

Director ID

What, Why, When and How?



Though not yet fully implemented – it's time to get ready for the new Director ID regime.

What?

The Director ID is unique identifier which a director will keep indefinitely. Basically, like a TFN, you will keep this number forever.

The new Director Identification Number (DIN) requirements will apply to appointed Directors and acting Directors of Australian corporations and registered foreign companies under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth), including companies responsible for managed investment schemes and registered charities.

Currently, the DIN requirements do not extend to unincorporated bodies, de facto or shadow Directors or company secretaries. It will be important to understand the new obligations for those operating in the capacity of a Director, as failure to apply for a DIN within the required time frame will leave you open to both criminal and civil penalties.

When?

The registry will be accepting applications for new directors from November 2021, but basically the date on which you can apply varies depending upon your own circumstances of your directorship/s.

Date you become a director	Date you must apply
On or before 31 October 2021	By 30 November 2022
Between 1 November 2021 and 4 April 2022	Within 28 days of appointment
From 5 April 2022	Before appointment

How?

You must apply for your Director ID yourself, so you can verify your own identity. No one else can apply on your behalf, including your authorised agent.

You can apply at abrs.gov.au. You can apply for your director ID from November 2021.

To log in to ABRS online you'll need to use your MyGovID, so to get ready....

Why?

As part of the Government's stance on stamping out illegal phoenixing and other fraudulent activity, Australia will be introducing Director IDs enabling the government to verify and track the corporate history of individual directors. The ATO has recently launched it on the Australian Business Registry website and will be encouraging directors to apply for the ID when applications open in November. While preventing fraud is the main reason for Director IDs, it's not the only reason.

The original legislation made clear the scheme is also meant to protect the privacy of directors by allowing them to be identified on public registers without disclosing, dates of birth, full names and residential addresses, etc. At a time when cyber security attacks, identity theft and other threats are on the rise, it's important this is followed through.

Director ID is the first service offered by ABRS as part of a wider business modernisation project that will combine more than 30 ASIC registers and the current Australian Business Register on a single system overseen by the ATO.

1. Get you MyGovID

If you haven't already done so – and we suspect many have not - now is the time to apply for a MyGovID number (not to be confused with the MyGov platform).

This will ensure you are ready to use the Director ID platform when it is launched. [Find out more here.](#)

2. Gather your documents

You will need to have some information the ATO knows about you when you apply for your director ID:

- your tax file number (TFN)

- your residential address as held by the ATO
- information from two documents to verify your identity.

Examples of the documents you can use to verify your identity include:

- bank account details
- an ATO notice of assessment
- super account details
- a dividend statement
- a Centrelink payment summary
- PAYG payment summary.

3. Complete your application.

We will send our further information as it becomes available. If you have any concerns in the meantime, please reach out and give us a call.

Here's how you can contact us:



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