

ODNCA-POL-002 · Registrar Requirements

What it takes to register names — and what it takes to be recognised

Status: v1.0 — Adopted

Companion documents: ODNCA-STD-001 (Resolution), ODNCA-STD-003 (SNS-NAME-1), ODNCA-POL-001 (TLD Fair-Use), ODNCA-POL-003 (Dispute & Abuse).

1. The permissionless base

Nobody needs ODNCA's permission to register names. The minimum viable registrar is **a static HTML page that produces inscriptions conformant with the SNS protocol** — a form, a wallet connection, a correctly shaped JSON body on a one-satoshi output. Anyone may build one, today, without contact, accreditation, or fee. Chain access cannot be granted because it cannot be denied.

This document therefore does not define who *may* register names. It defines what a **recognised registrar** is: a registrar listed by ODNCA, integrated in the coordinated ecosystem (resolver TLD lists, tooling, directory listing), and holding itself to the conduct rules below.

2. Requirements for recognition

2.1 Technical conformance

- Correct claims.** Registrations produced by the registrar conform to ODNCA-STD-003: valid JSON(5) form, correct normalization expectations, one-sat outputs, both accepted script orders handled correctly.
- Vector conformance.** The registrar's tooling agrees with the frozen conformance vectors — same valid/invalid verdicts, same canonical keys.
- Verified before sold-as-owned.** A registrar MUST NOT represent a name as successfully registered until the claim is on-chain; propagation delays (the `no_holder` window, ODNCA-STD-001 §4.4) are disclosed, not hidden.

2.2 Offering conduct

- Recognised TLDs only.** A recognised registrar offers registration only within the Active TLD set (ODNCA-POL-001). Offering withheld or retired TLDs — or unrecognised TLDs presented as if ecosystem-resolvable — forfeits recognition.
- Own-policy freedom, honestly labelled.** A registrar MAY restrict its own offering however it wishes — character subsets (e.g. letters and digits only), curated name lists, pricing tiers. Such restrictions are the registrar's policy and MUST be presented as such, never as chain-level validity rules.
- No false exclusivity.** A registrar MUST NOT claim to be the only path to registration, nor that names registered elsewhere are invalid. The base layer is permissionless and recognised registrars say so.

2.3 Display honesty

- Fallback disclosure.** Where the registrar's tooling resolves or pays names, the `fallback` flag is disclosed inline per ODNCA-STD-001 §5.
- Lookalike caution.** Non-ASCII and mixed-script names are visually distinguished per ODNCA-STD-001 §10.
- Blocklist adherence.** The registrar's resolution surfaces honour ODNCA-POL-003 statuses, including their honest display (a blocked name is shown as blocked, never as nonexistent).

3. Recognition lifecycle

- Application:** request to ODNCA with the registrar's operating details and a conformance run against the vector set. Assessment results are published.
- Listing:** recognised registrars appear in the public operator directory with their conformance date.
- Withdrawal:** recognition is ODNCA's only lever, and losing it is the only sanction — chain access is untouched and untouchable. Grounds for withdrawal: breach of §2, persisting after notice. Withdrawals are published with reasons.

4. The founding registrar

ORDnet's own portal operates under this policy on identical terms, and currently applies an own-policy restriction (letters-and-digits offering) that is stricter than the standard requires — an illustration of §2.2.5, and deliberately so: the standard does not bend to its founder, and the founder does not claim privileges under the standard.