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Instructions for Form 8957 (July 2013)



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Registration

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future Developments

For the latest information about developments related to Form 8957 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/form8957.

General Instructions

Purpose of Form

Form 8957 is used by a financial institution to register with the IRS as a participating, registered deemed compliant, or sponsoring entity. In connection with its registration, the financial institution, if approved, will be issued a global intermediary identification number (GIIN) and will be listed on the IRS FFI List available at www.irs.gov/FATCA no sooner than July 1, 2013.

Where To Apply

Online registration. For faster service, a financial institution is encouraged to register online at www.irs.gov/FATCA/xxx. By registering online, a financial institution will be able to register with the IRS and may be issued a GIIN within X days.

Paper Form 8957 registration. Send Form 8957 and all required attachments to:

Internal Revenue Service
FATCA, Stop 6099 AUSC
3651 South IH 35
Austin, Texas 78741

We will contact you after 30 days if there will be a delay in processing your registration. You can call (xxx) xxx-xxxx (not a toll free number) and select the FATCA registration option if you have any questions regarding your registration.

Note. If the financial institution's registration is approved, the financial institution will be required as a part of its FATCA agreement to create an online account at www.irs.gov/FATCA.

Who Is Not Eligible To Register

<Place holder for description of OFAC SDN listed entities.>

Special Rules

Model 1 IGA (Select Registered Deemed Compliant). Reporting Financial Institutions that are located in a Model 1 IGA jurisdiction (see List of Jurisdictions at www.irs.gov/FATCA/Model1IGA) should register itself as registered deemed compliant.

Model 2 IGA (Select PFFI). Reporting Financial Institutions that are located in a Model 2 IGA jurisdiction (see List of Jurisdictions at www.irs.gov/FATCA/Model2IGA) should register itself as a participating FFI.

Sponsoring Entities (May have to register twice). An FFI that is both a Sponsoring Entity and that is also a FI that would otherwise need to register as a participating or registering deemed compliant FI will need to submit two registration forms. The first registration application should be completed to register itself as a participating or registering deemed compliant FI, whichever is applicable. The second registration application should be completed as a sponsoring entity. The FI will receive two different GIINs and should only use the GIIN issued to it as a Sponsoring Entity when it is fulfilling its obligations as a sponsoring entity.

What to Know Before You Begin Completing Form 8957

There are four parts to the FATCA registration form. Not all parts of the Form will be required to be completed depending on the type of registering financial institution.

Part 1 of Form 8957 must be completed by all Financial Institutions (FIs) and will provide basic identifying information about each FI. Part 2 of Form 8957 must be completed by a Lead FI to identify each Member FI of its Expanded Affiliated Group.

Part 2 of Form 8957 must be completed by a Lead FI to identify each Member FI of its Expanded Affiliated Group. Part 2 will only apply to a Lead FI and should not be completed by an entity that identifies itself as a Single FI, Member FI, or Sponsoring Entity.

Part 3 of Form 8957 must be completed by FIs that have a Qualified Intermediary (QI), Withholding Foreign Partnership (WP), or Withholding Foreign Trust (WT) agreement in effect, and that

wish to renew their respective agreements. Part 3 will only apply to FIs that are already QIs, WPs, or WTs.

Note. A financial institution that would like to apply to become a first-time QI, WP, or WT may do so by completing Form 14345 in accordance with the instructions therein. For more information about QIs, WPs, and WTs, see [Publication 515](#).

Part 4 of Form 8957 must be completed by all FIs and requires the FI to certify that the information provided in the FATCA Registration Form is accurate and complete and to agree to comply with its FATCA obligations.

Note. As you go through Form 8957, please pay careful attention to the Instructions to Form 8957.

Specific Instructions

PART I

Line 1. Financial Institution Type

A **Single FI** is a financial institution that is not included in an Expanded Affiliated Group of foreign financial institutions (FFI Group).

A **Lead FI** is a financial institution that is a member of an FFI Group that will initiate and manage the online registration process for each member of the FFI Group. The Lead FI will be required to identify each of its Member FIs in Part II of Form 8957. After Form 8957 is submitted the IRS will provide the Lead FI with a FATCA ID for it and for each of its Member FIs identified in Part II of the registration form. The FATCA ID should be provided to each of its Member FIs so that the Member FIs may register.

A **Member FI** is a financial institution that is included in an FFI Group and that is not the Lead FI for the FFI Group. The Lead FI and any Member FI(s) are assigned a unique FATCA ID. In order to register, the Member will need to obtain its FATCA ID from its Lead FI.

Note. A Member FI may only register after its Lead FI has registered and been issued a FATCA ID.

A **Sponsoring Entity** is an entity that will perform the due diligence, withholding, and reporting obligations of one or more

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sponsored foreign financial institutions (FFIs).

Note. If you are a sponsoring entity that also maintains financial accounts or is a member of an FFI Group, you will need to register twice with the IRS and will be provided two separate GIINs. First, you should register as a Single, Member or Lead FI and complete the registration process required for the selected type. Second, you should start a new registration application and select Sponsoring Entity and complete all questions consistent with your activities as a sponsoring entity. The GIIN that is issued to you as a Sponsoring Entity should only be used when you are performing your obligations as a sponsoring entity.

Line 2. Legal Name of Financial Institution

Enter the legal name of the FI. The legal name is the name of the FI used in official incorporation or organization documents, or the name otherwise recognized by the government as the entity's official name. Typically, the legal name is the name used by the FI in legal documents.

Line 3. What is the Financial Institution's country of residence for tax purposes?

Enter the FI's country of residence for tax purposes. This is the country in which the FI is treated as a resident for income tax purposes (for example, the place of incorporation or principal management and control). If the FI is a dual resident, identify one of the countries where it is a tax resident in this question and identify the second country of tax residence in question 8 or 9, as appropriate, by treating the second tax residence country as a branch jurisdiction.

Line 4. Select the Financial Institution's FATCA classification in its country of tax residence

FIs (other than a sponsoring entity or a USFI) that have operations in multiple jurisdictions. An FI that maintains branch operations outside of its country of tax residence, should answer this question by treating the operations within its country of tax residence as if it were a branch (home office) and then classify whether such home office is participating, registered deemed compliant, or limited. In question 8 or 9 of the registration form, the FI should identify the jurisdictions where it maintains branches outside of its country of tax residence and which, if any, of its branches will be treated as limited branches.

Example. Bank A, a financial institution, is a tax resident of Country X. In addition to banking activities that it conducts within Country A, Bank A also conducts banking activities through branches in Countries Y and Z. Under Country X laws, Bank A cannot satisfy the obligations that would allow its operations within Country X (home office) to be effectively a participating or registered deemed compliant FI. However, Bank A's branches in Countries Y and Z would be able to comply with the obligations imposed on a participating or registered deemed compliant FI. For purposes of registering itself and to obtain a reporting GIIN for its branch operations in Countries Y and Z, Bank A should select that it is classified as a Limited Financial Institution in its country of tax residence.

Sponsoring Entities or US Financial Institutions. An FI that is registering as a Sponsoring Entity or a US financial institution that maintains a QI branch or a branch in a Model 1 IGA must check "None of the Above", irrespective of how it is otherwise classified in its country of tax residence.

Reporting FI under a Model 1 IGA. An FI that is tax resident in a jurisdiction that has in effect a Model 1 IGA and that is treated as a reporting FI pursuant to the terms of the IGA must check "Registered Deemed Compliant FI".

Line 5. Mailing Address of Financial Institution

Enter the mailing address of the FI. The address provided will be used by the IRS for all mail correspondence related to your FATCA registration, FATCA account, and any other related matters.

Line 6. Indicate whether the Financial Institution is QI, WP, WT or none of the above.

Check **Qualified Intermediary (QI)** if the FI is a party to a withholding agreement with the IRS.

Check **Withholding Foreign Partnership (WP)** if the FI is a foreign partnership that has entered into a withholding agreement with the IRS.

Check **Withholding Foreign Trust (WT)** if the FI is a foreign grantor trust or foreign simple trust that has entered into a withholding agreement with the IRS.

If QI, WP or WT is selected also provide the employer identification number (EIN) that it was issued to the FI by the IRS for purposes of identifying itself when it is acting in its capacity as a QI, WP, or WT. Additionally, indicate whether

the FI intends to maintain its status as a QI, WP, or WT.

An FI that does not have in effect a withholding agreement with the IRS to be treated as a QI, WP, or WT should check "Not Applicable".

Sponsoring entities. If you are applying as a Sponsoring Entity, you must check "Not Applicable".

Line 7. Does the Financial Institution maintain a branch in a jurisdiction outside of its country of tax residence?

Select "Yes" if the FI maintains a branch outside of its country of tax residence. A branch is a unit, business, or office of an FFI that is treated as a branch under the regulatory regime of a country or is otherwise regulated under the laws of such country as separate from other offices, units, or branches of the FFI and that maintains books and records separate from the books and records of other branches of the FFI.

Sponsoring entities. If you are applying as a Sponsor, you do not need to answer questions about your branches and should check "No"

Line 8. Is the Financial Institution a tax resident of the United States or does it maintain a branch in the United States (other than the U.S. territories)?

Check "Yes" if the FI maintains a branch within the United States. For purposes of registration, the term United States means the United States of America, including the States thereof and the District of Columbia, but does not include American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Line 9a. List each jurisdiction (other than the United States) in which the Financial Institution maintains a branch

Identify each jurisdiction where the FI maintains a branch outside of the United States, including if the FI maintains a branch in American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Line 9b. Is the Branch a Limited Branch?

Indicate whether each branch listed is a limited branch. A limited branch generally is a branch that under the laws of the

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jurisdiction in which it is located is unable to: (1) report, close, or transfer U.S. accounts that it maintains to another branch or financial institution that may otherwise report on the account, or (2) withhold, block, or close an account held by a recalcitrant account holder or nonparticipating FFIs or otherwise transfer the account to another branch or financial institution that would be able to withhold or report.

Note. An FFI that becomes a participating FFI with one or more limited branches will cease to be a participating FFI (and shall be removed from the IRS FFI List) after December 31, 2015, unless otherwise provided pursuant to Model 1 IGA or Model 2 IGA.

Line 9c. If the branch is currently covered by a QI agreement, does the Financial Institution intend to maintain QI status for that branch?

Check "Yes" if the branch operates under an attachment to the FI's QI, WP or WT agreement and if it intends to renew its status as such.

Check "No" if the branch operates under an attachment to the FI's QI, WP or WT agreement and does not intend to renew its status as such.

Check "Not Applicable" if the branch is not part of an FI that is a QI, WP or WT.

Line 10. Provide information about the FATCA Responsible Officer (RO) for the Financial Institution

Identify the responsible officer (RO) of the FI or FFI Group with sufficient authority to ensure that the FI meets the obligations or requirements of the applicable FI status type that it is registering for. The address provided should be the business address of the RO.

Insert the **name, title, address and contact information** of a **Responsible Officer (RO)** of your the FFI. The address provided should be the business address of the RO. The business address is defined as the address where the RO maintains his or her principal office.

With respect to a **Participating FFI**, a **Responsible Officer (RO)** is an officer of any participating FFI or reporting IGA Model 1 FFI in the participating FFI's Expanded Affiliated Group with sufficient authority to fulfill the duties of a Responsible Officer described in the FFI's FFI Agreement, which include the requirement to periodically certify to the IRS that the FFI is in compliance with its requirements under an FFI Agreement.

With respect to a **Registered Deemed Compliant FFI**, a **Responsible Officer (RO)** is an officer of any Deemed Compliant FFI or participating FFI in the Deemed Compliant FFI's Expanded Affiliated Group with sufficient authority to ensure that the FFI meets the applicable requirements of a Registered Deemed Compliant FFI.

With respect to a **Participating FFI that elects to be part of a consolidated compliance program**, a **Responsible Officer (RO)** is an officer of the compliance FI with sufficient authority to fulfill the duties of a responsible officer described in the FFI Agreement on behalf of each FFI in the compliance group.

Lead FIs. The RO for a Lead FI will automatically be treated as a point-of-contact (POC) for the FI and for any Member FI of the FFI Group. As a result, the RO for a Lead FI may receive correspondence from the IRS related to each Member FIs FATCA information.

Line 11a. Does the RO wish to designate one or more additional POCs for the Financial Institution?

The Financial Institution's RO will be a point of contact (POC) for the Financial Institution. In addition, the RO of a Financial Institution registering as a Lead of all or part of an Expanded Affiliated Group will be a POC for each Member of that group.

Check "Yes" and complete question 11b, if the FI wants to appoint more than the responsible officer to be a POC for the FI. A POC will be authorized to receive FATCA registration and other related FATCA correspondence from the IRS.

Check "No" if the FI wants the IRS to send correspondence only to the responsible officer.

A **Point of Contact (POC)** is an individual authorized by a Responsible Officer of an FFI to receive FATCA related information regarding the FFI, complete the FFI's Form 8957: FATCA Registration, obtain tax information related to the FFI and take other FATCA-related actions on behalf of the FFI.

Line 11b

Enter the legal name and address of the POC. The address provided should be the business address of the POC.

Note. The check box used to authorize a POC must be completed by a Responsible Officer of the FI and should identify the name of the individual checking the box in Line 11.

PART II: To Be Completed by Lead FIs Only

Lead FFIs only: Do not complete PART II of this Form. Part II must be completed using the online FATCA Registration System which is available at www.irs.gov/fatca. A Lead FFI may access the online registration system upon receipt of its FATCA ID Number.

Line 12. Provide the following for each Financial Institution member of the expanded affiliated group

This question 12 (Part II) should only be completed by Lead FIs. All other applicants should skip this question 12 (Part II).

Enter the legal name, country of tax residence and member type for each member of the FFI's expanded affiliated group.

The legal name is the name of the member used in official incorporation or organization documents, or the name otherwise recognized by the government as the entity's official name. Typically, the legal name is the name used by the member in legal documents.

The country of residence for tax purposes is the country in which the member is treated as a resident for income tax purposes (for example, the place of incorporation or principal management and control).

Please use additional sheets and attach them to this Form, if the Expanded Affiliated Group has more than five FI Members.

PART III: For Renewal of Existing Agreements for QIs, WPs or WTs Only

Part III (Questions 13-15) should not be completed by an applicant registering for Sponsoring Entity status. Additionally, Part III should only be completed by a Lead or Member FI that currently has in effect a QI, WP, or WT agreement and that wishes to renew its agreement. Applicants that would like to apply to become a new QI, WP, or WT should visit www.irs.gov/xxxx for more information about how to apply.

Line 13. Has QI/WP/WT's legal name changed since the effective date of its most recent QI/WP/WT Agreement?

Check "Yes" if the QI/WP/WT has changed its legal name since the date of its most recent QI/WP/WT Agreement. If you select yes, also provide the new legal

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business name of the QI/WP/WT and the reason for the name change.

Check "No" if the QI/WP/WT has not changed its legal name since the date of its most recent QI/WP/WT Agreement.

If a name change has taken place, select the reason for the change.

Line 14. Responsible Party

The Responsible Party is the person responsible for performance of the entity under the terms of the QI, WP, or WT agreement. Enter the name, business title and contact information for FFI's Responsible Party as identified in the FFI's most recent QI/WP/WT Agreement.

Check "Yes" if the Responsible Party is the same individual listed as the FFI's RO in Question 10.

Check "No" if the Responsible Party differs from the individual listed as the FFI's RO in Question 10.

Line 15. Identify any private arrangement intermediary (PAI) contracts that are effective

Enter the legal name and address of the PAI. The legal name is the name the PAI used in official incorporation or

organization documents, or the name otherwise recognized by the government as the entity's official name. Typically, the legal name is the name used by the PAI in legal documents.

The address of the PAI is the address where the PAI maintains its principle office.

If there are no PAI contracts leave this line blank.

A private arrangement intermediary (PAI) contract is a private arrangement between a QI and another intermediary under which the other intermediary agrees to perform all of the obligations of the QI under the QI Agreement.

Part IV: Signature

The individual signing the registration form on behalf of the applicant should fill-in the blank line with his or her name and sign the penalties of perjury statement. The form will not be processed if the name of the individual or signature is missing.

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws and to

allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is:

Recordkeeping	7 hr., 24min.
Learning about the law or the form	18 min.
Preparing and sending the form to the IRS	25 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. See the instructions for the tax return with which this form is filed.