

**BID DOCUMENTS**  
**FOR**  
**PARK TREE REMOVAL BID**



**CITY OF OWOSSO**  
**301 W. MAIN STREET**  
**OWOSSO, MICHIGAN 48867**

**September 4, 2025**

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
PARK TREE REMOVAL BID  
FOR THE CITY OF OWOSSO, MICHIGAN**

Sealed proposals will be received by the city of Owosso for the **PARK TREE REMOVAL BID** and should be addressed to:

Bid Coordinator  
City of Owosso  
301 W. Main Street  
Owosso, Michigan 48867

**Major items include:** The removal of nine (9) trees in Adams Park.

Bids will be accepted until **3:00 p.m. TUESDAY, September 23, 2025**, for the **PARK TREE REMOVAL BID** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

All bids must be in writing and must contain an original signature by an authorized officer of the firm. Electronic bids (i.e., telephonic, fax, email, etc.) are **NOT** acceptable.

The bidder agrees that if the city accepts their proposal, the bidder will, within 10 consecutive calendar days after receiving notice of this acceptance, enter into a contract to furnish all labor, equipment and tools necessary to execute the work at the unit prices named in the bid proposal.

All bids shall clearly contain on the outside of the **sealed** envelope in which they are submitted:

**PARK TREE REMOVAL BID**

Hard copies of the proposal, contract forms and specifications are on file and may be obtained for a fee in accordance with the city's FOIA Policy at the office of the Bid Coordinator, City Hall, 301 West Main Street, Owosso, Michigan 48867. Bid documents are available at no charge on our website at [www.ci.owosso.mi.us](http://www.ci.owosso.mi.us) or on the MITN website at [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info).

The city reserves the right to accept any proposal; or to reject any proposal; to waive irregularities in a proposal; or to negotiate if it appears to be in the best interest of the city of Owosso.

No work can begin before **OCTOBER 3, 2025**, and all work is to be completed by **December 19, 2025**.

**INQUIRIES/ADDENDUMS**

Addendums will be available on the city's website at [www.ci.owosso.mi.us](http://www.ci.owosso.mi.us) and on the MITN website at [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info).

All inquiries regarding this bid request must be received at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the submission and shall be received in, and responded to, in writing, by e-mail to [thomas.wheeler@ci.owosso.mi.us](mailto:thomas.wheeler@ci.owosso.mi.us) Call 989-725-0556 to arrange a field inspection.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

1. Each proposal must be signed by the bidder with his usual signature. Bids by partnerships should be signed with the partnership name by one of the members of the partnership or by an authorized representative, followed by the signature and title of the person signing. Proposals by corporations must be signed with the name of the corporation, followed by the signature and designation of the president, vice-president or person authorized to bind it in the matter. **Any paperwork not filled out properly or signed will cause the bid to be considered non-responsive and shall be rejected by the city.**
2. Proposals, to receive consideration, must be received prior to the specified time of opening and reading as designated in the invitation.
3. Bidders are requested to use the proposal form furnished by the city when submitting their proposals. Envelopes must be **sealed** when submitted and clearly marked on the outside indicating the name of the bid.
4. Proposals having and erasures or corrections thereon may be rejected unless explained or noted over the signature of the bidder.
5. References in the specifications or description of materials, supplies, equipment, or services to a particular trade name, manufacturer's catalog, or model number are made for descriptive purposes to guide the bidder in interpreting the type of materials or supplies, equipment, or nature of the work desired. They should not be construed as excluding proposals on equivalent types of materials, supplies, and equipment or for performing the work in a manner other than specified. However, the bidders' attention is called to General Condition seven (7).
6. Proposals should be mailed or delivered to: Bid Coordinator's Office, City Hall, 301 W. Main Street, Owosso, MI 48867.
7. Special conditions included in this inquiry shall take precedence over any conditions listed under General Conditions or Instructions to Bidders.
8. Insurance coverage – The winning bidder, prior to execution of the contract, shall file with the city copies of completed certificates of insurance naming the city of Owosso **as an additional insured party**, as evidence that the contractor carries adequate insurance satisfactory to the city.
9. The city of Owosso has a local preference policy for the purchase of goods and services. The policy in part states: *A business located within the city limits and paying real or personal property taxes to the city of Owosso will be granted a six percent (6%) bid advantage or \$2,500, whichever is less, over a business located outside Shiawassee County. A business located outside the city limits but within Shiawassee County and paying property taxes to the county will be granted a three percent (3%) bid advantage or \$2,500, whichever is less, over a business located outside Shiawassee County. The preference also applies to subcontractors performing twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the work of a general contract.*
10. **The following items must be included with the bid response:**
  - a. **Bid Proposal**
  - b. **Signature Page & Legal Status/ Acknowledgement of Addendum(s)**
  - c. **Local Preference Affidavit**
  - d. **W-9 Request for Taxpayer ID No. and Certification**

## BID PROPOSAL

### PARK TREE REMOVAL PROGRAM

TO: THE CITY OF OWOSSO (HEREINAFTER CALLED THE "CITY")

Bidder shall price trees separately, as the owner may select only a partial quantity of trees from the list, in the event bids are higher than available budgeted funds.

The undersigned, having examined the bid proposal forms and specifications, proposes to furnish all materials and equipment to do all work for Nine (9) full trees to be cut at Adams Park located at 1123 Adams Street shown in the said drawings and specifications at and for the following unit prices:

| Item      | Description                     | Approx. Size | Unit Price |
|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| 1         | Tree of Heaven                  | 6"           |            |
| 2         | Tree of Heaven                  | 7"           |            |
| 3         | Elm                             | 5"           |            |
| 4         | Tree of Heaven                  | 9"           |            |
| 5         | Elm                             | 8"           |            |
| 6         | Elm                             | 6"           |            |
| 7         | Box Elder (2 trunks)            | 9"           |            |
| 8         | Unidentified (main trunk short) | 17"          |            |
| 9         | Elm                             | 29"          |            |
| TOTAL BID |                                 |              |            |

Bidder's Initial \_\_\_\_\_

#### **BID TOTAL** (Bid Items 1-9)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(use words)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

(use figures)

Each tree has been marked with blue spray paint. Please refer to numbered map provided below.



## GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS – TREE REMOVAL SCHEDULE

The contractor shall propose a schedule to accomplish the work on or before **December 19, 2025**. The schedule should be based on an **October 3, 2025**, award date.

The work may be done between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm and shall not be done on Sunday. The city shall be informed no later than noon on Friday of the schedule for the next week.

The contractor is responsible for calling MISS DIG @ 811 before proceeding with any work.

### TREE REMOVAL

#### 1. DESCRIPTION

The contractor shall furnish all necessary supervision, labor, vehicles, and equipment capable of effective and efficient removal of specified trees. In addition, the contractor shall remain on site at all times while work is being performed, or a site supervisor who represents the contractor and can adequately communicate in English, both orally and in writing. Contractor must dispose of ash trees under the requirements of the EAB Quarantine.

#### 2. EQUIPMENT

The equipment used shall be specified by the contractor and the contractor must describe equipment to be assigned to the project. The contractor shall plan and prepare for the use and positioning of equipment to accomplish the safe, effective, and efficient removal of trees and sections of trees while not damaging improved property.

Whenever any tree, or large tree sections, being removed may endanger people or property, an adequate area shall be cordoned off with tape or rope and clearly marked to prohibit access by the public or other unauthorized persons.

#### 3. UTILITIES

The contractor is responsible for contacting utility companies to obtain clearance/location of utilities in any tree removal areas.

#### 4. TREE REMOVAL

The work will consist of removal of trees specified by the city of Owosso. All tree trimming and removal will be done in accordance with the **National Arborists Association Standards** for health and safety.

Removal of trees will consist of clearing of logs, branches, limbs and brush and the area to be swept clean of all tree debris after completion of work on site.

The tree lawn and turf area shall be left in a "lawn raked clean" condition upon completion of each day. Sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and pavement areas will be left in a "broom cleaned" condition upon completion of work each day.

#### **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- Chip all brush and limbs up to 6 inches in diameter.
- Tree is to be removed to within 6 inches of surrounding grade.
- Cut lengths will not exceed 6 foot in length.
- City will remove wood; homeowner has rights to wood if wanted.
- Traffic control and public safety is responsibility of contractor.
- City will remove stumps and restore right of way. Contractor is responsible for damage to private property.

**VARIANCE FROM SPECIFICATIONS:** If the bidder is unable to comply with the specifications as outlined, the bidder shall clearly note these variations from the specifications. The bidder may also propose additions to these specifications for the city to consider, but the costs associated with these additions shall be stated separately.

If the work is not complete on or before the date set for completion or any extension, the Contractor shall pay the city liquidated damages of **\$200.00** a calendar day until the work is satisfactorily completed. Liquidated damages for delay may be deducted from payments due the contractor or may be collected from the Contractor or the Contractor's surety.

The undersigned agrees that if the city accepts this proposal, Contractor will, within 10 consecutive calendar days after receiving notice of this acceptance, enter into a contract to furnish all labor, equipment and tools necessary to execute the work at the unit prices named in the bid proposal. Contractor will furnish the surety for performance, for 100% of this bid, which shall be accepted and approved by the city.

The undersigned agrees that if the city accepts this proposal, Contractor will start this project no sooner than **October 3, 2025**, and will substantially complete the entire work under this contract by **December 19, 2025**. This schedule may be extended for rain days or cold weather for calendar days after **December 19, 2025**, only as approved by the city of Owosso.

**SIGNATURE PAGE AND LEGAL STATUS**

On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_, I hereby submit this proposal for **PARK TREE REMOVAL BID** for your consideration. The undersigned acknowledges that this proposal is subject to the General Conditions and the General Specifications included in the contract documents. The undersigned certifies that he is an official legally authorized to bind his firm and to enter into a contract should the city accept this proposal.

**Bid proposal by (Name of Firm):**

**Legal status of bidder.**

**Please check the appropriate box and USE CORRECT LEGAL NAME.**

☐ Corporation

State of Incorporation:

☐ Partnership

List of names:

☐ DBA

State full name:

☐ Other

Explain:

**Signature of Bidder:**

**Title:**

**Signature of Bidder:**

**Title:**

**Address:**

**City, Zip:**

**Telephone:**

**Email Address:**

**Signed this**

**Day of**

**2025**

**Bidder acknowledges receipt of the following Addenda:**

**ADDENDUM NO:**

**BIDDER'S INITIALS:**

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

### 1. LOCAL PREFERENCE POLICY

The city of Owosso has a local preference policy for the purchase of goods and services. The policy in part states: *A business located within the city limits and paying real or personal property taxes to the city of Owosso will be granted a 6% bid advantage or \$2,500, whichever is less, over a business located outside Shiawassee County. A business located outside the city limits but within Shiawassee County and paying property taxes to the county will be granted a 3% bid advantage or \$2,500, whichever is less, over a business located outside Shiawassee County. The preference also applies to subcontractors performing 25% or more of the work of a general contract.*

### 2. BID ACCEPTANCE

The city reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Unless otherwise specified, the city reserves the right to accept any item in the proposal. In case of error in extending the total amount of the bid, the unit prices shall govern.

### 3. PAYMENT

Unless otherwise stated by the bidder, time concerning discount offered, will be computed from date of delivery and acceptance at destination or from date correct bill or claim voucher properly certified by the contractor is received. When so stated herein, partial payments, based on a certified approved estimate by the city of materials, supplies or equipment delivered or work done, may be made upon presentation of a properly executed claim voucher. The final payment will be made by the city when materials, supplies, equipment, or the work done have been fully delivered or completed to the full satisfaction of the city.

### 4. BID DEFAULT

In case of default by the bidder or contractor, the city of Owosso may procure the articles or services from other sources and hold the bidder or contractor responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby.

### 5. UNIT PRICES

Prices should be stated in units of quantity specified.

### 6. QUOTED PRICES

Unless otherwise stated by the bidder, prices quoted will be considered as being based on delivery to a designated destination and to include all charges for packing, crating, containers, shipping, etc., and being in strict accordance with specifications and standards as shown.

### 7. SUBSTITUTIONS

Wherever a reference is made in the specifications or description of the materials, supplies, equipment, or services required, to a particular trade name, manufacturer's catalog, or model number, the bidder, if awarded a contract or order, will be required to furnish the particular item referred to in strict accordance with the specifications or description unless a departure or substitution is clearly noted and described in the proposal.

### 8. HOLD CITY HARMLESS

The bidder, if awarded an order or contract, agrees to protect, defend, and save the city harmless against any demand for payment for the use of any patented material, process, article, or device that may enter into the manufacture, construction, or form a part of the work covered by either order or contract. Bidder further agrees to indemnify and save the city harmless from suits or action of every nature and description brought against it, for or on account of any injuries or damages received or sustained by any party or parties, by or from any of the acts of the contractor, his employees, subcontractors, or agents.

### 9. COMPETITIVE BIDDING STATUTES

The laws of the state of Michigan, the charter, and ordinances of the city of Owosso, as far as they apply to the laws of competitive bidding, contracts, and purchases, are made a part hereof.

#### 10. SAMPLES

Samples, when requested, must be furnished free of expense to the city and, if not destroyed, will upon request be returned at the bidder's expense.

#### 11. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND OTHER CLAUSES

The contractor shall agree not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, religion, color, handicap, sex, physical condition, developmental disability as defined by Michigan Compiled Statutes, or national origin. This provision shall include but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rate of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training including apprenticeship. The contractor further agrees to take affirmative action to ensure equal employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provision of the non-discrimination clause.

## LOCAL PREFERENCE POLICY

The following affidavit should be completed if a bidder is located within Shiawassee County or intends to sub-contract more than twenty-five percent (25%) to a Shiawassee County based business: The city of Owosso has a local preference policy for the purchase of goods and services as recorded in the city ordinance in section 2-348. "Lowest qualified bidder" defined.

1. The term "lowest qualified bidder," as used in this division, shall mean the lowest bidder having qualifications to perform the work which is satisfactory to the council. The lowest bidder shall be determined based on an adjusted bid tabulation which shall be prepared in the following manner: To the bid of any bidder which is neither a city-based business nor a county-based business shall be added an amount equal to six (6) percent of the bid or two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00), whichever is less.
2. To the bid of any bidder which is a county-based business shall be added an amount equal to three (3) percent of the bid or two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00), whichever is less; provided, however, that if no bid is received from a city-based business, no additional amount shall be added to the bid of a county-based business.
3. "Owosso-based business" shall be interpreted to mean a business registered with the county clerk or a corporation registered with the state having a business address within the city limits which pays real and/or personal property taxes levied by the city.  
The term "county-based business" shall be interpreted to mean a business other than a city-based business registered with the county clerk or a corporation registered with the state having a business address within the county which pays real and/or personal property taxes levied by the county.
4. If twenty-five (25) percent or more of a contract for construction or other services is to be subcontracted by a city-based business bidder to a non-city-based business or businesses, or by a county-based business bidder to a non-county-based business or businesses, the adjusted bid shall be calculated by applying the provisions of this section separately to each portion of the contract based on the status of the contractor or subcontractor performing that portion of the contract as a city-based or county-based business.

## AFFIDAVIT

In accordance with Section 2-348 of the Owosso city code, the bid from a business located in Shiawassee County shall be adjusted to reflect a preference. For the city to calculate the adjustment, the bidder hereby deposes and states that their business address is registered, and is currently paying real and/or personal property taxes in Shiawassee County at the following address:

---

Registered business address

The affiant further deposes and states that a sub-contract with a business registered, and paying real and/or personal property taxes in Shiawassee County will be executed for a percentage equal to or greater than twenty-five percent (25%) as stated below:

---

Business name and address of sub-contractor

---

Percentage of contract

---

Authorized signature

---

Title

---

Company name

---

Date

## W-9 INFORMATION FOR LEGAL STATUS

**Sole proprietor.** Enter your individual name as shown on your income tax return on the “Name” line. You may enter your business, trade, or “doing business as (DBA)” name on the “Business name/disregarded entity name” line.

**Partnership, C Corporation, or S Corporation.** Enter the entity's name on the “Name” line and any business, trade, or “doing business as (DBA) name” on the “Business name/disregarded entity name” line.

**Disregarded entity.** Enter the owner's name on the “Name” line. The name of the entity entered on the “Name” line should never be a disregarded entity. The name on the “Name” line must be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income will be reported. For example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a domestic owner, the domestic owner's name is required to be provided on the “Name” line. 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 the “Business name/disregarded entity name” line. If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, you must complete an appropriate Form W-8.

**Note.** Check the appropriate box for the federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on the “Name” line (Individual/sole proprietor, Partnership, C Corporation, S Corporation, Trust/estate).

**Limited Liability Company (LLC).** If the person identified on the “Name” line is an LLC, check the “Limited liability company” box only and enter the appropriate code for the tax classification in the space provided. If you are an LLC that is treated as a partnership for federal tax purposes, enter “P” for partnership. If you are an LLC that has filed a Form 8832 or a Form 2553 to be taxed as a corporation, enter “C” for C corporation or “S” for S corporation. If you are an LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner under Regulation section 301.7701-3 (except for employment and excise tax), do not check the LLC box unless the owner of the LLC (required to be identified on the “Name” line) is another LLC that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. If the LLC is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, enter the appropriate tax classification of the owner identified on the “Name” line.

**Other entities.** Enter your business name as shown on required federal tax documents on the “Name” line. 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 the “Business name/disregarded entity name” line.

Please see attached W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification form for a detailed explanation on filling out the W-9 form.

# Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

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

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

**Before you begin.** For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Print or type.<br>See Specific Instructions on page 3. | <b>1</b> Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                        | <b>2</b> Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                        | <b>3a</b> Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only <b>one</b> of the following seven boxes.<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> C corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) _____<br><b>Note:</b> Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) _____ | <b>4</b> Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):<br><br>Exempt payee code (if any) _____<br><br>Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) _____<br><br>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.) |
|                                                        | <b>3b</b> If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions _____ <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                        | <b>5</b> Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Requester's name and address (optional)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>6</b> City, state, and ZIP code                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>7</b> List account number(s) here (optional)        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

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.

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

|                                       |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Social security number</b>         |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                       |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>or</b>                             |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Employer identification number</b> |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                       |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |

## Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- 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
- 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
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- 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.

|                  |                             |      |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| <b>Sign Here</b> | Signature of<br>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).

## What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

## Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they

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-NEC (nonemployee compensation).
- 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), and 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.

**Caution:** If you don't 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; and
4. Certify to your non-foreign status for purposes of withholding under chapter 3 or 4 of the Code (if applicable); and
5. 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).

**Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding.** Payments made to foreign persons, including certain distributions, allocations of income, or transfers of sales proceeds, may be subject to withholding under chapter 3 or chapter 4 of the Code (sections 1441–1474). Under those rules, if a Form W-9 or other certification of non-foreign status has not been received, a withholding agent, transferee, or partnership (payor) generally applies presumption rules that may require the payor to withhold applicable tax from the recipient, owner, transferor, or partner (payee). See Pub. 515, *Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities*.

The following persons must provide Form W-9 to the payor for purposes of establishing its non-foreign status.

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

See Pub. 515 for more information on providing a Form W-9 or a certification of non-foreign status to avoid withholding.

**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 (under Regulations section 1.1441-1(b)(2)(iv) or other applicable section for chapter 3 or 4 purposes), do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Pub. 515). If you are a qualified foreign pension fund under Regulations section 1.897(l)-1(d), or a partnership that is wholly owned by qualified foreign pension funds, that is treated as a non-foreign person for purposes of section 1445 withholding, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use Form W-8EXP (or other certification of non-foreign status).

**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 their 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 their 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, but are not limited to, 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, as described in item 4 under "*By signing the filled-out form*" 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.

See also *Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding*, earlier.

## What Is FATCA Reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all U.S. account holders that are specified U.S. 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 are no longer 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.

• **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 for 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 you filed with your application.

• **Sole proprietor.** Enter your individual name as shown on your Form 1040 on line 1. Enter your business, trade, or "doing business as" (DBA) name on line 2.

• **Partnership, C corporation, S corporation, or LLC, other than a disregarded entity.** 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.

• **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. Enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

• **Disregarded entity.** In general, a business entity that has a single owner, including an LLC, and is not a corporation, is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner (a disregarded entity). See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2). A disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Enter the owner's name on line 1. The name of the owner 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. 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, enter it on line 2.

### Line 3a

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

| IF the entity/individual on line 1 is a(n) . . .                                                                                                   | THEN check the box for . . .                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Corporation                                                                                                                                      | Corporation.                                                                                                                               |
| • Individual or<br>• Sole proprietorship                                                                                                           | Individual/sole proprietor.                                                                                                                |
| • LLC classified as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes or<br>• LLC that has filed Form 8832 or 2553 electing to be taxed as a corporation | Limited liability company and enter the appropriate tax classification:<br>P = Partnership,<br>C = C corporation, or<br>S = S corporation. |
| • Partnership                                                                                                                                      | Partnership.                                                                                                                               |
| • Trust/estate                                                                                                                                     | Trust/estate.                                                                                                                              |

### Line 3b

Check this box if you are a partnership (including an LLC classified as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes), trust, or estate that has any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate, in which you have an ownership interest. You must check the box on line 3b if you receive a Form W-8 (or documentary evidence) from any partner, owner, or beneficiary establishing foreign status or if you receive a Form W-9 from any partner, owner, or beneficiary that has checked the box on line 3b.

**Note:** A partnership that provides a Form W-9 and checks box 3b may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065). For more information, see the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

If you are required to complete line 3b but fail to do so, you may not receive the information necessary to file a correct information return with the IRS or furnish a correct payee statement to your partners or beneficiaries. See, for example, sections 6698, 6722, and 6724 for penalties that may apply.

### 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 on 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 territory, 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 territory.
- 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 as defined under section 581.
- 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 Information, 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) entered 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 territory, 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, enter "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 ITIN. Enter it in the entry space for the Social security number. 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). 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 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/EIN](http://www.irs.gov/EIN). 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 Form SS-4 mailed to you within 15 business days.

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and enter "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, you will generally 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. See also *Establishing U.S. status for purposes of chapter 3 and chapter 4 withholding*, earlier, for when you may instead be subject to withholding under chapter 3 or 4 of the Code.

**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), ABLE 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 Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A))** | The grantor*                                                                                            |

| 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> |
| 10. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553                                                                                                                  | The corporation           |
| 11. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization                                                                                                 | The organization          |
| 12. Partnership or multi-member LLC                                                                                                                                                         | The partnership           |
| 13. A broker or registered nominee                                                                                                                                                          | The broker or nominee     |
| 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 Form 1041 or under the Optional Filing Method 2, requiring Form 1099 (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 on line 1, and enter your business or DBA name, if any, on line 2. 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.)

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

\*\* For more information on optional filing methods for grantor trusts, see the Instructions for Form 1041.

**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 return 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 a questionable credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 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 877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 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 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.

Go to [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 territories for use in administering their laws. The information may also 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, payors must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividends, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payor. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.