

# How to get an Amateur Vanity Call Sign in the FCC Digital Online Infrastructure

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- ✓ Acquire an FRN number at: <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do?>
- ✓ Acquire a license acquisition from the FCC by taking a test.
  - Information at: <https://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>
- ✓ You can only make application for certain vanity call signs based on your license **Operator Class**
  - Information: <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/bureau-divisions/mobility-division/amateur-radio-service/operator-class>
  - Designations: <https://w5yi-vec.org/index.php/introduction-to-vanity-call-signs/vanity-call-faq>

There are 3 basic **STATUS** positions of any call sign in the FCC database:

- **ACTIVE** – not available but if targeting a call sign with date for **EXPIRATION** (+ 2 years) that is acceptable to wait for
- **CANCELLED** – Apply on Cancellation Date + 2 years +1 day (*expiration in future*)
- **EXPIRED** – Apply on Cancellation Date (*expiration date +1 = cancellation date*)

FCC database search for available or soon to be available license are accomplished easier on non-government websites and in addition, post submission applications can be tracked and also provide accurate predicted success rates:

- ✓ <https://www.ae7g.com/query/>
- ✓ <https://www.radioqth.net/vanity/available> (**Careful:** I detected errors on this site which caused me to apply too early once)
- ✓ <https://vanities.k2cr.com/index.html>

Once you have identified a call sign you would like to apply for, then go to the FCC website by logging in with your FRN number at the LICENSE MANAGER: <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/licManager/login.jsp>

Click on your license and choose “Request Vanity call sign” on the right side of the screen menu system & follow instructions to complete application submission for call sign – Information at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eMVqApFLM-U>

**\*\*\* Note the optimum best day to apply for a call sign for best acquisition chance is the 1<sup>st</sup> day available \*\*\***  
***Time stamp on your application is irrelevant – only the date stamp is relevant***

**ACTIVE STATUS:** **WAIT** for cancellation date to **populate** & status type to **change** before calculating the optimum application date

Status	Active	Auth Type	Regular
<b>Dates</b>			
Grant	05/19/2011	Expiration	08/11/2021
Effective	05/19/2011	Cancellation	

**CANCELLED STATUS:** Apply on Cancellation Date + 2 years +1 day (*expiration in future*) --- example: apply on 5/22/2023

Status	Canceled	Auth Type	Regular
<b>Dates</b>			
Grant	09/09/2016	Expiration	11/22/2026
Effective	04/23/2021	Cancellation	05/21/2021

**EXPIRED STATUS:** Apply on Cancellation Date (*expiration in the past*) --- example: apply on 5/23/2023

Status	Expired	Auth Type	Regular
<b>Dates</b>			
Grant	02/25/2011	Expiration	05/22/2021
Effective	02/25/2011	Cancellation	05/23/2023

Once the application is submitted, go to the FCC CORES website and pay your application fee or your application with fail.  
Cores website is here: <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do> (*login with your FRN authentication username & password*)