

Transitioning the Government's Entity Identifier

On April 4, 2022, the federal government, including the USDA, will transition away from using the DUNS Number as its entity identifier and will begin using the new, government-owned Unique Entity ID (SAM).

This federal-wide initiative will streamline the entity identification and validation process, making it easier and less burdensome for organizations and individuals to do business with the federal government. In fact, after April 4th, entities will no longer need to go through a third-party website to obtain their identifier; the Unique Entity ID (SAM) will be issued in the federal SAM.gov system.

The new Unique Entity ID will be required when applying for grant and cooperative agreements, as well as when registering as a contractor for the federal government. If your organization is registered in SAM.gov today, your Unique Entity ID has already been assigned and is viewable in your SAM.gov entity registration. The Unique Entity ID is currently located below the DUNS Number on your entity registration record. Remember, you must be signed in to your SAM.gov account to view entity records.

Before the April 4th transition date, entities must still obtain a DUNS Number from Dun & Bradstreet at <https://fedgov.dnb.com> before registering in SAM.gov: the Unique Entity ID will be assigned at SAM.gov during registration. You can find more information about this transition on the GSA's Entity Identifier Update webpage at <https://www.gsa.gov/entityid>.