Implementation of CCR to IRS TIN Validation
Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)?

A Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) is a nine-digit number, which is either an Employer Identification Number assigned by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or a Social Security number assigned by the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Why do I have to provide my TIN?

This is not a new requirement. Agencies are required to collect TINs [31 U.S.C. 7701(c)] and to include the TIN in vouchers submitted for payment [31 U.S.C. 3325 (d)]. Having the correct TIN in CCR will improve data collection by allowing a single point of data entry.

Why will the IRS be the authoritative source for TINs?

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), General Services Administration (GSA), and Department of Defense (DoD) want to ensure the integrity of the data in the CCR. IRS is responsible for TIN information; therefore, they will provide accurate information regarding TIN and Taxpayer Names.

Why is CCR validating TIN information with IRS?

A February 2004 GAO report entitled “Some DoD Contractors Abuse the Federal Tax System with Little Consequence” (GAO-04-95) recommended that the DoD and IRS consider a TIN matching program to ensure valid TINs in the CCR to aid in accurate information reporting, payment certification, and federal tax collection with respect to vendors. The planned TIN matching efforts will substantially reduce the use of erroneous TINs by federal agencies.

What if I do not know my TIN?

If you are uncertain about your correct TIN or Taxpayer Name in IRS records, we suggest that you compare the information you entered with the Taxpayer Name and TIN information on one of the following documents from the IRS:

1) The original notice you received from the IRS assigning you your EIN
2) Your most recent federal tax return for the business activity
3) Any other recently received notice for the business activity

If your TIN is an SSN, compare the name and number with the information on your actual social security card.

Who do I contact with additional questions on TIN validation?

If you are having problems with TIN mismatches in CCR concerning your Employer Identification Number, please contact the IRS at 1-866-255-0654 (Option 2).

If you are having problems with TIN mismatches in CCR concerning your Social Security Number, please contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 for additional information and assistance.

Employer ID Numbers (EINs)

An Employer Identification Number (EIN) is also known as a federal tax identification number, and is used to identify a business entity. Generally, businesses need an EIN. You may apply for an EIN in various ways, and now you may apply online . You must check with your state to make sure you need a state number or charter.

- Do You Need an EIN?
- Do You Need a ***New*** EIN?
- How to Apply for an EIN
- How Long Will it Take to Get a Number?
- EIN for E-Health Transactions
- Understanding Your EIN (PDF)

Note: You may not transfer your EIN if you sell or otherwise transfer your business. The new business owner and operator may not use your EIN.

Change of Ownership or Structure
Generally, businesses need a ***new*** EIN when their ownership or structure has changed. Refer to "Do You Need a New EIN?" to determine if this applies to your business.

EIN for Electronic Health Transactions
You may need a **National Standard Employer Identifier (NSEI)** for your electronic health transactions. Refer to NSEI frequently asked questions for assistance.

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