

Policy Statement – Subdomains of *arkansas.gov* and *ar.gov*

Title: Administration of Subdomains of the
arkansas.gov and *ar.gov* Domains

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1.0 Purpose

Consistent internet names, or domain names, allow people to search for information on the Internet more easily. An internet domain exists called the **.gov** domain that is overseen by the federal government and reserved for use by federal, state, and local governments. The State of Arkansas has registered the domain names **arkansas.gov** and **ar.gov** for use by state and local government in Arkansas. Internet names assigned under the **arkansas.gov** and **ar.gov** domains will use consistent naming conventions to enhance the accessibility of information regarding state and local government.

2.0 Scope

Entities allowed to register subdomain names within the Arkansas **.gov** domains are Arkansas:

- 2.1 State Offices, Departments, Boards, and Commissions
- 2.2 Counties
- 2.3 Cities
- 2.4 Municipalities

3.0 Background

The Office of the Executive Chief Information Officer (ECIO) is the administrator for the **arkansas.gov** and **ar.gov** domains and the Department of Information Systems (DIS) is the technical contact for the **arkansas.gov** and **ar.gov** domains.

4.0 References

- 4.1 General Services Administration's Website for Domain Name Registration:

5.0 Policy

- 5.1 Eligible entities may request subdomain names from the Office of the ECIO.
- 5.2 Eligible entities requesting to register the **arkansas.gov** and **ar.gov** domain names will use the following naming conventions:
 - 5.2.1 Cities, towns and other municipalities will register their domain names at the third-level under the second-level state domain. The appropriate naming conventions would be **(cityname).ar.gov** or **(cityname).arkansas.gov**. Abbreviations or well known acronyms may be appropriate.

- 5.2.2 County governments will register their domain names at the third-level domain under the second-level state domain. The appropriate naming conventions would be **(countyname)county.ar.gov** or **(countyname)county.arkansas.gov**.
- 5.2.3 State offices, departments, boards, and commissions will register their domain names at the third-level under the second-level state domain. The appropriate naming conventions would be **(agencyname).ar.gov** or **(agencyname).arkansas.gov** or **(departmentname).ar.gov** or **(departmentname).arkansas.gov**. Agency or department abbreviations or well-known acronyms may be appropriate. Program names may also be registered as **(programname).ar.gov**. It is strongly suggested that agencies registering program names in this manner also register their agency name.
- 5.3 The Office of the Executive Chief Information Officer will respond to the request for a subdomain within ten working days of the request.
- 5.4 If an eligible entity reserves a domain name, both the **arkansas.gov** and **ar.gov** names will be reserved to avoid confusion.

6.0 Procedures

- 6.1 Eligible entities may send the request for a subdomain name to the Office of the ECIO at 124 West Capitol, Suite 200, Little Rock, AR 72201, or request the subdomain name online at <http://www.cio.state.ar.us/ArGov.htm>.
- 6.2 Any entity who receives an Arkansas.gov or ar.gov subdomain name must comply with current requirements set forth by the General Services Administration which can be found at: <http://www.dotgov.gov>.

7.0 Revision History

Date	Description of Change
05/15/2005	Changed Program Name Format
02/28/2004	Original Policy Statement Published
07/15/2005	Links updated, header updated

8.0 Definitions

- 8.1 Domain: Domain is a region of jurisdiction on the Internet for naming assignment. The General Services Administration (GSA) is responsible for registrations in the dot-gov domain.
- 8.2 Domain name: Domain name is a name assigned to an Internet server.
- 8.3 Internet Gov Domain: Internet GOV Domain refers to the Internet top-level domain "dot-gov" operated by the General Services Administration for the registration of U.S. government-related domain names.
- 8.4 Second Level Domain: The second-level domain is the next highest level of the hierarchy under the top-level domain. The second-level domain should define or describe the organization or entity that registered the domain, such as **ar.gov** or **arkansas.gov**.
- 8.5 Third Level Domain: The third-level domain is next in the hierarchy. It is a further specialization within the organization or entity that registered the second-level domain, such as **littlerock.ar.gov**.

9.0 Related Resources

N/A

10.0 Inquiries

Direct inquiries about this policy to:

Office of Information Technology

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OIT policies can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.cio.arkansas.gov/techarch>