Draft Policy ARIN-2023-8: Reduce 4.1.8 Maximum Allocation

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Problem Statement

Current Text (30 September 2024)

4.1.8 waiting times are too long, making justifications untimely by the time a request is met.

New entrants to the waiting list are expected to wait three years for their need to be met under current policy, with a waiting list of around **700 at this point**.

Data indicates that reducing the current /22 maximum further to a /24 would significantly reduce this waiting period, and further tightening the requirements by replacing the /20 recipient maximum holdings with a /24, and preventing multiple visits to the waiting list queue.

Policy Statement

4.1.8. ARIN Waitlist

ARIN will only issue future IPv4 assignments/allocations (excluding 4.4 and 4.10 space) from the ARIN Waitlist. The maximum size aggregate that an organization may qualify for is a /24.

Organizations which ever held any IPv4 space other than special use space received under section 4.4 or 4.10 are not eligible to apply.

Address space distributed from the waitlist will not be eligible for transfer, with the exception of Section 8.2 transfers, for a period of 60 months. This policy will be applied to all future distributions from the waitlist to include those currently listed. Qualified requesters will also be advised of the availability of the transfer mechanism in section 8.3 as an alternative mechanism to obtain IPv4 addresses.

Waiting list recipients must demonstrate the need for a /24 on an operating network.

This policy will apply to waitlist requests received following the implementation of this policy. Waitlist requests received prior to the implementation of this policy will not be affected.

Policy Statement (cont.)

In section 4.2.2 replace the sentence:

FROM:

"All ISP organizations without direct assignments or allocations from ARIN qualify for an initial allocation of up to a /22, subject to ARIN's minimum allocation size."

TO:

"All ISP organizations without direct assignments or allocations from ARIN qualify for an initial allocation of a /24."

In section 8.3 Conditions on the source of the transfer, remove this sentence:

"The source entity will not be allowed to apply for IPv4 address space under Section 4.1.8 ARIN Waitlist for a period of 36 months following the transfer of IPv4 address resources to another party."

Timetable for Implementation: Immediate.

Action	Date
Proposal	26 October 2023
Draft Policy	21 November 2023
Revised	14 February 2024
Revised	30 September 2024

History

Community Feedback

Flurry of activity on the Public Policy Mailing List (and elsewhere) following posts/updates. However, little significant changes in range of positions or support

Sample community positions and comments.....

- Reducing the allocation from /22 to /24 will not solve any tangible problem, rather create a new one as /24 is too small even for the smaller organizations that are waiting in order to use it properly to connect people and businesses.

- The proposal may be aiming to reduce anxiety from having to wait too long in the waiting list, but the reality is that there aren't IP addresses left to replenish the pool and has been a fact for a while.

- The wait list is 3 years long (*currently much less*) and the justifications are two-year projections. There is a fundamental issue with needs-testing here. Does it matter if the needs-tests are accurate at the time of allocation?

- There is no necessity to revise the policy. I believe this policy should be abandoned

Community Feedback

Key positions and concerns from community:

- Protection provided for those already on the list

- Is a /24 useful, sufficient, and/or practical for an organization?

- Why still focus on IPv4 with its scarcity when IPv6 is readily available?

- List is working; Lease market otherwise

Policy Impact

Consider the following possibilities if this policy is not implemented:

- IPv4 Waiting List times will remain at 18-21 months, and continue to fluctuate

- Runout will eventually happen unless organizations return IP addresses or space to ARIN

- The number of transfers and cost of IPs could be impacted

Retroactive Protections: No change/impact for 21+ months until current pending requests fulfilled to then move to only satisfying requests for /24s; Waiting List size would then be reduced.

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Current State of Policy

Policy has been active since November 2023

- presented at ARIN 53 (April 2024), ARIN 54 (October 2024)

Last text revision: September 2024

Problem statement as defined no longer accurately reflects current state of Waiting List

- *Wait times have dropped from a high point in excess of 30 months (Sept 2023)*
- *The last three distributions, recipients on the IPv4 Waiting List waited between 18-21 months.*
- *It is projected the 18-21 months wait will remain the same for the next few quarters.*

Current State of Policy

2023 Waiting List Distribution Activity

- **April 2023:** 136 requests fulfilled, distributing 65 IPv4 blocks
  - Waiting List size: 561
- **July 2023:** 63 requests fulfilled, distributing 34 IPv4 blocks
  - Waiting List size: 617
- **September 2023:** 29 requests fulfilled, distributing 26 IPv4 blocks
  - Waiting List size: 702
- **December 2023:** 54 requests fulfilled, distributing 37 IPv4 blocks;
  - Waiting List size: 831

Current State of Policy

2024-2025 Waiting List Distribution Activity

- **April 2024:** 200 requests fulfilled, distributing 51 IPv4 blocks;
  - Waiting List size: 700
- **June 2024:** 68 requests fulfilled, distributing 33 IPv4 blocks;
  - Waiting List size: 431
- **October 2024:** 117 requests fulfilled, distributing 36 IPv4 blocks;
  - Waiting List size: 824
- **December 2024:** 76 requests fulfilled, distributing 60 IPv4 blocks;
  - Waitlist size: 799
- **April 2025:** 73 requests fulfilled, distributing 63 IPv4 blocks;
  - Waitlist size: 835 (18-20 months)
  - 28 /22s, 10 /23s, 36 /24s

In August 2024, ARIN's IPv4 Waiting List had 703 entries, a number that also corresponded to the amount of entries that could be met with a /24 cap.

Draft Policy ARIN-2023-8: Reduce 4.1.8 Maximum Allocation

Current State of Policy

Waiting List Sizes (Since 2023)

- 2023: May 632; October 700
- 2024: Jan ~700; Feb 793; March 817;
    - April 652; May 694; Sept 777;
    - Oct 824; Nov 771; Dec 799;
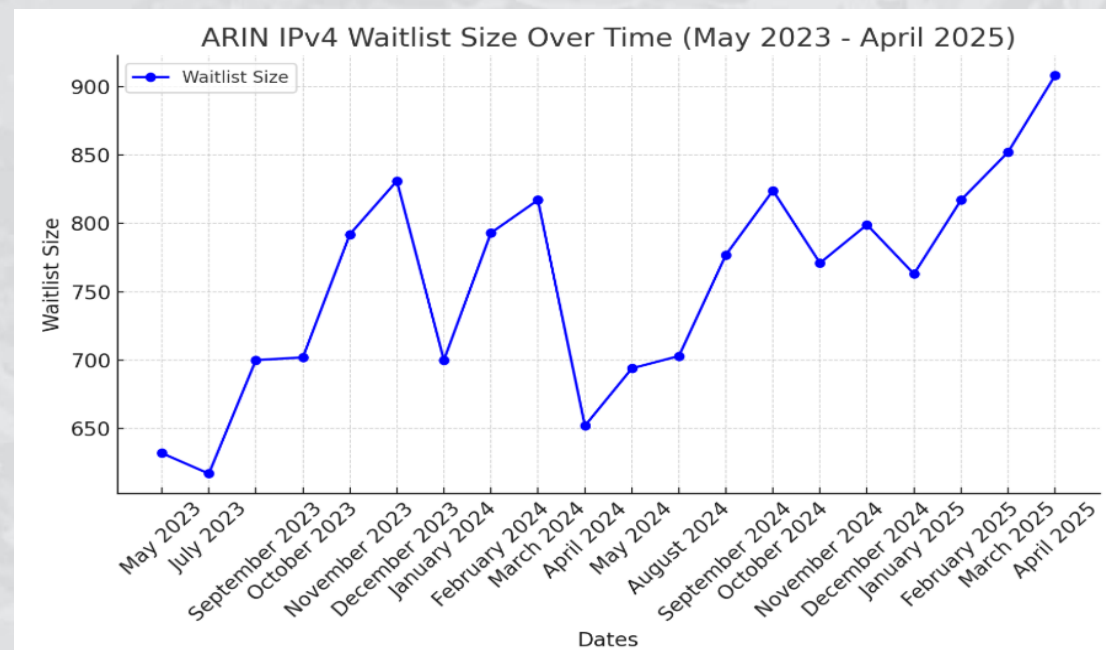- 2025: Jan 763; Feb 817; Mar 852;

Top of queue @ April 1:
- /22 @ June 2, 2023;
- /23 @ June 5, 2023;
- /24 @ June 7, 2023;

Current Requests: 908

consists of: 406 - /22; 83 - /23; 408 - /24

Age of Requests
- 2023 - 238; 2024 - 513; 2025 - 395

Draft Policy ARIN-2023-8: Reduce 4.1.8 Maximum Allocation

Future of this Draft Policy

Suggestions and Considerations

- Best case scenario: large IPv4 blocks relinquished/returned
  - IPv4 available pool replenished (unlikely)
- Worst case scenario: IPv4 blocks completely run out
  - Only transfer and lease markets available, or IPv6 transition

What happens in the future if demand drops or increases?
  - Waiting List is somewhat self-adjusting.

Presently, the statement may not be valid, but this may not continue to be true at some point in the future. If the Waiting List were to expand to where it was before, will it be too late to introduce such a policy?

- *New policy proposal can be submitted if problem continues, unencumbered by any stipulations or requirements which hamper this current proposal.*

Changes to this Draft Policy
New NRPM March 2025 (2025.1)

Proposed change to draft policy text and incorporating NRPM 2025.1 Changes/Updates

Current

4.2.2. Initial Allocation to ISPs

All ISP organizations without any IPv4 addresses from ARIN automatically qualify for an initial allocation of a /24. ISPs providing a 24-month utilization plan for the request size specified may receive up to a /22. ISPs holding reallocations and/or reassignments must show the efficient utilization of their resources consistent with the requirements in sections 4.2.3 and 4.2.4.

Proposed

4.2.2. Initial Allocation to ISPs

All ISP organizations without any IPv4 addresses from ARIN automatically qualify for an initial allocation of a /24.

Questions for the Community

Should we keep working on this policy?