

Obtaining a Unique Entity ID Registering in SAM.gov A Guide for Alaska Federal Grant Applicants

All entities applying for federally funded awards, including the AK-ARPA Business Relief Grant Program, are required to have a valid unique identifier. Historically, the unique identifier used has been a DUNS Number, but that changed to the Unique Entity ID issued by SAM.gov in early April. The U.S. federal government will no longer require organizations to obtain a DUNS Number in order to register in SAM.gov beginning on April 4, 2022. After this date, entities that are new to federal funding may register in SAM.gov directly to obtain a unique identifier.

For more information, visit <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/iae-systems-information-kit/unique-entity-identifier-update>.

Definitions:

- A **Data Universal Number System (DUNS) Number** is a unique nine-digit identification number issued by Dun & Bradstreet (D&B). It is the *old* identifier that has been used by entities for many years when applying for federal funding. A DUNS number is site-specific, so each distinct physical location of an entity may be assigned a DUNS number.
- A **Unique Entity ID** is issued by SAM.gov. It is the *new* identifier that will be used by entities for federal awards processes from April 4, 2022 forward.

Registering with SAM.gov is **free** for all entities doing business with the State of Alaska or the Federal government.

- **After April 4, 2022:** Go to SAM.gov to register and obtain your Unique Entity ID. This will be used from now on in place of DUNS Numbers, which will no longer be relevant.
- For more information, visit [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) and <https://interact.gsa.gov/node/467958>.