What is a DUNS number?

A DUNS, Data Universal Numbering System, number is a nine-digit identifier for businesses. It is used to establish a business credit file, which is often referenced by lenders and potential business partners to help predict the reliability and/or financial stability of the company in question. The federal government also uses a DUNS number in order to track how federal money and grants are allocated.

What are DUNS numbers used for?

A DUNS number provides information related to a company such as the business name, financial data, trade name, payment history, financial status and executive names. An authorizing representative of a company must request a DUNS number. The number is necessary to bid on local, state or government contracts, and applying for federal grants.

What is an EIN Number?

An EIN is a unique nine-digit identification number assigned by the IRS. An EIN is used on tax returns, business licenses and business permits, and any applications or forms that require you to fill in an IRS number to specifically identify your business.

