

Note: *The draft you are looking for begins on the next page.*



Caution: *DRAFT—NOT FOR FILING*

This is an early release draft of an IRS tax form, instructions, or publication, which the IRS is providing for your information. **Do not file draft forms** and do **not** rely on draft forms, instructions, and publications for filing. We generally do not release draft forms until we believe we have incorporated all changes, but sometimes unexpected issues arise, or legislation is passed. Also, forms generally are subject to OMB approval before they can be officially released. Drafts of instructions and publications usually have some changes before their final release.

Early release drafts are at [IRS.gov/DraftForms](https://www.irs.gov/DraftForms) and may remain there even after the final release is posted at [IRS.gov/LatestForms](https://www.irs.gov/LatestForms). All information about all forms, instructions, and pubs is at [IRS.gov/Forms](https://www.irs.gov/Forms).

Almost every form and publication also has a page on IRS.gov with a friendly shortcut. For example, the Form 1040 page is at [IRS.gov/Form1040](https://www.irs.gov/Form1040); the Pub. 501 page is at [IRS.gov/Pub501](https://www.irs.gov/Pub501); the Form W-4 page is at [IRS.gov/W4](https://www.irs.gov/W4); and the Schedule A (Form 1040) page is at [IRS.gov/ScheduleA](https://www.irs.gov/ScheduleA). If typing in a link above instead of clicking on it, be sure to type the link into the address bar of your browser, not a Search box.

If you wish, you can submit comments about draft or final forms, instructions, or publications at [IRS.gov/FormsComments](https://www.irs.gov/FormsComments). We cannot respond to all comments due to the high volume we receive. Please note that we may not be able to consider many suggestions until the subsequent revision of the product.

Application for Employer Identification Number
 (For use by employers, corporations, partnerships, trusts, estates, churches,
 government agencies, Indian tribal entities, certain individuals, and others.)
 ▶ Go to www.irs.gov/FormSS4 for instructions and the latest information.
 ▶ See separate instructions for each line. ▶ Keep a copy for your records.

EIN

	1 Legal name of entity (or individual) for whom the EIN is being requested				
Type or print clearly.	2 Trade name of business (if different from name on line 1)	3 Executor, administrator, trustee, "care of" name			
	4a Mailing address (room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. box)	5a Street address (if different) (Don't enter a P.O. box.)			
	4b City, state, and ZIP code (if foreign, see instructions)	5b City, state, and ZIP code (if foreign, see instructions)			
	6 County and state where principal business is located				
	7a Name of responsible party	7b SSN, ITIN, or EIN			
8a	Is this application for a limited liability company (LLC) (or a foreign equivalent)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	8b If 8a is "Yes," enter the number of LLC members ▶			
8c	If 8a is "Yes," was the LLC organized in the United States? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
9a	Type of entity (check only one box). Caution: If 8a is "Yes," see the instructions for the correct box to check. <input type="checkbox"/> Sole proprietor (SSN) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation (enter form number to be filed) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Personal service corporation _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Church or church-controlled organization _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other nonprofit organization (specify) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Estate (SSN of decedent) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Plan administrator (TIN) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Trust (TIN of grantor) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Military/National Guard _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Farmers' cooperative _____ <input type="checkbox"/> REMIC _____ <input type="checkbox"/> State/local government _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Federal government _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Indian tribal governments/enterprises _____ Group Exemption Number (GEN) if any ▶ _____				
9b	If a corporation, name the state or foreign country (if applicable) where incorporated	State _____ Foreign country _____			
10	Reason for applying (check only one box) <input type="checkbox"/> Started new business (specify type) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Hired employees (Check the box and see line 13.) <input type="checkbox"/> Compliance with IRS withholding regulations <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Banking purpose (specify purpose) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Changed type of organization (specify new type) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Purchased going business <input type="checkbox"/> Created a trust (specify type) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Created a pension plan (specify type) ▶ _____				
11	Date business started or acquired (month, day, year). See instructions.	12 Closing month of accounting year			
13	Highest number of employees expected in the next 12 months (enter -0- if none). If no employees expected, skip line 14. <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:33%; border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">Agricultural</td> <td style="width:33%; border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">Household</td> <td style="width:33%; text-align: center;">Other</td> </tr> </table>	Agricultural	Household	Other	14 If you expect your employment tax liability to be \$1,000 or less in a full calendar year and want to file Form 944 annually instead of Forms 941 quarterly, check here. (Your employment tax liability generally will be \$1,000 or less if you expect to pay \$5,000 or less in total wages.) If you don't check this box, you must file Form 941 for every quarter. <input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	Household	Other			
15	First date wages or annuities were paid (month, day, year). Note: If applicant is a withholding agent, enter date income will first be paid to nonresident alien (month, day, year) ▶				
16	Check one box that best describes the principal activity of your business. <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Rental & leasing <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation & warehousing <input type="checkbox"/> Accommodation & food service <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale-agent/broker <input type="checkbox"/> Real estate <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing <input type="checkbox"/> Finance & insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▶ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Health care & social assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale-other <input type="checkbox"/> Retail				
17	Indicate principal line of merchandise sold, specific construction work done, products produced, or services provided.				
18	Has the applicant entity shown on line 1 ever applied for and received an EIN? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes," write previous EIN here ▶				
Third Party Designee	Complete this section only if you want to authorize the named individual to receive the entity's EIN and answer questions about the completion of this form.				
	Designee's name	Designee's telephone number (include area code)			
	Address and ZIP code	Designee's fax number (include area code)			
	Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this application, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.	Applicant's telephone number (include area code)			
	Name and title (type or print clearly) ▶	Applicant's fax number (include area code)			
	Signature ▶	Date ▶			

Do I Need an EIN?

File Form SS-4 if the applicant entity doesn't already have an EIN but is required to show an EIN on any return, statement, or other document.¹ See also the separate instructions for each line on Form SS-4.

IF the applicant...	AND...	THEN...
started a new business	doesn't currently have (nor expect to have) employees	complete lines 1, 2, 4a-8a, 8b-c (if applicable), 9a, 9b (if applicable), and 10-14 and 16-18.
hired (or will hire) employees, including household employees	doesn't already have an EIN	complete lines 1, 2, 4a-6, 7a-b, 8a, 8b-c (if applicable), 9a, 9b (if applicable), 10-18.
opened a bank account	needs an EIN for banking purposes only	complete lines 1-5b, 7a-b, 8a, 8b-c (if applicable), 9a, 9b (if applicable), 10, and 18.
changed type of organization	either the legal character of the organization or its ownership changed (for example, you incorporate a sole proprietorship or form a partnership) ²	complete lines 1-18 (as applicable).
purchased a going business ³	doesn't already have an EIN	complete lines 1-18 (as applicable).
created a trust	the trust is other than a grantor trust or an IRA trust ⁴	complete lines 1-18 (as applicable).
created a pension plan as a plan administrator ⁵	needs an EIN for reporting purposes	complete lines 1, 3, 4a-5b, 7a-b, 9a, 10, and 18.
is a foreign person needing an EIN to comply with IRS withholding regulations	needs an EIN to complete a Form W-8 (other than Form W-8ECI), avoid withholding on portfolio assets, or claim tax treaty benefits ⁶	complete lines 1-5b, 7a-b (SSN or ITIN as applicable), 8a, 8b-c (if applicable), 9a, 9b (if applicable), 10, and 18.
is administering an estate	needs an EIN to report estate income on Form 1041	complete lines 1-7b, 9a, 10-12, 13-17 (if applicable), and 18.
is a withholding agent for taxes on nonwage income paid to an alien (that is, individual, corporation, or partnership, etc.)	is an agent, broker, fiduciary, manager, tenant, or spouse who is required to file Form 1042, Annual Withholding Tax Return for U.S. Source Income of Foreign Persons	complete lines 1, 2, 3 (if applicable), 4a-5b, 7a-b, 8a, 8b-c (if applicable), 9a, 9b (if applicable), 10, and 18.
is a state or local agency	serves as a tax reporting agent for public assistance recipients under Rev. Proc. 80-4, 1980-1 C.B. 581 ⁷	complete lines 1, 2, 4a-5b, 7a-b, 9a, 10, and 18.
is a single-member LLC (or similar single-member entity)	needs an EIN to file Form 8832, Entity Classification Election, for filing employment tax returns and excise tax returns, or for state reporting purposes ⁸ , or is a foreign-owned U.S. disregarded entity and needs an EIN to file Form 5472, Information Return of a 25% Foreign-Owned U.S. Corporation or a Foreign Corporation Engaged in a U.S. Trade or Business	complete lines 1-18 (as applicable).
is an S corporation	needs an EIN to file Form 2553, Election by a Small Business Corporation ⁹	complete lines 1-18 (as applicable).

¹ For example, a sole proprietorship or self-employed farmer who establishes a qualified retirement plan, or is required to file excise, employment, alcohol, tobacco, or firearms returns, must have an EIN. A partnership, corporation, REMIC (real estate mortgage investment conduit), nonprofit organization (church, club, etc.), or farmers' cooperative must use an EIN for any tax-related purpose even if the entity doesn't have employees.

² However, don't apply for a new EIN if the existing entity only (a) changed its business name, (b) elected on Form 8832 to change the way it is taxed (or is covered by the default rules), or (c) terminated its partnership status because at least 50% of the total interests in partnership capital and profits were sold or exchanged within a 12-month period. The EIN of the terminated partnership should continue to be used. See Regulations section 301.6109-1(d)(2)(iii).

³ Don't use the EIN of the prior business unless you became the "owner" of a corporation by acquiring its stock.

⁴ However, grantor trusts that don't file using Optional Method 1 and IRA trusts that are required to file Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return, must have an EIN. For more information on grantor trusts, see the Instructions for Form 1041.

⁵ A plan administrator is the person or group of persons specified as the administrator by the instrument under which the plan is operated.

⁶ Entities applying to be a Qualified Intermediary (QI) need a QI-EIN even if they already have an EIN. See Rev. Proc. 2000-12.

⁷ See also *Household employer agent* in the instructions. **Note:** State or local agencies may need an EIN for other reasons, for example, hired employees.

⁸ See *Disregarded entities* in the instructions for details on completing Form SS-4 for an LLC.

⁹ An existing corporation that is electing or revoking S corporation status should use its previously-assigned EIN.