2026-4

Harmonize Section 1 and Section 6, Principles and Goals Statements

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: Brian Jones and Kaitlyn Pellak

Current Text (9 July 2026)

PROBLEM STATEMENT

There are two main sections of the NRPM that discuss principles and goals; one is found in Section 1, and the other in Section 6; similar language in Section 4 has been previously retired. Given the history of these two sections, there are multiple redundancies and incongruities in their language. This proposal seeks to clarify the language of both sections in order to better communicate ARIN's principles and goals.

This policy proposal is not intended to make meaningful changes to these goals and principles, but to clarify their language and remove duplication. Any analysis that suggests otherwise should be addressed.

POLICY STATEMENT

Original Text:

Principles and Goals of the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN)

1.1. Registration

The principle of registration guarantees the uniqueness of Internet number resources. Provision of this public registry documenting Internet number resource allocation, reallocation, assignment, and reassignment is necessary:

- to ensure uniqueness,
- to provide a contact in case of operational/security problems,
- to provide the transparency required to ensure that Internet number resources are efficiently utilized, and
- to assist in IP allocation studies.

1.2. Conservation

The principle of conservation guarantees sustainability of the Internet through efficient utilization of unique number resources.

Due to the requirement for uniqueness, Internet number resources of each type are drawn from a common number space. Conservation of these common number spaces requires that Internet number resources be efficiently distributed to those organizations who have a technical need for them in support of operational networks.

1.3. Routability

The principle of routability guarantees that Internet number resources are managed in such a manner that they may be routed on the Internet in a scalable manner.

While routing scalability is necessary to ensure proper operation of Internet routing, allocation or assignment of Internet number resources by ARIN in no way guarantees that those addresses will be routed by any particular network operator.

1.4. Stewardship

The principle of stewardship guarantees the application of these principles when managing Internet number resources.

The fundamental purpose of Internet number stewardship is to distribute unique number resources to entities building and operating networks thereby facilitating the growth and sustainability of the Internet for the benefit of all.

It should be noted that the above goals may sometimes be in conflict with each other and with the interests of individual end-users or network operators. Care must be taken to ensure balance with these conflicting goals given the resource availability, relative size of the resource, and number resource specific technical dynamics, for each type of number resource.

6.3. Goals of IPv6 Address Space Management

6.3.1. Goals

IPv6 address space is a public resource that must be managed in a prudent manner with regards to the long-term interests of the internet. Responsible address space management involves balancing a set of sometimes competing goals. The following are the goals relevant to IPv6 address policy.

6.3.2. Uniqueness

Every assignment and/or allocation of address space must guarantee uniqueness worldwide. This is an absolute requirement for ensuring that every public host on the Internet can be uniquely identified.

6.3.3. Registration

Internet address space must be registered in a registry database accessible to appropriate members of the Internet community. This is necessary to ensure the uniqueness of each Internet address and to provide reference information for Internet troubleshooting at all levels, ranging from all RIRs and IRs to end users.

The goal of registration should be applied within the context of reasonable privacy considerations and applicable laws.

6.3.4. Aggregation

Wherever possible, address space should be distributed in a hierarchical manner, according to the topology of network infrastructure. This is necessary to permit the aggregation of routing information by ISPs, and to limit the expansion of Internet routing tables.

This goal is particularly important in IPv6 addressing, where the size of the total address pool creates significant implications for both internal and external routing.

IPv6 address policies should seek to avoid fragmentation of address ranges.

Further, RIRs should apply practices that maximize the potential for subsequent allocations to be made contiguous with past allocations currently held. However, there can be no guarantee of contiguous allocation.

6.3.5. Conservation

Although IPv6 provides an extremely large pool of address space, address policies should avoid unnecessarily wasteful practices. Requests for address space should be supported by appropriate documentation and stockpiling of unused addresses should be avoided.

6.3.6. Fairness

All policies and practices relating to the use of public address space should apply fairly and equitably to all existing and potential members of the Internet community, regardless of their location, nationality, size or any other factor.

6.3.7. Minimized Overhead

It is desirable to minimize the overhead associated with obtaining address space. Overhead includes the need to go back to RIRs for additional space too frequently, the overhead associated with managing address space that grows through a number of small successive incremental expansions rather than through fewer, but larger, expansions.

6.3.8. Conflict of Goals

The goals described above will often conflict with each other, or with the needs of individual IRs or end users. All IRs evaluating requests for allocations and assignments must make judgments, seeking to balance the needs of the applicant with the needs of the Internet community as a whole.

In IPv6 address policy, the goal of aggregation is considered to be the most important.

Proposal Text:

Principles and Goals of the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN)

Update Sections 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 as follows:

1.1. Registration (refactor of original language)

The provisioning of a public registry documenting Internet number resource allocation, reallocation, assignment, and reassignment is necessary:

- to ensure the uniqueness of allocated resources,
- to provide operational and security contacts for resource holders,
- to provide the transparency required to ensure that Internet number resources are efficiently utilized, and
- to provide data for the research and reporting of allocation activity.

1.2. Conservation (moving language from 6.3.5, integrating into existing)

Due to the requirement for uniqueness, Internet number resources of each type are drawn from a common number space. Conservation of these common number spaces requires that these resources be efficiently distributed to those organizations who have a technical need for them in support of operational networks. Requests for address space should be supported by appropriate documentation; stockpiling of unused addresses should be discouraged.

1.3. Routability and Scalability (moving language from 6.3.4, integrating into existing)

Wherever possible, address space should be distributed in a hierarchical manner, according to the topology of network infrastructure. This is necessary to permit the aggregation of routing information by ISPs, and to limit the expansion of Internet routing tables.

Where possible, address policies should seek to avoid fragmentation of address ranges.

While routing scalability is necessary to ensure proper operation of Internet routing, allocation or assignment of Internet number resources by ARIN in no way guarantees that those addresses will be routed by any particular network operator.

1.4. Stewardship (removing language and moving to new sections harmonized with original 6.3. sections)

The fundamental purpose of Internet number stewardship is to distribute unique number resources to entities building and operating networks thereby facilitating the growth and sustainability of the Internet for the benefit of all.

Add new sections, with language borrowed from original section 1.4 and sections 6.3.6 and 6.3.7:

1.5 Fairness

All policies and practices relating to the use of public address space should apply fairly and equitably to all existing and potential members of the Internet community, regardless of their location, nationality, size or any other factor.

1.6 Conflict of Goals

It should be noted that the above goals may sometimes be in conflict with each other and with the interests of individual end-users or network operators. Care must be taken to ensure balance with these conflicting goals given the resource availability, relative size of the resource, and number resource specific technical dynamics, for each type of number resource.

6.3. Goals of IPv6 Address Space Management

Update 6.3.1 to reference earlier principals and goals statements:

6.3.1. Goals

IPv6 address space, like other resources under ARIN's purview, must be managed in a prudent manner in keeping with the long-term interests of the internet. Responsible address space management involves balancing a set of sometimes competing goals. In addition to the general principles and goals in Section 1, the following principles and goals should be followed in managing IPv6 address resources:

Remove 6.3.2 and 6.3.3 as redundant to 1.2 and 1.1:

6.3.2. (retired)

6.3.3. (retired)

Modify 6.3.4, moving more generic language to 1.3 while keeping IPv6-specific language

6.3.4. Aggregation

Wherever possible, address space should be distributed in a hierarchical manner, according to the topology of network infrastructure. This is necessary to permit the aggregation of routing information by ISPs, and to limit unnecessary expansion of the size of Internet routing tables.

IPv6 address policies should seek to avoid fragmentation of address ranges. ARIN will apply practices that maximize the potential for subsequent allocations to be made contiguous with past allocations currently held; however, there can be no guarantee of contiguous allocation.

When managing IPv6 address resources, the goal of Aggregation should be considered the most important.

6.3.7. Minimized Overhead

It is desirable to minimize the overhead associated with obtaining address space. Overhead includes the need to request additional space too frequently and the overhead associated with managing address space that grows through a number of small successive incremental expansions, rather than through fewer, but larger, expansions.

Remove 6.3.8 as redundant to 1.6 (which now calls out the IPv6-specific priority of conflicting goals)

6.3.8. (retired)

Staff and Legal Review (25 September 2026)

STAFF UNDERSTANDING: IPv6 policies were written as globally coordinated policies with the other regions and ratified into ARIN's Number Resource Policy Manual as NRPM section 6 "IPv6". ARIN staff understands this

Draft Policy intends to clarify multiple redundancies and incongruities that exist between section 6 and section 1 “Principles and Goals of the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN)”. Staff understands this Draft Policy is not intended to make meaningful changes to these goals and principles, but to clarify their language and remove duplication.

Staff acknowledges updates to section 1 and section 6, primarily consolidating duplicative text, the retirement of several subsections, and the addition of subsections 1.5 “Fairness” and 1.6 “Conflict of Goals”.

The proposed new section 1.5 mirrors the current section 6.3.6; however, the reference of “regardless of their location, nationality, size or any other factor” seems to be extraneous language that could be removed from the proposed Section 1.5. The qualifier could be distracting, and its removal leaves the language more straightforward. Thus, it would read as follows:

“1.5 Fairness

All policies and practices relating to the use of public address space should apply fairly and equitably to all existing and potential members of the Internet community.”

While section 1.5 “Fairness” is not a definition or a justification requirement, it is worth noting that ARIN currently implements all policies and practices relating to the use of public address space fairly and impartially to all existing and potential members of the Internet community participating in the ARIN region.

It appears sections 6.3.5 “Conservation” and 6.3.6 “Fairness” are intended to be retired as their content was moved into section 1. If so, their retirement should be explicitly added to this Draft Policy.

Staff notes the following items of editorial nature to the Draft Policy text:

Section 1.3 Draft Policies must be reviewed independently. It is worth noting that community discussion around Recommended Draft Policy ARIN-2025-1: Clarify ISP and LIR Definitions and References to Address Ambiguity in NRPM Text has led to the preference of the term LIR rather than ISP. Consideration of “LIR” instead of “ISP” in section 1.3 may be appropriate at this time.

Section 6.3.1 “Internet” should be capitalized to remain consistent with ARIN publications. Additionally, Staff suggests “potentially” rather than “sometimes”.

Section 6.3.4 “Aggregation” should not be capitalized to remain consistent with ARIN publications.

IMPLEMENTABLE AS WRITTEN?: Yes

IMPACT ON ARIN REGISTRY OPERATIONS AND SERVICES: None

LEGAL REVIEW: No material legal impact. Agrees with the Staff Understanding for proposed section 1.5 “Fairness”.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME ESTIMATE: 3 months

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Staff Training, Updates to public documentation , Updates to internal procedures and guideline

DRAFT POLICY ARIN-2026-5

Define Out Of Region Use

STATUS: Under Discussion

SHEPHERDS: Gus Reese and Bill Herrin

Current Text (12 September 2026)

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Section 9, Out Of Region Use, sets requirements for this use case and the treatment of space used as such for future justifications, but does not include a definition of the term. As such, there have been recurring concerns from the community that the simultaneous use of resources inside and outside the ARIN region (such as anycast, or similar geographically diverse use cases) may be included in staff's interpretation of out-of-region use, which does not appear to be intended. This proposal is intended to address that concern.

POLICY STATEMENT

Add a definition of Out Of Region Use to Section 2 as follows:

2.18. Out Of Region Use

The sole use of ARIN-allocated resources in locations outside of the ARIN service region. This definition does not apply to the simultaneous use of a given ARIN resource both within the ARIN service region and in other RIR service regions.

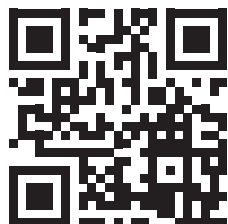
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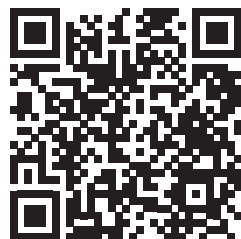
ARIN.NET/NRPM

POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



ARIN.NET/PDP

CURRENT DRAFT POLICIES AND PROPOSALS



**ARIN.NET/
DRAFT_POLICIES**

