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Office of Management and Budget Requires DUNS Number for Grant Applications

On June 27, 2003, the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announced that as of October 1, 2003, all applicants requesting federal grant funds must provide a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. The DUNS number will be required whether the applicant submits a paper application or uses the governmentwide electronic portal (<http://grants.gov>).

"No man, woman, or child should lose his or her life because public safety officials cannot talk to one another."

The DUNS number will be used as an identifier for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information. Some additional identifiers—e.g., Employer Identification Number (EIN)—will continue to be required.

Only the *primary applicant* will need a DUNS number at the time of application. If a state applies for a federal grant, for example, it must submit its own DUNS number, but it would not need to provide DUNS numbers for subgrantees (e.g., local or tribal governments) receiving awards under the state's grant.

Organizations can obtain a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711. Callers will need to provide the following information:

- Agency name, street address, and telephone number
- Year the agency was founded
- Number of employees or volunteers
- Name of CEO, director, or chief
- A statement indicating whether 51 percent or more of the agency's employees or volunteers are minorities
- A brief description of the agency's purpose.

More information can be found in the *Federal Register*, June 27, 2003 (Volume 68, Number 124, pages 38402–38405).



Public Safety Wireless Network

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