



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 pubs for filing. We incorporate all significant changes to forms posted with this coversheet. However, unexpected issues occasionally arise, or legislation is passed—in this case, we will post a new draft of the form to alert users that changes were made to the previously posted draft. Thus, there are never any changes to the last posted draft of a form and the final revision of the form. Forms and instructions are subject to OMB approval before they can be officially released, so we post drafts of them until they are approved. Drafts of instructions and pubs usually have some additional changes before their final release. Early release drafts are at [IRS.gov/DraftForms](https://www.irs.gov/DraftForms) and remain there after the final release is posted at [IRS.gov/LatestForms](https://www.irs.gov/LatestForms). Also see [IRS.gov/Forms](https://www.irs.gov/Forms).

Most forms and publications have a page on IRS.gov: [IRS.gov/Form1040](https://www.irs.gov/Form1040) for Form 1040; [IRS.gov/Pub501](https://www.irs.gov/Pub501) for Pub. 501; [IRS.gov/W4](https://www.irs.gov/W4) for Form W-4; and [IRS.gov/ScheduleA](https://www.irs.gov/ScheduleA) for Schedule A (Form 1040), for example, and similarly for other forms, pubs, and schedules for Form 1040. When typing in a link, type it into the address bar of your browser, not a Search box on IRS.gov.

If you wish, you can submit comments to the IRS about draft or final forms, instructions, or pubs at [IRS.gov/FormsComments](https://www.irs.gov/FormsComments). Include “NTF” followed by the form or pub number (for example, “NTF1040”, “NTFW4”, “NTF501, etc.) in the body of the message to route your message properly. We cannot respond to all comments due to the high volume we receive and may not be able to consider many suggestions until the subsequent revision of the product, but we will review each “NTF” message. If you have comments on reducing paperwork and respondent (filer) burden, with respect to draft or final forms, please respond to the relevant information collection through the Federal Register process; for more info, click [here](#).

Application for Employer Identification Number

(For use by employers, corporations, partnerships, trusts, estates, churches, government agencies, Indian tribal entities, certain individuals, and others.)

See separate instructions for each line. Keep a copy for your records.
 Go to www.irs.gov/FormSS4 for instructions and the latest information.

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"/> Estate (SSN of decedent) <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Plan administrator (TIN) <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation (enter form number to be filed) <input type="checkbox"/> Trust (TIN of grantor) <input type="checkbox"/> Personal service corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Military/National Guard <input type="checkbox"/> State/local government <input type="checkbox"/> Church or church-controlled organization <input type="checkbox"/> Farmers' cooperative <input type="checkbox"/> Federal government <input type="checkbox"/> Other nonprofit organization (specify) <input type="checkbox"/> REMIC <input type="checkbox"/> Indian tribal governments/enterprises <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) <input type="checkbox"/> 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"/> Banking purpose (specify purpose) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Started new business (specify type) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Changed type of organization (specify new type) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Hired employees (Check the box and see line 13.) <input type="checkbox"/> Purchased going business _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Compliance with IRS withholding regulations <input type="checkbox"/> Created a trust (specify type) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ <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).	14 Reserved for future use		
	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:33%;">Agricultural</td> <td style="width:33%;">Household</td> <td style="width:33%;">Other</td> </tr> </table>		Agricultural	Household
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"/> Health care & social assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale-agent/broker <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Rental & leasing <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation & warehousing <input type="checkbox"/> Accommodation & food service <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale-other <input type="checkbox"/> Retail <input type="checkbox"/> Real estate <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing <input type="checkbox"/> Finance & insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____			
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), 10-13, 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), and 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.