

Ellen Beck - THE USE OF DUNS AND CCR – TALKING POINTS

Background (brief):

For federal grant and cooperative agreement, as of 10/2003, all applications were to begin the mandatory inclusion of DUNS. The DUNS number would supplement other identifiers as required by statute or regulation, such as tax identification numbers.

The Central Contractor Registration (CCR) is the primary vendor database for the U.S. Federal Government. The CCR collects, validates, stores and disseminates data. Current and potential government vendors are required to register in CCR in order to do be awarded contracts by the government.

Federal online systems request DUNS and/or CCR information for registration.

General:

Has use of the DUNS as a unique identifier been successful?

Has use of the CCR registration been successful for grantee institution validation?

Point: Not only is it possible, but grantee institutions should have multiple DUNS (as appropriate).

Issue: Information regarding the necessity of multiple DUNS is vague.

Example: Dun and Bradstreet web site only indicates "The D&B D-U-N-S number is a unique nine-digit identification sequence, which provides unique identifiers of single business entities, while linking corporate family structures together. D&B links the D&B D-U-N-S Numbers of parents, subsidiaries, headquarters and branches on more than 64 million corporate family members around the world.

Example: Central Contractor Registration (CCR) indicates "You must have a different 9 digit DUNS for each physical location/different address in your company as well as each legal division that may be co-located.

Problem: Some institutions, due to being part of a larger system or internal set-up, can't or are reluctant to create DUNS.

Point: It is up to the grantee institution to determine/select DUNS for C&G efforts.

Point: Agencies need to recognize that grantee institutions may have more than one DUNS.

Point: In some cases, agencies are requiring not only DUNS but CCR registration.

Issue: A grantee institution may have as many CCR registrations as it has DUNS. (Also the case with CAGE Codes. CAGE Codes are created by CCR with new CCR registrations.)

Issue: CCR registration not always created/maintained/managed by centralized research administration office.

Point: Some Federal agencies mandate the CCR e-Business Point of Contact be the POC for agency online system.

Issue and Problem: CCR registration not always created/maintained/managed by centralized research administration office.

Point: Some Federal online systems now require the use of CCR the Marketing Partner ID (MPIN) as part of the registration or user access.

Issue: According to CCR, this is a self-defined access code that will be shared with authorized partner applications (e.g., Past Performance Information Retrieval System

(PPIRS), Federal Technical Data Solutions (FedTeDS) etc.). The MPIN acts as the password in these other systems, and (per CCR) “you should guard it as such.”

Problem: Presumption that individual registering has access or should have access to MPIN.

Federal Agency Online Systems Using DUNS and/or CCR for Registration and/or System Access (not inclusive):

NIH Contractor Performance System (CPS) – need active DUNS number to complete registration.

Grants.gov – CCR registration needed to validate applicant information. Will house organizational information allowing Grants.gov to verify user identity and to pre-fill organizational information on grant applications. NOTE: Grants.gov currently supports associating only one DUNS number per credential. A future enhancement is planned to provide the ability to assign multiple DUNS numbers to a credential.

Interior Department Electronic Acquisition System – Electronic Commerce (IDEAS-EC) National Business Center – Must have DUNS and CCR MPIN to login to see awards. Award notifications go to main CCR contact.

Department of Defense Web Proposal Tracking System (WebPTS) – from Strategic Environmental Research & Development Program – online cover sheet for self-registration requires DUNS and CAGE Code (must have CCR to have CAGE Code)

Department of Defense Wide Area Work Flow – must have CCR registration. The CCR EB POC is designated automatically as the WAWF Group Administrator (GAM). All other registrations appear to need user validation by the primary GAM.

Department of Energy Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) – October 2004 User Guide states “All vendors who wish to do business with any government agency must register via the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) web site.” Self registration includes DUNS field.