



## **STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS (SHORT FORM) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE STANDARD FOR ALL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ISSUED BY THE PURCHASING DIVISION AND MAY BE DELETED, OR MODIFIED BY INDICATING SUCH CHANGE/S BY "SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS."**

### **1.0 RECEIPT AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS:**

Sealed proposals will be received and date stamped East Providence City Hall, Controllers Office, Room 103, Attn: Procurement Specialist 145 Taunton Avenue, East Providence, Rhode Island 02914, until the time and date indicated on the Request for Proposals. No proposal received after that time will be considered. Mark outside bid envelope with item being proposed, and time and date of proposal due date.

### **2.0 FORM OF PROPOSAL:**

Proposals must be submitted on and in accordance with the proposal forms attached hereto, blank places must be filled in as noted, no change shall be made in the phraseology of the proposal form or in the item or items mentioned therein. Additionally, the proposals must contain the name and proper address of the proposing firm, and must be signed by a responsible member of the firm with his signature and official title. Proposals, which are not complete, or contain erasures or alterations, not initiated by the signer, may be rejected. FAXED proposals will not be accepted.

### **3.0 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:**

3.1 Envelopes containing proposals must be sealed and addressed to the East Providence City Hall, Controllers Office, Room 103, Attn: Procurement Specialist 145 Taunton Avenue, East Providence, Rhode Island 02914 and must be marked with the name and address of the proposer, date and time of proposal due date, and name of item being proposed.

3.2 The Procurement Specialist will decide when the specified time has arrived to collect the proposals, and no proposal received thereafter will be considered.

3.3 Any proposer may withdraw his proposal by written request at any time prior to the advertised time for proposal due date. Telephonic proposals, amendments, or withdrawals will not be accepted. Additionally, FAXED bids will not be accepted.

3.4 No proposal may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days from the date and time of proposal due date. The City reserves the right to waive this requirement in order to best serve the interests of the City.

3.5 Negligence on the part of the proposer in preparing the proposal confers no rights for the withdrawal of the proposal after it has been opened.

3.6 Proposals received prior to the time of the due date will be securely kept unopened. No responsibility will attach to an officer or person of the City for the premature opening of a proposal not properly addressed and identified as a proposal.

#### **4.0 ADDENDA**

Copies of all Addenda will be posted to the City's Website. It is the Vendor's responsibility to check and download any and all addenda from the City's Website.

4.1 No Addenda will be posted later than four (4) working days prior to the date for receipt of bids except an Addendum, if necessary, postponing the date for receipt of bids or withdrawing the request for bids. Each bidder shall ascertain prior to submitting their bid that they have received all Addenda issued, and shall acknowledge their receipt in his bid.

#### **5.0 QUALIFICATIONS OF PROPOSER**

The City may make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the proposer to perform the work, and the proposer shall furnish to the City all such information and data for this purpose as the City may request. The City reserves the right to reject any proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of such proposer fails to satisfy the City that such proposer is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to complete the work contemplated therein.

#### **6.0 CONTRACT SECURITY**

Only when a Contract Security is required in the Request for Proposal, the Contractor shall furnish a Bid Bond in the amount of Five Percent (5%) and a Surety Bond/Performance Bond in an amount equal to at least One Hundred Percent (100%) of the contract price as security for the faithful performance of the contract and for the payment of all persons performing labor on the project under the contract and furnishing materials, equipment and all other incidentals in connection with the contract. The surety on such bonds shall be a duly authorized surety company licensed to bond in the State of Rhode Island, and the cost of same will be paid by the Contractor. Before final acceptance, the bonds must be approved by the City.

The bonding company providing surety must be listed in the Federal Register as issued by the Department of Treasury, Department Circular 570, latest edition, as well as being licensed in the State of Rhode Island to provide surety.

#### **7.0 BID PRICES:**

Bidders shall state the proposed price/s in the manner as designated in the Bid Proposal Form. In the event that there is a discrepancy between the unit prices and the extended totals, the unit prices shall govern. In the event there is a discrepancy between the price written in words and in figures, the price written in words shall govern.

## **8.0 TERMS:**

Cash Discounts offered will be considered in determining awards. However, discounts for a period less than twenty (20) days will not be considered. The discount period shall be computed from date of delivery or from date the correct invoice is received by the City Controller, whichever date is later. The date of delivery shall be construed to mean the date on which the bid item is determined to meet the specifications and is therefore acceptable.

## **9.0 RHODE ISLAND SALES TAX:**

The City of East Providence is exempt from the Rhode Island Sales or Use Tax under the 1956 General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, Section 44-18-30, Para. 1, as amended.

## **10.0 "OR EQUAL" BIDDING:**

When the name of a manufacturer, a brand name, or manufacturer's catalogue number is issued as the bid standard in describing an item followed by "Or Approved Equal", this description is used to indicate quality, performance and other essential characteristics of the item required. If bidding on other than the make, model, brand or sample specified, but equal thereto, bidder must so state by giving the manufacturer's name, catalogue number and any other information necessary to prove that his intended substitution of a commodity is equal in all essential respects to the bid standard. Bidder must prove to the satisfaction of the City Manager, or by person or persons designated by him, that the bidders designated substitute is equal to the bid standard; otherwise, his bid will be rejected.

## **11.0 AWARD AND CONTRACT:**

11.1 Unless otherwise specified, the City reserves the right to make award by item, or items, or by total, as may be in the best interest of the City.

11.2 A written award (or acceptance of bid) mailed (or otherwise furnished) to the successful bidder followed by a City Purchase Order, shall be deemed to result in a binding contract without further action by either party.

11.3 It is the intent of the City to award a contract to the lowest responsible bidder in accordance with City Ordinances, Article V. Purchasing, Sec. 2- 243, and provided that the bid has been submitted in accordance with the requirements of the Bidding Documents, is judged to be reasonable, and does not exceed the funds available.

## **12.0 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS REJECTION OF PROPOSALS**

12.1 The City reserves the right to reject the proposal of any proposer who has previously failed to perform properly or complete on time, contracts of a similar nature, or who is not in a position to perform the contract, or who has habitually and without just cause, neglected the payment of bills or disregarded its obligations to sub-contractors, material, or employees.

12.2 The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and in particular to reject a proposal not accompanied by any data required by the Bidding Documents or a proposal in any way incomplete or irregular, and to waive any informality in the proposals received, and to accept the proposal or parts thereof deemed to be most favorable to the best interest of the City.

12.3 The City shall have the right to waive any informality or irregularity in any proposal received

12.4 It is the intent of the City, if it accepts any Alternates, to accept them in the order in which they are listed in the proposal form, but the City shall have the right to accept Alternates in any order or combination and to determine the low bidder on the basis of the sum of the Base Bid and the Alternates accepted.

**13.0 DELIVERY:**

All prices bid must be on the basis of F.O.B. Delivery Point, East Providence, Rhode Island. Therefore, shipping costs are to be included within the prices quoted. Deliveries must consist only of new merchandise or equipment and shall be made between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Prevailing Time, Monday through Friday.

No delivery shall become due or be acceptable without a written Purchase Order, issued by the Procurement Specialist.

**14.0 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REQUIREMENTS**  
**MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION**

Any firm or Contractor providing services to or doing business with the City shall adhere to the City's Affirmative Action Plan for MBE/WBE Participation. Said plan is on file with the City's Affirmative Action Officer.

**14.1 All bidders are required to submit the MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit.**

**15.0 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

The Contractor shall carry the following insurance coverages at his own expense:

(a) General: All insurance for this contract shall be written by a company (or companies) acceptable to the city and all policies or certificates shall be submitted to the City for examination prior to commencement of operations by the contractor. In the event any policy or certificate, the amount of the insurance, or the company writing same are not satisfactory to the City, the contractor shall secure other policies or certificates in form and amount with a company satisfactory to the City. The contractor shall not permit policies to be changed, cancelled, or to lapse and all policies shall include a clause to the effect that the policy shall not be subject to cancellation or a reduction in the limits of liability or amounts of insurance until notice has been sent by mail to the city stating when, (not less than 30 days thereafter) such cancellation or reduction shall be effective. All certificates of insurance shall be delivered to the City and contain true transcripts from the policy or policies authenticated by the proper officer of the insurer evidencing in particular those insured, the extent of the insurance, the location and operations to which the insurance applies, the expiration date and the above mentioned notice as to the location and operations involved.

The Contractor is required to list the City of East Providence not only as Certificate Holder but as an Additional Insured as well, on the "Certificate of Insurance".

If any part of the work is sublet, similar insurance shall be provided by or in behalf of the subcontractors to cover their operations. The contractor shall be charged with the responsibility for insurance protection for all his subcontract operations and should the contractor's policy not cover each and every subcontractor, certificates of insurance acceptable to the City covering each and every subcontractor shall be filed with said City prior to the commencement of subcontract operations.

Statutory Workman's Compensation Insurance: shall be provided by the contractor for all labor employed on the project who may come within the protection of such laws, and Employer's General Liability Insurance shall be provided for the benefit of employees not protected by compensation laws. The contractor will be charged with the responsibility for proper and adequate workman's compensation for all subcontract operations.

Contractors Comprehensive General Liability and Property Damage Insurance INCLUDING Owner's Protective: the contractor shall carry the above insurance for a minimum limit of not less than \$1,000,000.00 for all damages arising out of injury to or death of one person and subject to that limit for each person, a total limit of not less than \$1,000,000.00 for all damages arising out of injury to, or death of two or more persons in any one occurrence and Property Damage Liability Insurance providing for a limit of not less than \$1,000,000.00 for all damages arising out of injury to or destruction of property (including loss of use) in any occurrence and subject to that limit per occurrence total limit of \$1,000,000.00 all damages arising out of injury to or destruction of property during the policy period.

Contractor's Liability Insurance: Shall also include all major divisions of coverage and be on a comprehensive general liability basis including:

Premises - Operations

Independent Contractor's protective

Products and completed operations

Blanket Contractual

Owned, non-owned and hired motor vehicles

Broad form coverage for property damage (including explosion, Collapse and underground).

Comprehensive Automobile Liability and Property Damage Insurance: The Contractor shall carry the above insurance covering all owned, hired or non-owned vehicles in the amount of \$300,000.00 for all damages arising out of bodily injuries to death of one person and subject to that limit for each person, a total of \$500,000.00 for all damages arising out of bodily injuries to or death of two or more persons in any one accident and Property Damage coverage in the amount of \$300,000.00 for all damages arising out of injury to or destruction of property.

## **16.0 OSHA SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM**

In accordance with R.I.G.L. 28-20-35, all contractors bidding on construction projects of the City with a total project cost of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.) or more, are required to have an OSHA "ten hour construction safety program", for their on-site employees. The training program shall utilize instructors trained by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, using an OSHA approved curriculum.



**MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION AFFIDAVIT**

Item Description (as seen on RFP): \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Bidder: \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Bidder (Company) Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Bidder (Company) Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Which one of the following describes your business' status in terms of Minority and/or Woman-Owned Business Enterprise certification with the State of Rhode Island? \_\_\_\_\_ MBE \_\_\_\_\_ WBE \_\_\_\_\_ Neither MBE nor WBE

**By initialing the following sections and signing the bottom of this document in my capacity as the contractor or an authorized representative of contractor, I make this Affidavit:**

It is the policy of the City of East Providence that minority business enterprises (**MBEs**) and women business enterprises (**WBEs**) should have the maximum opportunity to participate in procurements and projects as prime contractors and vendors. Pursuant to Sec. 21-52 of the Providence Code of Ordinances and Chapter 31-14 et seq. of the Rhode Island General Laws (as amended), MBE and WBE participation goals apply to contracts.

- The goal for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation is 10% of the total bid value.
- The goal for Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation is 10% of the total bid value.
- The goal for combined MBE/WBE participation is 20% of the total bid value.

**I acknowledge the City of East Providence's goals of supporting MBE/WBE certified businesses.** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Are you subcontracting with other parties on this project: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ if yes fill out page 2, **Subcontractor Disclosure Form**.

Are you using any subcontractors on this job and not meeting the 20% MBE/WBE participation goal: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ if yes fill out page 3, **MBE/WBE Waiver Request Form**.

If awarded the contract, I understand that my company must submit to the Minority and Women's Business Coordinator at the City of East Providence (MBE/WBE Office), copies of all executed agreements with the subcontractor(s) being utilized to achieve the participation goals and other requirements of the RI General Laws. **I understand that these documents must be submitted prior to the issuance of a notice to proceed.** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that, if awarded the contract, my firm must submit to the MBE/WBE Office canceled checks and reports required by the MBE/WBE Office on a quarterly basis verifying payments to the subcontractors(s) utilized on the contract.** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

If I am awarded this contract and find that I am unable to utilize the subcontractor(s) identified in my Statement of Intent, I understand that I must substitute another certified MBE and WBE firm(s) to meet the participation goals. **I understand that I may not make a substitution until I have obtained the written approval of the MBE/WBE Office.** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**If awarded this contract, I understand that authorized representatives of the City of East Providence may examine the books, records and files of my firm from time to time, to the extent that such material is relevant to a determination of whether my firm is complying with the City's MBE/WBE participation requirements.** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**I do solemnly declare and affirm under the penalty of perjury that the contents of the foregoing Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.**

Signature of Bidder \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBCONTRACTOR DISCLOSURE FORM**

**Fill out this form only if you WILL SUBCONTRACT with other parties. If you will not subcontract any portion of the proposed bid, do not fill out this form.**

Prime Bidder: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary NAICS Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Item Description (as seen on RFP): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please List all Subcontractors below.** Include the total dollar value that you propose to share with each subcontractor and the dollar amount to be subcontracted. Please check off MBE and WBE where applicable. The directory of all state-certified MBE/WBE firms is located at [www.mbe.ri.gov](http://www.mbe.ri.gov). Business NAICS codes can be found at <http://www.naics.com/search/>

Proposed Subcontractor	MBE	WBE	Primary NAICS Code	Date of Mobilization	\$ Value of Subcontract
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
<b>A. MBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:</b>					\$
<b>B. WBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:</b>					\$
<b>C. NON MBE WBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:</b>					\$
<b>D. DOLLAR AMOUNT OF WORK DONE BY THE PRIME CONTRACTOR:</b>					\$
<b>E. TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID (SUM OF A, B, C &amp; D):</b>					\$
<b>F. PERCENTAGE OF BID SUBCONTRACTED TO MBEs AND WBEs. (Add A and B. Divide by E and multiply by 100).</b>					%

Please read and initial the following statement acknowledging you understand.

If the percentage of the total amount of the bid being awarded to MBE or WBE vendors is less than 20% (Box F) and the prime contractor is NOT a Rhode Island State-certified MBE or WBE, **you must fill out the MBE/WBE WAIVER REQUEST FORM for consideration by City of East Providence MBE/WBE Outreach Director.** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Prime Contractor*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date Signed*

**MBE/WBE WAIVER REQUEST FORM**

**Fill out this form only if you are using subcontractors and did not meet the 20% MBE/WBE participation goal. MBE or WBE Prime Bidders that are certified by the State of Rhode Island are NOT REQUIRED to fill out this form.**

Submit this form to the City of East Providence Community Service Coordinator, Elmer Carvalho-Pina at [epina@eastprovidenceri.gov](mailto:epina@eastprovidenceri.gov) and Procurement Specialist, Ralph Mitchell at [rmitchell@eastprovidenceri.gov](mailto:rmitchell@eastprovidenceri.gov) for review prior to bid submission.

This waiver applies only to the current bid which you are submitting to the City of Providence and does not apply to other bids your company may submit for in the future.

Prime Bidder: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Trade: \_\_\_\_\_

Item Description (as seen on RFP): \_\_\_\_\_

To receive a waiver, you must list the certified MBE and/or WBE companies you contacted, the name of the primary individual with whom you interacted and the reason the MBE/WBE company could not participate on the project.

MBE/WBE Company name	Individual's Name	Company Trade	Why did you choose not to work with this company?

I acknowledge the City of East Providence’s goal of a combined MBE/WBE participation is 20% of the total bid value. I am requesting a waiver of \_\_\_\_\_% MBE/WBE (20% minus the Value of Box F on the Subcontractor Disclosure Form). If an opportunity is identified to subcontract any task associated with the fulfillment of this contract, a good faith effort will be made to select MBE/WBE certified businesses as partners.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Prime Contractor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of City of East Providence  
MBE/WBE Outreach Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of City of East Providence  
MBE/WBE Outreach Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed





## ANTI-COLLUSION DECLARATION

The Bidder, by virtue of issuing a Bid certifies that Bidder has not divulged, discussed or compared the Bid with other Bidders and has not colluded with any other Bidder of parties to a Bid whomsoever. Bidder further certifies and agrees that premiums, rebates or gratuities are prohibited whether with, prior to, or after any delivery of material or services. Any such violation will result in the cancellation of this contract and the removal of offending parties from all Bid lists.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Bidder and all sub-contractors shall disclose in writing as part of their Bid any possible or potential conflicts of interest which are known to, or reasonably should be known to the Bidder or sub-contractors, which may exist between their firms and the City of East Providence.

All Bidders and their subcontractors and business partners must disclose with their Bid, the name of any officer, director, agent or employee who is also an employee or family member of an employee of the City of East Providence.

Further, the Bidder must disclose the name of any City of East Providence employee or family member or any elected official who owns, directly or indirectly, an investment or other proprietary interest, in the firm or any of its parent company, subsidiaries or affiliates.

The Bidder and all sub-contractors and business partners shall disclose in writing as part of their Bid, any familial, personal or business relationships between members of Bidders, sub-contractor's or business partner's firms and members of the City of East Providence, whether or not there is any belief that the relationship might constitute a possible conflict of interests.

BIDDING FIRM:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

PRINT NAME:

TITLE:



**City of East Providence  
Attn: Procurement Specialist**

**ELECTRONIC BID DOCUMENT NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT**

In order to compile a complete listing of all recipients of the initial bid package please return this completed form by e-mail [to Controllers@eastprovidenceri.gov](mailto:Controllers@eastprovidenceri.gov)

It is the responsibility of all potential bidders to ensure any and all addenda are downloaded from the City website <https://eastprovidenceri.gov/rfp>

The undersigned hereby acknowledges electronic receipt of the bid documents for the procurement specified below.

***From:***

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Bid No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Specification received:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Give Form to the  
requester. Do not  
send to the IRS.

▶ Go to [www.irs.gov/FormW9](http://www.irs.gov/FormW9) for instructions and the latest information.

	<p>1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.</p> <hr/>						
Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	<p>3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes.</p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC</td> <td style="width: 15%;">C Corporation</td> <td style="width: 15%;">S Corporation</td> <td style="width: 15%;">Partnership</td> <td style="width: 15%;">Trust/estate</td> </tr> </table> <p>Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ▶ _____</p> <p>Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.</p> <p>Other (see instructions) ▶ _____</p>	Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC	C Corporation	S Corporation	Partnership	Trust/estate	<p>4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):</p> <p>Exempt payee code (if any) _____</p> <p>Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____</p> <p><i>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)</i></p>
Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC	C Corporation	S Corporation	Partnership	Trust/estate			
	<p>2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above</p> <p>5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.</p>	<p>Requester's name and address (optional)</p>					
	<p>6 City, state, and ZIP code</p>						
	<p>7 List account number(s) here (optional)</p>						

## Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Social security number

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

OR

Employer identification number					
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; border: 1px solid black; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20%; border: 1px solid black; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20%; border: 1px solid black; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20%; border: 1px solid black; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20%; border: 1px solid black; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>					

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

## Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments

other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Signature of U.S. person ▶

Date ▶

## General Instructions

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

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to [www.irs.gov/FormW9](http://www.irs.gov/FormW9).

## Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer

identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)

- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)

- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

*If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.*

By signing the filled-out form, you:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income, and
4. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting, is correct. See *What is FATCA reporting*, later, for further information.

**Note:** If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

**Definition of a U.S. person.** For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States;
- An estate (other than a foreign estate); or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

**Special rules for partnerships.** Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax under section 1446 on any foreign partners' share of effectively connected taxable income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, the rules under section 1446 require a partnership to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the section 1446 withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid section 1446 withholding on your share of partnership income.

In the cases below, the following person must give Form W-9 to the partnership for purposes of establishing its U.S. status and avoiding withholding on its allocable share of net income from the partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States.

- In the case of a disregarded entity with a U.S. owner, the U.S. owner of the disregarded entity and not the entity;
- In the case of a grantor trust with a U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner, generally, the U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner of the grantor trust and not the trust; and
- In the case of a U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust), the U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust) and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

**Foreign person.** If you are a foreign person or the U.S. branch of a foreign bank that has elected to be treated as a U.S. person, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Pub. 515, Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities).

**Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien.** Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a "saving clause." Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items.

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.
2. The treaty article addressing the income.
3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.
4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.

5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

**Example.** Article 20 of the U.S.-China income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if his or her stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on his or her scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8 or Form 8233.

## Backup Withholding

**What is backup withholding?** Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 24% of such payments. This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

### Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester,
2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the instructions for Part II for details),
3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN,
4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only), or
5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding under 4 above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See *Exempt payee code*, later, and the separate Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Also see *Special rules for partnerships*, earlier.

## What is FATCA Reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all United States account holders that are specified United States persons. Certain payees are exempt from FATCA reporting. See *Exemption from FATCA reporting code*, later, and the Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

## Updating Your Information

You must provide updated information to any person to whom you claimed to be an exempt payee if you are no longer an exempt payee and anticipate receiving reportable payments in the future from this person. For example, you may need to provide updated information if you are a C corporation that elects to be an S corporation, or if you no longer are tax exempt. In addition, you must furnish a new Form W-9 if the name or TIN changes for the account; for example, if the grantor of a grantor trust dies.

## Penalties

**Failure to furnish TIN.** If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

**Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding.** If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

**Criminal penalty for falsifying information.** Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

**Misuse of TINs.** If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

## Specific Instructions

### Line 1

You must enter one of the following on this line; **do not** leave this line blank. The name should match the name on your tax return.

If this Form W-9 is for a joint account (other than an account maintained by a foreign financial institution (FFI)), list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of Form W-9. If you are providing Form W-9 to an FFI to document a joint account, each holder of the account that is a U.S. person must provide a Form W-9.

**a. Individual.** Generally, enter the name shown on your tax return. If you have changed your last name without informing the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the name change, enter your first name, the last name as shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

**Note: ITIN applicant:** Enter your individual name as it was entered on your Form W-7 application, line 1a. This should also be the same as the name you entered on the Form 1040/1040A/1040EZ you filed with your application.

**b. Sole proprietor or single-member LLC.** Enter your individual name as shown on your 1040/1040A/1040EZ on line 1. You may enter your business, trade, or "doing business as" (DBA) name on line 2.

**c. Partnership, LLC that is not a single-member LLC, C corporation, or S corporation.** Enter the entity's name as shown on the entity's tax return on line 1 and any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

**d. Other entities.** Enter your name as shown on required U.S. federal tax documents on line 1. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. You may enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

**e. Disregarded entity.** For U.S. federal tax purposes, an entity that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner is treated as a "disregarded entity." See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2)(iii). Enter the owner's name on line 1. The name of the entity entered on line 1 should never be a disregarded entity. The name on line 1 should be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income should be reported. For example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a single owner that is a U.S. person, the U.S. owner's name is required to be provided on line 1. If the direct owner of the entity is also a disregarded entity, enter the first owner that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. Enter the disregarded entity's name on line 2, "Business name/disregarded entity name." If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, the owner must complete an appropriate Form W-8 instead of a Form W-9. This is the case even if the foreign person has a U.S. TIN.

### Line 2

If you have a business name, trade name, DBA name, or disregarded entity name, you may enter it on line 2.

### Line 3

Check the appropriate box on line 3 for the U.S. federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one box on line 3.

IF the entity/person on line 1 is a(n) . . .	THEN check the box for . . .
• Corporation	Corporation
• Individual • Sole proprietorship, or • Single-member limited liability company (LLC) owned by an individual and disregarded for U.S. federal tax purposes.	Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC
• LLC treated as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes, • LLC that has filed Form 8832 or 2553 to be taxed as a corporation, or • LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner but the owner is another LLC that is not disregarded for U.S. federal tax purposes.	Limited liability company and enter the appropriate tax classification. (P= Partnership; C= C corporation; or S= S corporation)
• Partnership	Partnership
• Trust/estate	Trust/estate

### Line 4, Exemptions

If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space on line 4 any code(s) that may apply to you.

#### Exempt payee code.

- Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding.
- Except as provided below, corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, including interest and dividends.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding with respect to attorneys' fees or gross proceeds paid to attorneys, and corporations that provide medical or health care services are not exempt with respect to payments reportable on Form 1099-MISC.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding. Enter the appropriate code in the space in line 4.

- 1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2)
- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities
- 5—A corporation
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. commonwealth or possession
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- 8—A real estate investment trust
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a)
- 11—A financial institution
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

IF the payment is for . . .	THEN the payment is exempt for . . .
Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 7
Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012.
Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 4
Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 <sup>1</sup>	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5 <sup>2</sup>
Payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4

<sup>1</sup> See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, and its instructions.

<sup>2</sup> However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney reportable under section 6045(f), and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

**Exemption from FATCA reporting code.** The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements. A requester may indicate that a code is not required by providing you with a Form W-9 with "Not Applicable" (or any similar indication) written or printed on the line for a FATCA exemption code.

A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37)

B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities

C—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities

D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state

G—A real estate investment trust

H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940

I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a)

J—A bank as defined in section 581

K—A broker

L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1)

M—A tax exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan

**Note:** You may wish to consult with the financial institution requesting this form to determine whether the FATCA code and/or exempt payee code should be completed.

## Line 5

Enter your address (number, street, and apartment or suite number). This is where the requester of this Form W-9 will mail your information returns. If this address differs from the one the requester already has on file, write NEW at the top. If a new address is provided, there is still a chance the old address will be used until the payor changes your address in their records.

## Line 6

Enter your city, state, and ZIP code.

## Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

**Enter your TIN in the appropriate box.** If you are a resident alien and you do not have and are not eligible to get an SSN, your TIN is your IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). Enter it in the social security number box. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). Do not enter the disregarded entity's EIN. If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

**Note:** See *What Name and Number To Give the Requester*, later, for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

**How to get a TIN.** If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office or get this form online at [www.SSA.gov](http://www.SSA.gov). You may also get this form by calling 1-800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at [www.irs.gov/Businesses](http://www.irs.gov/Businesses) and clicking on Employer Identification Number (EIN) under Starting a Business. Go to [www.irs.gov/Forms](http://www.irs.gov/Forms) to view, download, or print Form W-7 and/or Form SS-4. Or, you can go to [www.irs.gov/OrderForms](http://www.irs.gov/OrderForms) to place an order and have Form W-7 and/or SS-4 mailed to you within 10 business days.

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and write "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, generally you will have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

**Note:** Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon.

**Caution:** A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

## Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if item 1, 4, or 5 below indicates otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on line 1 must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code*, earlier.

**Signature requirements.** Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.



**1. Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983.**

You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

**2. Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983.** You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.

**3. Real estate transactions.** You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.

**4. Other payments.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).

**5. Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), ABLÉ accounts (under section 529A), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

**What Name and Number To Give the Requester**

For this type of account:	Give name and SSN of:
1. Individual	The individual
2. Two or more individuals (joint account) other than an account maintained by an FFI	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account <sup>1</sup>
3. Two or more U.S. persons (joint account maintained by an FFI)	Each holder of the account
4. Custodial account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor <sup>2</sup>
5. a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee)	The grantor-trustee <sup>1</sup>
b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law	The actual owner <sup>1</sup>
6. Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual	The owner <sup>3</sup>
7. Grantor trust filing under Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A))	The grantor <sup>4</sup>
For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
8. Disregarded entity not owned by an individual	The owner
9. A valid trust, estate, or pension trust	Legal entity <sup>4</sup> The
10. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553	corporation
11. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization	The organization
12. Partnership or multi-	The partnership
13. A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee

For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
14. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments	The public entity
15. Grantor trust filing under the Form 1041 Filing Method or the Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 2 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(B))	The trust

<sup>1</sup> List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

<sup>2</sup> Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

<sup>3</sup> You must show your individual name and you may also enter your business or DBA name on the "Business name/disregarded entity" name line. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.

<sup>4</sup> List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.) Also see *Special rules for partnerships*, earlier.

**\*Note:** The grantor also must provide a Form W-9 to trustee of trust.

**Note:** If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

**Secure Your Tax Records From Identity Theft**

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, SSN, or other identifying information, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax preparer.

If your tax records are affected by identity theft and you receive a notice from the IRS, respond right away to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter.

If your tax records are not currently affected by identity theft but you think you are at risk due to a lost or stolen purse or wallet, questionable credit card activity or credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490 or submit Form 14039.

For more information, see Pub. 5027, Identity Theft Information for Taxpayers.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a systemic problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 1-877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 1-800-829-4059.

**Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing schemes.**

Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov). You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1-800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at [spam@uce.gov](mailto:spam@uce.gov) or report them at [www.ftc.gov/complaint](http://www.ftc.gov/complaint). You can contact the FTC at [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft) or 877-IDTHEFT (877-438-4338). If you have been the victim of identity theft, see [www.IdentityTheft.gov](http://www.IdentityTheft.gov) and Pub. 5027.

Visit [www.irs.gov/IdentityTheft](http://www.irs.gov/IdentityTheft) to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

## Privacy Act Notice

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons (including federal agencies) who are required to file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, or certain other income paid to you; mortgage interest you paid; the acquisition or abandonment of secured property; the cancellation of debt; or contributions you made to an IRA, Archer MSA, or HSA. The person collecting this form uses the information on the form to file information returns with the IRS, reporting the above information. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and possessions for use in administering their laws. The information also may be disclosed to other countries under a treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce civil and criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism. You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Under section 3406, payers must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividend, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payer. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.