

## Adult Education and School Supports Branch Nutrition Programs DUNS Number Requirement

Congress passed the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) in 2006 with the objective to promote open government by enhancing the Federal Government's accountability for its stewardship of public resources. This will be accomplished by making Government information – particularly information on Federal spending – accessible to the general public.

FFATA implementing guidance previously issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) set reporting requirements for Federal grant-making agencies in order to capture data on their awards to primary grantees. The reporting of required primary grantees, including State agencies, requires disclosure of specific information about themselves and their first-tier sub-grantees.

A primary grantee must now: Report certain information on itself and on Federal financial assistance provided to first-tier subgrantees; obtain a Dun & Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number; notify subgrantees to obtain DUNS numbers; register with the Federal Government's Central Contractor Registration (CCR) System; and take other specified actions.

### **What Is a DUNS Number?**

With millions of companies operating all over the world, it is imperative to have a universal way to distinguish them from one another. This is accomplished with the DUNS number system established by Dun & Bradstreet, a company that provides credit and corporate information internationally. Businesses seeking information about other businesses worldwide often start with Dun & Bradstreet.

DUNS stands for **Data Universal Numbering System**. The system maintains a much more detailed financial and corporate history than tax ID numbers, and is better suited to the global marketplace. A Tax Identification Number (TIN) is required of U.S. corporations by the IRS, which uses it to keep a record of credit and tax history. The unique nine-digit DUNS number goes beyond the TIN.

### **How to Register for a DUNS**

Getting a DUNS number requires only a few minutes online and is free. The company offers customer support if you need any assistance.

### **Instructions**

- Go to <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>
- Select [Click here to request your D-U-N-S Number via the Web](#). If one does not exist for your business location, it can be created within 1 business day.
- Follow the onscreen prompts, which will request the legal name, address and contact information for your company.
- Submit your request and await your DUNS number, which should be emailed to you within 24 hours of submitting the request.