

Unique Entity Identifier

Do Not Pay Quick Reference Card

FAQ's

What is the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)?

The UEI is an entity's unique identifier assigned by the System for Award Management (SAM) when a vendor registers with SAM to do business with the federal government. The UEI is managed, granted, and owned by the federal government. The UEI replaced the Data Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S®) Number managed, granted, and owned by Dun & Bradstreet.

How many characters is the UEI?

The UEI is a 12-character alphanumeric value.

Why is the change from DUNS to UEI happening?

Because DUNS is issued by a third-party company, entities are required to register separately for their identifier. With this transition, entities received their UEI when they registered in SAM, streamlining the entity registration process and making it easier for entities to do business with the federal government.

How did current and new entities receive their UEI?

Entities currently registered in SAM were automatically assigned a UEI (viewable on SAM.gov). New entities were assigned a UEI during registration without the need to go to a third party.

When did this change happen?

The UEI was added as a data element in the SAM Exclusion Records data source in the DNP Portal with Release 7.4 on October 2, 2021. The DUNS Number was the authoritative identifier used by the federal government until April 3, 2022. On April 4, 2022, the federal government stopped using the DUNS Number to identify entities and the UEI became the authoritative unique entity identifier used by the federal government. Please see the Release Schedule table to the right of this page for more details.

What if an entity is a subawardee that is not registered in SAM.gov but uses the DUNS Number for subaward reporting?

In Q1 FY 2022, subawardees could request a UEI in SAM.gov, registration will not be required. The DUNS Number stopped being used on April 3, 2022, on April 4, 2022, the UEI became the authoritative unique entity identifier used by the federal government.

When searching for entities and contract award information, should I use the DUNS Number or the UEI?

You can only use the UEI to search entities after April 4, 2022, only the UEI will be searchable.

Did the DUNS + 4 also change?

Yes, the DUNS + 4 is was replaced by the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Indicator.

What should I do if I have further questions?

There are three avenues available to you:

- Contact your Agency Lead or Agency Specialist
- Call the DNP Agency Support Center at **(855) 837-4391**
- Email DNP at donotpay@fiscal.treasury.gov

UEI and EFT Indicator in Online Search

The screenshot shows the 'Online Search' interface with several search fields. A red box highlights the 'Enter UEI' and 'Enter EFT Indicator' fields. Other visible fields include 'Enter SSN/EIN/TIN', 'Enter First Name', 'Enter Business', 'Enter DUNS', and 'Enter Plus 4'.

Release Schedule

Release	UEI
7.4 October 2, 2021	UEI was added to Online Search and Application Programming Interface (API). This enabled searches by UEI with SAM Exclusion Records (Public and Restricted) matches. UEI will be added in Batch Matching and Continuous Monitoring user interface and reports for SAM Exclusion Records matches.
7.5 January 8, 2022	UEI was added to Online Search and API. This enabled searches by UEI with SAM Entity Registration Records matches. UEI will also be added in Batch Matching and Continuous Monitoring user interface and reports for SAM Entity Records matches.
7.6 March 5, 2022	UEI was added to Batch Matching and Continuous Monitoring standard input/output file layouts. This enabled bulk file matching by UEI.

Important Links

UEI: [https://www.gsa.gov/cdnstatic/UEI Stakeholder Meeting August 12 2021.pdf](https://www.gsa.gov/cdnstatic/UEI%20Stakeholder%20Meeting%20August%2012%202021.pdf)

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<https://fiscal.treasury.gov/dnp/faqs.html>