

Memorandum

CDBG Policy Guidance

Date: June, 2013

Policy: 13-02

Nebraska Department of Economic Development, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509
<http://www.neded.org/>

Subject: System for Award Management (SAM)

Resource: *NE CDBG Administration Manual, Chapter 5 – CDBG Contract and Chapter 9 – Construction & Labor Standards*

The System for Award Management (SAM) is a new federal website which consolidates several existing federal systems, including CCR, federal procurement systems and the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance. Phase 1 of SAM includes the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system, Federal Agency Registration (FedReg) system, and the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA), which have all been migrated into the new SAM system.

The purpose of SAM is to reduce the number of different systems required to enter and interact with the Federal Government. SAM training videos, user guides and lists of Frequently Asked Questions are all available on www.sam.gov in the Help section.

CCR Registration – The CCR website no longer exists and www.CCR.gov now takes you to www.sam.gov. According to SAM guidance for former CCR registrants, “if you had an active record in CCR, you have an active record in SAM. You do not need to do anything in SAM at this time, unless a change in your business circumstances requires a change in SAM in order for you to be paid or to receive an award.” You can search to see if you are a registered entity in SAM by typing your DUNS number or entity name into the search box. Migrated CCR registrations and DUNS are linked together in SAM and an organization’s DUNS number is the primary identifying number.

CAGE codes still exist and are still required to receive an award of federal funds like CDBG or ARC. Grantees that never registered in CCR will now need to register in SAM to obtain a CAGE code. **Excluded Parties System** - EPLS.gov was the system that contained the list of people and organizations excluded from doing business with the Federal Government. EPLS is being phased out and SAM.gov is the new system that will house suspension and debarment information. Any person or firm who has been declared ineligible because of previous instances of non-compliance may not participate in any contract involving CDBG funds.

Chapter 9 of the *NE CDBG Administration Manual* has been revised to require contractor eligibility to be verified using SAM. You do not need to be registered in SAM to search for excluded parties. Click on SEARCH on the SAM menu and enter the complete vendor name. Note that partial vendor names will bring up a list of all entities with matching names and SAM cautions users to make sure to identify the appropriate party. Searches can also be performed using DUNS number or CAGE code but SAM cautions that DUNS and CAGE codes are not

This policy memorandum updates the Community Development Block Grant Program and becomes effective immediately unless otherwise stated. The program documents located on the Nebraska Department of Economic Development website have the most up to date policies of the CDBG program.

available for all entities in SAM. For more information about Excluded Parties changes, a User Guide can be found on the SAM website.

Due to high traffic volume on the SAM site, SAM may continue to experience performance issues, which may result in a slowness of page loading or maybe even a web page error. Over the coming years, additional system migrations will be completed.