

## Section 889 Request Bot Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### 1. What is the Section 889 Request Bot?

The Section 889 Request Bot is a robotic process automation (RPA) capability developed by Defense Pricing and Contracting (DPC). It allows users to send the CAGE code or UEI of a vendor to [info@section889request.com](mailto:info@section889request.com) and provides users with an email response identifying if the vendor is registered in SAM, if they have completed the representations required by the FAR 52.204-26 provision, and what responses were provided.

This capability gives Contracting Officers and users who wouldn't normally access the System for Award Management (SAM) a quick way to check SAM for the entity's completion of the Federal Acquisition Regulation provision 52.204-26 'Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services' in compliance with section 889(a)(1)(A) and (a)(1)(B) prohibitions in the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2019.

### 2. Who can use the Section 889 Request Bot?

The Section 889 Request Bot can be leveraged by anyone since the information provided by the bot is publicly accessible on SAM.gov.

Occasionally, vendors may restrict their SAM.gov registration to government users only. In these cases, the Section 889 Request Bot will notify users that the vendor registration is restricted.

### 3. How can I submit a request to the Section 889 Request Bot?

Send an email to [info@section889request.com](mailto:info@section889request.com) and include a CAGE code or UEI in the subject line of the email.

Refer to the [Section 889 Request Bot Implementation Guide](#) for a detailed walkthrough of how to email the bot and interpret bot responses.

### 4. How will the Federal government's transition from DUNS number to UEI impact the Section 889 Request Bot?

On April 4, 2022 the DUNS number will no longer be used in federal-level procurement or financial assistance pre- and post-award processes. Beginning 4/4/2022, the Section 889 Bot will no longer be able to respond to DUNS number requests and users should only submit email requests with a vendor's CAGE code or UEI. More information on the transition from DUNS number to UEI can be found [here](#).

### 5. Do I need to send any information to the Section 889 Request Bot email?

In order to process a request, the only information the Section 889 Request Bot requires is a valid vendor CAGE code or UEI in the subject line of the email.

To avoid any potential security threats, we ask that you kindly DO NOT attach any documents,

forward any email threads, or include any text in the body of your email to the Section 889 Request Bot.

**6. What can I do if it has been more than 1 hour since I submitted my request and I still haven't received a response from the Section 889 Request bot?**

If this occurs please check your Spam folder, resend your request, or try to send it from an alternate email. Occasionally the bot encounters email firewalls which prevent the reply from reaching the user.

If none of these options are successful, please send us a message through the [Contact Us](#) feature of the DoD Procurement toolbox and our team will respond within business hours (Monday-Friday 8am-5pm EST).

**7. Does the Section 889 Request Bot allow me to notify a vendor to complete their registration?**

No. At this time the Section 889 Request Bot does not notify vendors directly on your behalf. Please feel free to forward a bot response to a vendor or another party.

**8. How can I obtain the completed Section 889 form from a vendor?**

The Section 889 Request Bot can only provide the vendor responses to provision 52.204-26 as listed on SAM.gov.

If you require further information from a vendor, including a completed Section 889 form, please reach out to a POC from the vendor directly.

**9. Where can I obtain additional information about Section 889 policy or obtain a Section 889 form to complete?**

The Section 889 Request Bot can only provide the vendor responses to provision 52.204-26 as listed on SAM.gov. We do not provide any guidance on Section 889 policy or advise on how to find and complete Section 889 forms. For further guidance, please try contacting your local policy office or refer to the following resources:

Section 889 Interim Rule Announcement:

- [https://www.acquisition.gov/FAR-Case-2019-009/889\\_Part\\_B](https://www.acquisition.gov/FAR-Case-2019-009/889_Part_B)
- [https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/889\\_clause.html](https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/889_clause.html)

Section 889 Interim Rule Federal Registrar Entry:

- <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/08/27/2020-18772/federal-acquisition-regulation-prohibition-on-contracting-with-entities-using-certain>

GSA Implementation of Section 889 Frequently Asked Questions:

- <https://www.gsa.gov/cdnstatic/Section%20889%20-%20FAQs%2030.pdf>

## SAM.gov Entity Registration Guide

- <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>

Federal Service Desk (Chat with an agent)

- [https://www.fsd.gov/gsafsd\\_sp](https://www.fsd.gov/gsafsd_sp)

### **10. I received a response from the bot indicating that “There are no vendors registered on SAM.gov that are associated with the provided UEI” but I know that this is the correct vendor CAGE code or UEI and it is active. Why can’t the bot respond with the vendor’s Section 889 representation?**

The Section 889 Request bot can only respond with publicly available data. This entity's registration information is restricted and cannot be displayed through public search through the SAM.gov API. You will need to log into SAM.gov via your government email to verify the entity's completed registration and provision 52.204-26. Please follow the below steps to locate the vendor's responses:

1. Log into SAM.gov with government email
2. Search for the vendor and click on their profile
3. Click "Reps and Certs" on the left-hand side of the vendor page
4. Scroll down to the section titled "PROVISIONS POPULATED BASED ON REGISTRATION DATA"
5. Click "FAR 52.204-26" which is next to the "Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services - Representation" text
6. Under there you will see the vendor's answers to FAR 52.204-26 (c)(1) and (2). Note that the vendor must have answered "does not" to both the FAR 52.204-26 (c)(1) and 52.204-26(c)(2) provisions in order to be fully compliant.

### **11. How do I find a company's CAGE code or UEI?**

One way is to search for the company on SAM.gov if you know it has an entity registration. You can refer to [this video](#) by GSA which outlines how to search using the SAM.gov web interface. Defense Pricing and Contracting (DPC) has also created informational material on the entity search process which can be found [here](#).

### **12. How can I verify how a vendor responded to other FAR provisions?**

Use the search functionality on SAM.gov and then click on the entity in order to access representations and certifications. The “Reps and Certs” page also has a downloadable PDF document containing all of the relevant FAR representations and certifications for an entity.

### **13. Who do I contact if the bot is not working as expected?**

Please reach out to the Section 889 Request Bot development team by using the [Contact Us](#)

feature of the DoD Procurement Toolbox.

Enter your information into the appropriate fields and select “Section 889 Request” as the subject. Our team is available to assist you during business hours (Monday-Friday 8am-5pm EST).

**14. I received a response saying that our company has not completed the “October 2020 version of the provision” what does this mean?**

If you see the following under the “Reps and Certs” section of the entity page on SAM.gov then it means that the Provision 52.204-26 is **NOT** up to date and the registration **needs to be updated**.

**COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES - REPRESENTATION (Dec 2019)**

- (a) Definitions. As used in this provision, Covered telecommunications equipment or services has the meaning provided in the clause 52.204-25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.
- (b) Procedures. The Offeror shall review the list of excluded parties in the System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://www.sam.gov>) for entities excluded from receiving federal awards for "covered telecommunications equipment or services."
- (c) Representation. The Offeror represents that it  does,  does not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services as a part of its offered products or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract, or other contractual instrument.

Below is the October 2020 version of Provision 52.204-26 (if you see this then the registration does not need to be updated on SAM.gov)

**COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES - REPRESENTATION (Oct 2020)**

(a) Definitions. As used in this provision, "covered telecommunications equipment or services" and "reasonable inquiry" have the meaning provided in the clause at 52.204-25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

(b) Procedures. The Offeror shall review the list of excluded parties in the System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://www.sam.gov>) for entities excluded from receiving federal awards for "covered telecommunications equipment or services."

(c) Representations.

(1) The Offeror represents that it  does,  does not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services as a part of its offered products or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract, or other contractual instrument.

(2) After conducting a reasonable inquiry for purposes of this representation, the offeror represents that it  does,  does not use covered telecommunications equipment or services, or any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services.

**Note:** the October 2020 version has two questions listed as part of provision 52.204-26(c) whereas the older version only has one.

In order to verify your vendor registration, you can take the following steps:

- 1) Go to <https://sam.gov>
- 2) Click on "search records"
- 3) Paste the CAGE code or UEI you are looking for in the search bar at the bottom of the page
- 4) Click on "View Details" for the entity in the search results
- 5) Click on "Reps and Certs" on the left side of the page
- 6) On this page you can scroll down to provision 52.204-26, if you click on the provision number it will display how the vendor has answered this provision.

**15. How do I find the date of acknowledgement for the Section 889 representation on SAM.gov?**

There is no separate date of acknowledgement for the Section 889 representation on SAM.gov.

The date of acknowledgement therefore coincides with the date of activation of the Reps and Certs that is listed in the "Core Data" section for an entity registered on SAM.gov. There are four dates provided in this section -

- 1) Initial Registration Date: This is the first date that an entity first registers on SAM.gov.
- 2) Submission Date: This is the date that entity registrations are submitted for processing. If the registration is being submitted for the first time then this date will coincide with the Initial Registration Date, if the registration is being resubmitted then this date will be the date that the registration is resubmitted for processing.

- 3) Activation Date: This is the date that the entity registration is activated on SAM.gov after the submitted entity registration is processed. This date is what can be used as the date of acknowledgement for Section 889 because this date is when the Reps and Certs for the entity, including provision 52.204-26 c(1) and (2), are activated.
- 4) Expiration Date: This date is 365 days from the date the entity registration is submitted for processing (submission date). Entity Reps and Certs are valid for one year but must be resubmitted annually to remain compliant.

**16. Where can I go to find additional resources and content on the Section 889 Request bot?**

Please visit the DoD Procurement Toolbox and look under [Section 889 Request](#) to find an official release memo, an implementation guide, technical specification documents, and user training for the Section 889 Request bot.