Entity ID Without Registration

If you want to apply for federal awards as a prime awardee, you need a **registration**.

A registration allows you to bid on government contracts and apply for federal assistance. As part of registration, we will assign you a Unique Entity ID.

To see comprehensive instructions and checklist for entity registration, download our [**Entity Registration Checklist**](https://iae-prd-videos.s3.amazonaws.com/pdf/entity-checklist.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Date=20230227T091315Z&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Expires=86399&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAY3LPYEEX3RP4EDU2%2F20230227%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Signature=99b87c627ffc752184790ca991536f99fb558bf9377ea1c34887a11088d4fbff).

**If you do not want to apply directly for awards, then you do not need a registration.** If you only conduct certain types of transactions, such as reporting as a sub-awardee, you may not need to complete a registration. You may only need a **Unique Entity ID**.

* [**What does it mean to get only a Unique Entity ID and not register?**](https://www.fsd.gov/gsafsd_sp?id=kb_article_view&sysparm_article=KB0051214)

**What's the difference between only getting a Unique Entity ID and registering your entity?**

An entity registration allows your organization the opportunity to receive a contract or assistance directly from the federal government, not from another contractor or awardee. You need to register your entity in SAM.gov when you want to bid on federal contracts as a prime contractor or seek federal assistance as a prime awardee.

The process for entity registrations includes getting the Unique Entity ID and requires assertions, representations and certifications, and other information about your business.

The Unique Entity ID does not expire. However, registrations must be updated and renewed each year to remain in the “active registration” status. If you do not update or renew your registration, it will be in an “inactive” status, but your entity will still have its same Unique Entity ID.

**Getting a Unique Entity ID only:** Some entities who do business with the government may choose not to register in SAM.gov, for example, sub-awardees. In this case, those entities cannot bid directly on federal contracts as a prime contractor or seek federal assistance as a prime awardee. If this is the goal of the entity, they can go to SAM.gov and get a Unique Entity ID only (no entity registration required). The information required for getting a Unique Entity ID without registration is minimal. It only validates your organization's legal business name and address.

**For a Unique Entity ID only**

If you are only requesting a Unique Entity ID and not completing a registration, you only need to provide to provide your legal business name and physical address.

[Get a Unique Entity ID in SAM.gov - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C87wSCYKTcE)