

Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) Information

1. What is the Taxpayer Identification Name and Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) process?

To have an active registration in SAM, the entity must authorize the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to validate that the TIN (Employer Identification Number or Social Security Number) provided by the registrant matches the name and/or name control and TIN in the files of the IRS for the most current tax year reported. Without this consent, a registrant's tax return information, including registrant's name and TIN, is confidential. In order to complete their SAM registration and qualify as a registrant eligible to bid for federal government contracts or apply for federal assistance awards (e.g. grants and cooperative agreements), the TIN and Taxpayer Name combination provided must match exactly to the TIN and Taxpayer Name used on their federal tax return. They will not be allowed to have an active SAM registration without a validated TIN. It may take three to five business days to validate new and updated records with the IRS prior to becoming active in SAM.

2. Why is SAM validating TIN information with IRS?

The TIN validation process in SAM with the IRS ensures that TIN information is correctly entered for the entity. This improves the accuracy of data for the agencies in processing payments to entities and reporting to the IRS, which reduces the possibility of late payments to entities.

3. Who can the entity contact with additional questions on TIN validation?

If the registrant is having problems with TIN mismatches in SAM concerning their Employer Identification Number, please contact the IRS at 1-800-829-4933. If the registrant is having problems with TIN mismatches in SAM concerning their Social Security Number, please contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 for additional information and assistance.

If this did not answer your question, please refer to the Federal Service Desk (FSD) website at <https://www.fsd.gov> and enter your question in the search box.