

Requesting a SAM-UEI

You can get a Unique Entity ID (SAM) for your entity on SAM.gov. The Unique Entity ID (SAM-UEI) is provided to entities who request to only get a Unique Entity ID (SAM-UEI) and to entities who complete an entity registration. **For TCA purposes, organizations only need their SAM-UEI (12-digit alpha-numeric number). There is no need to do the full SAM.gov registration or renewal; that is strictly for applying for direct federal grants.**

You should never pay a fee—these services are free.

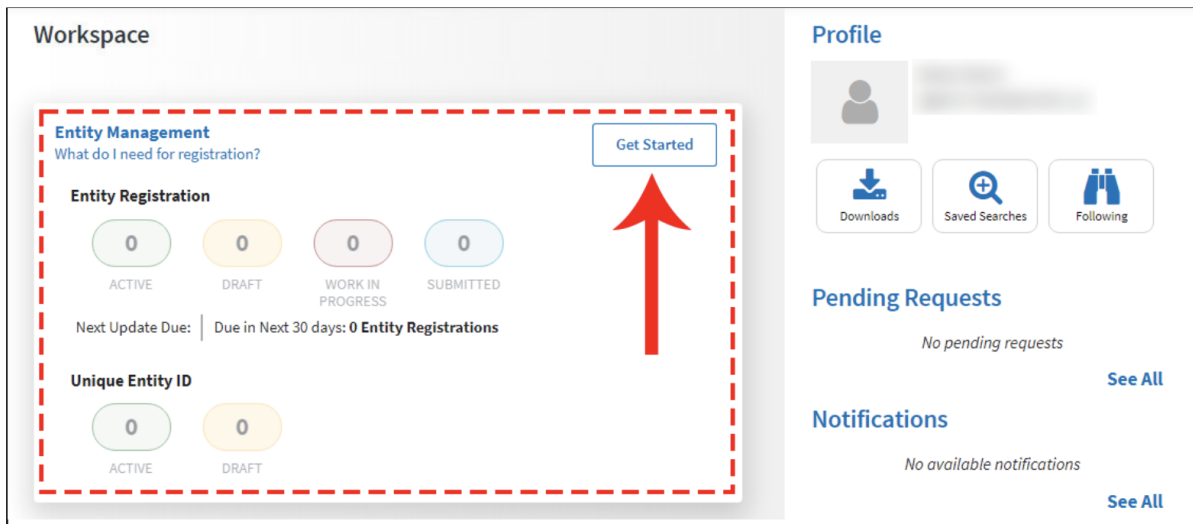
Registrations are only done through sam.gov.

[If you are applying to get a SAM-UEI here is a video to show you the process.](#) Step by step instructions for requesting a SAM-UEI below:

1. Go to [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) and select “Sign In” from the upper right corner of the page. If you already have a SAM.gov account, sign in and move on to Step 2. If you do not have a SAM.gov account, you will need to create one. SAM.gov uses Login.gov for authentication. (If you have trouble registering for SAM.gov you may call the Federal Service Desk at 866-606-8220)
 - a. **Follow these steps to create your Login.gov account.**
 - i. Enter your email address at https://secure.login.gov/sign_up/enter_email to begin.
 1. Choose an email address that you’ll always be able to access. Once your account is created, you can add an additional email address, such as a work email or alternate personal address, to access your account.
 - ii. Click the “Submit” button.
 - iii. Check your email for a message from Login.gov.
 - iv. Click the “Confirm your email address” button in the message. This will take you back to the Login.gov website.
 - v. Create your Login.gov password. Your Login.gov password should be different from passwords you use for other accounts such as your bank account or email. Using the same password for many accounts makes identity theft easier.
 - vi. Set up a second layer of security.
 1. As an added layer of protection, Login.gov requires you to set up a secondary authentication method to keep your account secure. This is referred to as two-factor authentication (2FA).

vii. Success! Once you have authenticated, you have created your Login.gov account. You will be taken to your Login.gov account page or the government agency you are trying to access. **Note: Your SAM-UEI won't expire, but your SAM.gov registration will.**

2. When creating your account, you may notice that SAM.gov provides users with different roles, or different levels of access, to their system. You or another member of your team will be the entity administrator. The entity administrator (EA) has several responsibilities, one being your organization's annual entity registration renewal. **Your organization must have an active registration in SAM.gov to work with or get paid by the federal government.** To mitigate the possibility of losing your active status due to an EA being unavailable at the time of renewal because of illness, vacation, or staff transition, **have your EA assign multiple EAs for your organization.** Instructions on how to do so can be found [here](#). **Consider it a best practice to review and update your organization's EAs annually.**
3. Navigate to your SAM.gov Workspace. On the "Entity Management" widget, select the "Get Started" button to begin requesting your Unique Entity ID (SAM-UEI). You will need to have your organization's legal business name and physical address ready. **A post office box may not be used as your physical address.** The system may also ask for your date and state of incorporation for entity validation. Some entities may be asked to provide additional business documents to establish their identity.



Your SAM-UEI will be issued immediately if the validation is successful at the time of the submission. If additional information is required, it can take up to a day or two. Any alert emails will be sent to the email address used to create your SAM.gov account.

Once you have your SAM-UEI you need to update your Organization Information in [TCA's Fluxx grant system](#).

In order to change the Organization Information, you must be the **Grantee Moderator**.

- 1.) Go to the Organization Information Screen in Fluxx.
- 2.) Click the edit button found in the top right corner of the screen.
- 3.) Below your DUNS number there is a field for you to enter your new SAM-UEI. After entering your UEI, click "Save and Close"

The screenshot shows the Texas Commission on the Arts portal. On the left is a navigation menu with categories like ORGANIZATION (2), ASSOCIATED PEOPLE (4), INFORMATION, and APPLICATIONS (1). The main content area has a search bar and a list of search results. The first result is 'Test Blue Art Institution', which is highlighted. To the right, a detailed view of this institution is shown, including its entity type, city, county, federal EIN, website, phone, email, and primary contact information. Below this, there is a section for 'Organization Account Status' which is 'Validated', and an 'EIN' field with the value '04-2163004'. There is also a 'DUNS' field with the value '123456789' and a 'SAM UEI' field with a placeholder text: 'Please enter your unique entity identifier (UEI) from the federal System of Award Management (SAM)'.

Troubleshooting:

If you are having trouble with the validation process and there's a possibility that your organization is registered in SAM.gov you can follow the steps below as a work around to view your SAM-UEI:

- 1.) From the SAM.gov home page, click on the search tab (second from left). Be sure you are visiting sam.gov. This is the only place to look for or register your SAM-UEI. This process is 100% free and you can do it without a service.
- 2.) Scroll to the bottom and check both the "Active" and "Inactive" boxes on the left side of the screen.
- 3.) Enter your organization's name in the search bar.
- 4.) In the search results, your SAM-UEI should appear.

Issues with One-Time Validation:

Upon attempting to validate the legal business name and physical address of your entity, you may discover that the information on file has changed. If there are any problems with the data in the system, see this article on [what to do if you can't find a match for your entity](#).

Change legal name/business address through SAM.gov:

You can now make updates to your entity's legal business name and physical address through SAM.gov. Once you select "Create Incident" through the update entity information workflow, you will monitor the status of your ticket in your SAM.gov Workspace or in the Federal Service Desk (FSD.gov) instead of going to Dun & Bradstreet.

You might be able to find the organization and its SAM-UEI by searching on [CAGE website](#):

You may be able to find your organization's SAM-UEI by doing a name search on the cage website. Also, you can try to find your SAM-UEI by using your CAGE code.

Appointing New Administrator for expired SAM registrations. (Also works for and Not for Public Display registrations.)

For a group to appoint a new administrator to the SAM Registration, you must submit a notarized letter. You must include either your SAM-UEI or your CAGE code as an ID in the letter. [Template letter to download, fill out, and get notarized](#) (*empty the instructions from any fields that are not applicable*).

Start a New SAM-UEI (or full SAM Registration if needed).

Sometimes the SAM.gov system doesn't recognize that the organization already has SAM registration and will issue a new SAM-UEI. If SAM.gov system flags the attempt, then follow those instructions or try again another day.

If you are having long-term problems:

We recommend that you reach out to Senator Cornyn's office for assistance. The issue is specifically with the General Services Administration (GSA) and not the NEA (National Endowment for the Arts). Senator Cornyn's District office can be called at 512-469-6034 and <https://www.cornyn.senate.gov/>.

If you find yourself dealing with a scam:

Scams happen to the best of us! If you find yourself in a situation where you are dealing with a fraudulent entity asking you for money to assist with your SAM-UEI, let them know you are aware that this is a free service provided through sam.gov, and that using a service for registration is not required. [You can find information about what to look out for and how to report scams here.](#)

Some tips from the National Endowment for the Arts:

Start early on the process. Due to high demand, SAM.gov registrations and renewals are taking longer than expected to process. SAM.gov recommends that you begin the renewal process at least 30 days before expiration.

Visit [FSD.gov](#) for answers to FAQs on SAM.gov's Entity Validations. This site includes many helpful resources, including specific answers on [the documentation that is required for entity validation](#).

Entity validation requires a physical address (PO boxes are not accepted.) SAM.gov suggests that organizations without a venue might use the address where bookkeeping and other management documents are housed.

Respond immediately to Federal Service Desk Help Tickets messages. If you run into an issue and submit a help desk ticket, watch your inbox for responses. Help desk tickets are automatically closed if messages are not responded to within 5 days.

Be sure to have more than one person as SAM.gov Point of Contacts. Ensuring that multiple people have access to your organization's SAM.gov account will prevent the additional time and documentation required if you need to regain access to the account due to staff changes.

And, keep your SAM.gov contacts up to date throughout the year. SAM.gov sends annual renewal reminders to the contacts on file, so be sure to update your account with staff changes.

Other Helpful Articles:

[How can I become the new administrator for our entity registration?](#)

[Why can't I update the points of contact \(POCs\) on my registration?](#)

[What are the next steps now that we have updated our legal business name?](#)

[A series of technical assistance webinars created by the General Services Administration \(GSA\)](#)

For further SAM.gov assistance, call the Federal Help Desk at **(866) 606-8220**. You will need to have created a SAM.gov login prior to calling.