

9. In about 100 words, explain how top-level Web domain names are proposed and approved.

Can you imagine wanting to go to Target.com and having to type in 161.225.130.163. Then wanting to check the price against Kroger and instead of Kroger.com the input is 158.48.0/16? This is where web domains come in to make things a bit easier for anyone using the internet. Web domain names are just a set of words assigned to a specific IP address. A top-level domain, or TLD, is what the righthand side of the address is. For example, .com, .edu, .gov. These are assigned through the ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) which as the name suggests is the responsible party for managing domain names and coordinating them with the IP address registry.

The ICANN is a private and non-government affiliated entity. When a business or person applies for a domain name, there is an application process that includes a deep dive into the entity applying. The ICANN also verifies that the domains, like .gov are being used properly as those are restricted to government entities. Once the process is approved the applicant is registered with the approved and appropriate TLD.

Sources:

Schneider , G. P. (2017). *Electronic commerce* (17th ed.). Cengage Learning.

[https://www.techtartget.com/whatis/definition/ICANN-Internet-Corporation-for-Assigned-Names-and-Numbers#:~:text=ICANN%20\(Internet%20Corporation%20for%20Assigned%20Names%20and%20Numbers\)%20is%20the,root%20server%20system%20management%20functions.](https://www.techtartget.com/whatis/definition/ICANN-Internet-Corporation-for-Assigned-Names-and-Numbers#:~:text=ICANN%20(Internet%20Corporation%20for%20Assigned%20Names%20and%20Numbers)%20is%20the,root%20server%20system%20management%20functions.)