

.ca

This article describes the procedures and requirements of .ca domain names.
Click on the subject below to open the dropdown for more information.

Registration

The owner, administrative and technical contact must match the [Canadian Presence Requirements](#) (CPR)

Successful domain registration via [RCP](#) or [XML API](#) or [REST API](#) requires:

- Registrant contact containing:
 - a local presence (address) in Canada (no trustee service available)
 - The Registrant name must be the official name of the entity that will hold the domain name registration, without any abbreviations.
 - A Sole Proprietor should be registered under the legal type category of Canadian citizen or permanent resident.
 - The "state" field in all handles is mandatory
 - The following list contains the valid state/province codes that you must use to register a .ca domain:
 - Alberta - AB
 - British Columbia - BC
 - Manitoba - MB
 - New Brunswick - NB
 - Newfoundland and Labrador - NL
 - Northwest Territories - NT
 - Nova Scotia - NS
 - Nunavut - NU
 - Ontario - ON
 - Prince Edward Island - PE
 - Quebec - QC
 - Saskatchewan - SK
 - Yukon - YK

OR

- a valid trademark in Canada
 - Private individual: the owner, admin, and tech handle must be the same.

- Corporation: the legal form must be mentioned in the owner handle. (Ltd, BV, GMBH).

Note: Without the legal form present in the name, the 'Corporation' legal type can't be selected.

- Legal Type (selected in RCP or [API](#))
- Two or more nameservers or a nameserver group (Nameservers should have unique IP addresses)

After registering, the Registry (CIRA) will send a mail informing the registrant about the terms and conditions of the .ca domain name.

NOTE:

If in "additional data" (*.ca):

- If legal type is set to >TRADEMARK<, then the owner contact must also contain the trademark number (TMAXXXXXX) within the company name field (e.g. company name: Company Name - TMA123456)
- If legal type is set to >Canadian Citizen< or >Permanent Resident of Canada<, the owner and administrative contact needs to be same.

Regarding WHOIS Data Specification:

- **Privacy Protection for Individuals:** CIRA's public WHOIS for (*.ca) domains does not display the personal details of individual registrants by default. Third parties who wish to contact an individual registrant must use the contact form available on CIRA's [website](#)
- **Corporate Registrations:** Registrant details for (*.ca) domains owned by corporations remain publicly visible.

Registry's WHOIS Server:

For the most up-to-date information on (*.ca) domains, query: [click here](#)

IMP.: Regarding Abuse Notifications from the Registry

If the registrant has received an email from CIRA notifying that the domain is identified as abusive and will be suspended, they can perform the verification directly at the Registry

Read more about it in this [article](#). For domains suspended due to abuse, registry will sent a direct email to the registrant and ask them to upload their validation documents in order to unsuspend the domain.

Transfer

Can be initiated from [RCP](#) or [XML API](#) or [REST API](#)

A successful transfer request is processed immediately by the registry and does not require approval from the losing registrar.

The following details are required:

- ◦ Authorisation code
- ◦ Trademark (yes/no)
- ◦ Type owner (Citizen / Organisation / Government)
- ◦ Handle owner
 - a local presence (address) in Canada (no trustee service available) or
 - a valid trademark in Canada
 - Private individual: the owner, admin, and tech handle must be the same.
 - Corporation: the legal form must be mentioned in the owner handle. (Ltd, BV, GMBH).
Note: Without the legal form present in the name, the 'Corporation' legal type can't be selected.
- ◦ Handle administrative contact
- ◦ Handle technical contact
- ◦ Handle billing contact
- ◦ Nameservers (Nameservers should have unique IP addresses)

Authorization code required	yes
Method of confirmation	authcode
Registration period after transfer	extends
Average transfer time	Realtime
Advanced and simple transfers available	Contact our Sales department to check if easy transfer of 100 or more .ca domains is available.

Outgoing transfer

- **External authorization code request** - via [RCP \(Reseller Control Panel\)](#) or [XML API](#) or [REST API](#)

Update

Owner change (trade)

A change of ownership can be done by replacing the owner contact in the control panel. After saving the changes, the change is processed in real time. It may take up to five minutes for the whois to update.

Other update

- requested via RCP or [XML API](#) or [REST API](#)
- processed realtime

To change a domain's Legal Type (e.g., Organization, Canadian Citizen, or Permanent Resident), a trade operation is required.

Start by cloning the current contact handle using the correct legal type. Then, perform a domain trade by assigning the domain to the new handle.

Ensure the 'Legal Type' field in Additional Data is set correctly—otherwise, you may encounter errors like "Required parameter missing."

It may take up to five minutes for the WHOIS to update.

Note: Nameservers should have unique IP addresses

Deletion / Restore

Delete

- Requested via RCP or [XML API](#) or [REST API](#)

To delete domains immediately, please use **skip_soft_quarantine=true** in [deletion request](#) via REST API. In case of deletion request sent without flag 'skip_soft_quarantine=true', the

domain will be kept in SoftQuarantine until expiration date+ soft quarantine period is over.

Restore / reactivate

- **Restore** - via [RCP](#) or [XML API](#) or [REST API](#)
- quarantine periods can be found under

Detailed extension information > Technical information > Quarantine period

Detailed extension information

Registry	• Registry: Canadian Internet Registration Authority • Registry whois: whois.cira.ca • Registry web based whois: https://cira.ca/ca-domains/whois • Registry zonefile updates: Several times a day
Technical information	• DNSSEC support: yes • Minimum length: 2 characters • Maximum length: 50 characters • Allowed characters: a-z 0-9 - • IDN characters: é, ë, ê, è, â, à, æ, ô, oe, ù, û, ü, ç, î, ï, and ÿ • Registration period: 1-10 years • Renewal date offset: 0 days <i>The number of days before the registry's expiration date, that Openprovider requires the domain to be renewed or expired. More info.</i> • Soft quarantine period: 40 days <i>During this period, following after an expiration, the domain can be restored for free. This period does not apply if the domain is deleted explicitly. More info.</i> • Quarantine period: 28 days <i>During this period, an expired or deleted domain name can be reactivated at an additional fee.</i>

Restrictions	• Local presence required? yes • Does Openprovider provide local presence services? no • Local activity required? no • Correct nameserver configuration required? no • Local address of the domain owner is required. • Local address of the domain administrator is required. • Company number (companies) or Identity Card number (individuals) is required. • For contacts located in Canada or the United States of America, the state parameter becomes mandatory.
Policies	• Registrant Agreement • Domain Name Dispute Resolution Rules
Registration agreement	<i>The registry requires that a registration agreement is in place between the provider and the domain holder. The text of this registration agreement and any required supplements is the following:</i> • General registration agreement

Due to the regular changes in registry rules and configuration or missing information from registry side, and despite our effort to keep our knowledge base up-to-date, information in the knowledge base may be outdated or incorrect. If you encounter some issue, please report it through the "HotJar" feedback collector on the bottom right, or (if it is blocked by your browser) by clicking the "Submit a request" link below. No rights can be derived from the information in this knowledge base. If there is discrepancy between the knowledge base and the process in Openprovider, the process in Openprovider is leading.

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