

APTAC Body of Knowledge Competency Guide

C. Basics of Contracting with the Government

C.2 Registrations-System for Award Management (SAM)

DESCRIPTION

What is SAM?

Registration requirements are an essential part of counseling businesses in government contracting. It is therefore extremely important for PTAC counselors to have thorough knowledge of the specific registration requirements. Registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) is the most far reaching federal government registration requirement because it is a prerequisite for any business to be eligible to receive a government contract. SAM replaced the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) in 2012 with the objective of combining several federal procurement systems into one new system.

SAM is being deployed in phases. The intent is for SAM to benefit federal government buyers (contracting activities) and businesses (sellers) seeking government contracts through a streamlined and integrated process that will eliminate data redundancies and reduce costs while providing improved capability. SAM falls under the Integrated Award Environment (IAE), a Presidential E-Government initiative managed by GSA. Its purpose is to facilitate every phase of the acquisition lifecycle, from market research to contract administration. The federal government is working to make the acquisition of goods and services secure, streamlined and cost-effective with IAE.

Through IAE, the acquisition functions common to all agencies are now centrally managed as shared systems. In the coming years, the intent for SAM is to integrate the capabilities provided by currently shared systems, streamline processes, and eliminate redundant data, saving taxpayer money. Systems currently migrated to SAM are the Central Contractor Registration/Federal Agency Registration, the Online Representations and Certifications Applications (ORCA), and the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)

Planned Additional Migrations

The following systems are in the planning phase for migration to SAM

- FBO (FedBizOpps), the single government point-of-entry for posting solicitations over \$25,000, allowing commercial business suppliers to search, monitor and retrieve opportunities in federal government markets.
- WDOL (Wage Determinations On-Line) - This government-wide web site makes Service Contract Act (SCA) and Davis-Bacon (DBA) wage determinations easily accessible by the contracting community.

APTAC Body of Knowledge Competency Guide

C. Basics of Contracting with the Government

C.2 Registrations-System for Award Management (SAM)

- PPIRS (Past Performance Information Retrieval System) The federal acquisition community can access timely and pertinent contractor past performance information via this web-enabled, government-wide application.
- FAPIIS (Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity System) – Module on PPIRS that implements requirements of National Defense Authorization Act Section 872 that provides data on potential awardees to support award decisions.
- FPDS-NG (Federal Procurement Data System-Next Generation) - This online repository provides data on all federal contract actions over \$3,000. Standard and custom reports are easily accessible.
- eSRS (Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System) - This system is designed for prime contractors to report accomplishments toward subcontracting goals required by their contract. FSRS (FFATA Sub-award Reporting System) – This system is designed to collect subcontract and sub-grant award information in compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA).
- CFDA (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance) - Provides a full listing of all Federal programs available to state and local governments, organizations, and individuals. Although CFDA is not an IAE system, it is managed by the Program Management Office which oversees IAE systems and is also included in SAM.ous users, some of which are highlighted below.

PTAC clients need to know that ***All*** prospective federal government contractors must register in SAM in order to be considered for contract award.

SAM Characteristics and Registration Steps

Login: With SAM, one user ID and password will provide access to all the capabilities associated with registering to do business with the Federal Government and representing/self-certifying as a small business

SAM currently integrates registration with Representations and Certifications required for Federal Government contracts. It divides data entry into these groupings:

- a. Core data (ex: Name and address, org type, financial information, proceedings)
- b. Assertions (ex: NAICS, size metrics) and conditional/optional information (disaster, EDI)
- c. Reqs and certs (FAR questionnaire, Architect-Engineer responses, DFARS)

APTAC Body of Knowledge Competency Guide

C. Basics of Contracting with the Government

C.2 Registrations-System for Award Management (SAM)

Reporting Location: SAM keeps all data in one place, so users enter it only once.

The following are Quick Version steps for firms completing SAM registration.

Step 1: Determine the applicable codes of the firm/entity

These codes are the NAICS (North American Industrial Classification) PSC (Product Service Codes) / FSC (Federal Supply Codes)

Step 2: Obtain Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)/Employer Identification Number (EIN) by calling 800- 829-4933 or use the web site

(www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=102767,00.html)

Step 3: Obtain DUNS number

866-705-5711 or use the web (<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/>) This Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) site indicating the purpose is for government contracts. Though this is not a government agency, there is no fee for obtaining a DUNS number. When the DUNS desk asks for the TIN/EIN, a Social Security Number (SSN) could be used, but it is far better to use the TIN/EIN for government contracting purposes. Also, after obtaining a DUNS number, firms often they receive inquiries from DNB about subscribing to their expanded services. There is usually a fee involved for these expanded services. Note that here is no government requirement to participate in any of DNB's expanded services.

Note: Exact matches of names are extremely important. For example, D&B information needs to exactly match with what IRS records. The "Doing Business As" field can be used to enter a variation on what IRS has.

Step 4: Register in SAM (System for Award Management) at www.SAM.gov as an individual entity.

Step 5: Small Businesses, register with SBA's Small Dynamic Small Business they should then be able to search for its business or other small businesses (potential teaming partners), once the registrations is active at http://dsbs.sba.gov/dsbs/search/dsp_dsbs.cfm

REFERENCES:

Integrated Award Environment

http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/105036?utm_source=CAO&utm_medium=print-radio&utm_term=iae&utm_campaign=shortcuts

APTAC Body of Knowledge Competency Guide**C. Basics of Contracting with the Government****C.2 Registrations-System for Award Management (SAM)**

North American Industrial Classification Codes

<http://www.census.gov/naics/2007/NAICOD07.HTM>

Federal Procurement Data System Product and Service Codes Manual August 2011 Edition

<https://www.acquisition.gov/PSC%20Manual%20-%20Final%20-%202011%20August%202011.pdf>