

What Your Business Needs to Know about Georgia's E-Verify Requirements (Effective July 1, 2013)

E-Verify Contractor Requirements

Georgia law, O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91, requires all businesses that contract with a public employer for labor or services by bid or by contract in which the labor or services exceed \$2499.99 to sign an affidavit attesting that they are registered for and use E-Verify unless 1) the contractor has no employees (in which case they must present an approved state issued identification card/drivers' license from an approved state as provided on the Attorney General's website) or, 2) the contract is with an individual licensed under Title 26, Title 43, or the State Bar of Georgia who is in good standing and that individual is performing that service. Anyone your business subcontracts with for labor and services, as well as the subcontractors of your subcontractors, in furtherance of that contract is also subject to this requirement. E-Verify Contractor, Subcontractor, and Sub-Subcontractor affidavits can be found here.

E-Verify Private Employer Requirements

Georgia law, O.C.G.A. § 36-60-6, requires all businesses, with more than 10 employees that are seeking an occupation tax certificate/business license or other document required to operate a business with a county or city to sign an affidavit attesting that they are registered for and use E-Verify. Businesses with 10 or fewer employees are required to sign an affidavit attesting that they are exempt from this requirement. Once a business has provided this affidavit to the county, all subsequent renewals can be provided with the submission of the E-Verify number, as long as it is the same number as provided on the affidavit, or assertion that your business is exempt. The county will provide the format in which renewal information is collected. E-Verify Private Employer and Exemption Affidavits can be found here.

What Is E-Verify?

E-Verify is a federal Web-based system that electronically verifies the employment eligibility of newly hired employees. It works by allowing participating employers to electronically compare employee information taken from the I-9 Form (the paper-based employee eligibility verification form used for all new hires) against records in the Social Security Administration's database and the records in the Department of Homeland Security immigration databases.

Where Do I Find My E-Verify Number?

The Human Resources Department for your business should have that information, if you have registered. The E-Verify number, which consists of four to six numerical characters, is located directly below the E-Verify logo on the first page of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) entered into between your business and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to use E-Verify.

What if I cannot locate or do not have access to my MOU?

If the HR director/program administrator for E-Verify from your business has taken the E-Verify tutorial, you may obtain your company ID number by: 1) Logging in to E-Verify with your assigned user ID and password; 2) From 'My Company,' select 'Edit Company Profile;' 3) The Company Information page will display the company ID number. If your HR director/program administrator has not completed the tutorial, you must contact E-Verify Customer Support at 888-464-4218 or at E-Verify@dhs.gov for assistance.

Is the Federal Tax Identification Number/Employer Identification Number (EIN) the same as the E-Verify Number?

No. While you will be required to provide the Federal Tax Identification Number/EIN for your business to DHS in order to register for E-Verify, a separate number, which consists of four to six numerical characters, will be provided as the E-Verify number for your business by DHS, which will be located on the MOU.

How Do I Register for E-Verify? To register for E-Verify, please visit the DHS website. If you need assistance in completing the registration process or need additional information relating to E-Verify, call their customer service number at 1-888-464-4218, email them at E-Verify@dhs.gov or visit their website at http://www.dhs.gov/e-verify.