



# Domain Name Expiry, Renewal and Deletion

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## Document Information

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## Domain Name Expiry, Renewal and Deletion Policy

### Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to define the rules that govern the Renewal, Expiry and Deletion of Domain Name Licences in the Qatar Domains Registry's Domain Name Registry System.

### 1. Grace Period

- 1.1. There is a three (3) Calendar Day Grace Period during which a Domain Name Registration or a Renewal may be Cancelled, with immediate effect and any fee paid to the Qatar Domains Registry by the Registrar for the Registration or Renewal will be refunded to the Registrar.
- 1.2. The purpose of the Grace Period is to allow for the correction of typographic errors and other errors made by the Registrant.
- 1.3. The Qatar Domains Registry may investigate Registrars and Registrants where there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Grace Period is being used for purposes other than those described in this Policy.
- 1.4. Registrars found to be in breach of this Policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including loss of Accreditation.
- 1.5. The Grace Period applies to all Domain Name Registrations and Renewals.

### 2. Domain Name Deletion – Registrant Request within the Grace Period

The following procedure applies in the case of Domain Names that are Deleted at the request of the Registrant within the Grace Period.

- 2.1. The Registrant requests the Sponsoring Registrar Delete a Domain Name.
- 2.2. If the request from the Registrant for Deletion of a Domain Name is made less than or equal to three (3) Calendar Days after the creation of the Domain Name, then the original Grace Period applies and the Domain Name is Cancelled.
- 2.3. Any DNS Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service;
- 2.4. Any fees paid by the Registrar to the Qatar Domains Registry for the Registration and the issue of the Domain Name will be refunded to the Registrar.
- 2.5. The Domain Name is Purged from the Domain Name Registry System.

### 3. Domain Name Deletion – Registrant Request outside the Grace Period

The following procedure applies in the case of Domain Names that are Deleted at the request of the Registrant outside the Grace Period.

- 3.1. The Registrant requests the Sponsoring Registrar Delete a Domain Name. If the request from a client for Deletion of a Domain Name is greater than three (3) Calendar Days after the creation of the Domain Name, the Domain Name enters a 'Pending' Delete status; the Domain Name now appears on the Domain Name Drop List.

- 3.2. Any DNS Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service.
- 3.3. No operations are allowed with respect to that Domain Name with the exception of an operation to reverse the Deletion.
- 3.4. Then three (3) Calendar Days later the Domain Name becomes eligible for Purging from the Domain Name Registry System.
- 3.5. The Domain Name may be un-Deleted up to the point before it is Purged.

#### 4. Domain Name Renewal

- 4.1. Domain Names may be Registered for periods of one, two, three, four and five years, and Domain Names may be Renewed for a periods of either one, two, three, four or five years.
- 4.2. When a Domain Name Licence is renewed, the Domain Name Licence Period is increased by the length of time for which the Domain Name Licence is to be Renewed.
- 4.3. Domain Names are eligible for Renewal at any time before the Expiry Date for any period as long as the resulting total Domain Name Licence Period does not exceed five (5) years and ninety (90) Calendar Days. The ninety (90) Calendar Day period added to the end of the Domain Name Licence Period is to allow Registrants the ability to Renew their Domain Name Licence whilst not forfeiting the remainder of the Domain Name Licence Period.

#### 5. Domain Name Expiry

This Section applies in the case of Domain Names Licences that are not Renewed on or before the relevant Expiry Date.

When a Domain Name Licence is not Renewed, the Domain Name enters the “Expired Hold” or “Expired Pending Purge” state. The Expiry process runs once per day at 07.00 UTC every day, including weekends and public holidays.

- 5.1. Where the Expiry Date for a Domain Name passes:
  - 5.1.1. The Domain Name becomes eligible to enter the Expired Hold state. At this point:
    - a). The Domain Name will be removed from the DNS
    - b). The Domain Name will be prohibited from being updated
    - c). The Domain Name can be Renewed or Transferred to the Sponsorship of another Registrar
  - 5.1.2. Exactly thirty (30) Calendar Days after the Domain Name enters the Expired Hold state, the Domain Name is eligible to enter the Expired Pending Purge state. The Domain Name now appears on the Domain Name Drop List.
  - 5.1.3. The Expired Pending Purge state is a non-recoverable state and the Domain Name will be prohibited from Renewal and Transfer.

- 5.1.4. Exactly one (1) Calendar Day after it enters the Expired Pending Purge state the Domain Name becomes eligible to be purged.

## 6. Domain Name Drop List

- 6.1. The Domain Name Drop list is the authoritative list of Domain Names that may be Purged from the Domain Name Registry System.
- 6.2. This list is published on the Qatar Domains Registry website.

## 7. Domain Name Purging

- 7.1. The Domain Name Registry System routinely searches for Domain Name Licences that are eligible for Purging.
- 7.2. The Qatar Domains Registry has defined the time that Domain Names will be Purged from the Domain Name Registry System as being at 08.00 UTC on every day, including weekends and public holidays.
- 7.3. At this point, the Domain Name is fully removed from the Domain Name Registry System and the Domain Name becomes available for Registration.

## 8. Domain Name Deletion – Policy Deletion

The procedure set out in this section applies in the case of Domain Names that are deleted for a breach of any of the Policies by the Registrant.

- 8.1. Where the Qatar Domains Registry's Domain Name Registry System receives a Policy Deletion of Domain Name request:
- 8.1.1. The Domain Name enters a 'Pending Policy Delete' status and the Domain Name now appears on the Domain Name Drop List;
- 8.1.2. No operations are allowed on the Domain Name (except an operation to reverse the Policy Deletion).
- 8.1.3. Any DNS Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service.
- 8.1.4. Exactly Fourteen (14) Calendar Days after the Domain Name enters the Pending Policy Delete state, the Domain Name becomes eligible to be Purged.
- 8.1.5. The Domain Name may be un-deleted up to the point before it is Purged.

## 9. Policy Definition and Review

This Policy document has been prepared and published in order to represent the Qatar Domains Registry's Policy with regard to the administrative and technical management of the Qatar Domains Registry and its Registry System.

The Qatar Domains Registry may, at its sole discretion, review and/or amend this Policy at any time. Any amendments will be posted on the official website of Qatar Domains Registry.