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Multicast Address Allocation Configuration Options

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A revised version of this draft document will be submitted to the RFC editor as a Proposed Standard for the Internet Community. Discussion and suggestions for improvement are requested. This document will expire before February 1999. Distribution of this draft is unlimited.

Abstract

This document describes DHCP options that may be used to provide access to Multicast Address Allocation servers, such as MDHCP servers.

1. Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119](#).

This document uses the following terms:

- o "DHCP client"

A DHCP client is an Internet host using DHCP to obtain configuration parameters such as a network address.

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- o "DHCP server"

A DHCP server is an Internet host that returns configuration parameters to DHCP clients.

- o "MDHCP client"

An MDHCP client is an Internet host requesting multicast address allocation services via MDHCP.

- o "MDHCP server"

An MDHCP server is an Internet host providing multicast address allocation services via MDHCP.

[2.](#) Multicast Address Allocation Configuration Options

The MDHCP protocol [[3](#)] allows hosts (known as MDHCP clients) to request multicast address allocation services from multicast address allocation servers (known as MDHCP servers). One way that MDHCP clients communicate with MDHCP servers is by sending multicast messages to an MDHCP Server Multicast Address.

This document defines a DHCP option (as described in [[1](#)] and [[2](#)]) that may be used to configure MDHCP clients with an appropriate MDHCP Server Multicast Address and TTL.

[2.1.](#) MDHCP Server Multicast Address option

The MDHCP Server Multicast Address option specifies a multicast address and TTL that MDHCP clients SHOULD use to contact MDHCP servers.

A DHCP client can obtain this parameter as part of the normal DHCP protocol message exchange or separately via DHCPINFORM.

Code	Len	Multicast Address				TTL
TBD	5	i1	i2	i3	i4	ttl

The code for this option is TBD and the length is 5.

3. References

- [1] Droms, R., "Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol", [RFC 2131](#), March 1997.

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- [2] Alexander, S., and R. Droms, "DHCP Options and BOOTP Vendor Extensions", [RFC 2132](#), March 1997.
- [3] Patel, B., M. Shah, and S. Hanna, "Multicast address allocation based on the Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol", [draft-ietf-malloc-mdhcp-00.txt](#), August 1998.

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