

**NAME**

`ares_expand_string` – Expand a length encoded string

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
int ares_expand_string(const unsigned char *encoded,  
const unsigned char *abuf, int alen, unsigned char **s,  
long *enclen)
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **`ares_expand_string`** function converts a length encoded string to a NUL-terminated C string. The argument *encoded* gives the beginning of the encoded string, and the arguments *abuf* and *alen* give the containing message buffer (necessary for the processing of indirection pointers within the encoded domain name). The result is placed in a NUL-terminated allocated buffer, a pointer to which is stored in the variable pointed to by *s*. The length of the encoded string is stored in the variable pointed to by *enclen* so that the caller can advance past the encoded string to read further data in the message.

**RETURN VALUES**

**`ares_expand_string`** can return any of the following values:

**ARES\_SUCCESS**

Expansion of the encoded string succeeded.

**ARES\_EBADSTR**

The encoded string was malformed and could not be expanded.

**ARES\_ENOMEM**

Memory was exhausted.

**SEE ALSO**

**`ares_free_string(3)`**

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