

ALPHABET SOUP

Confused by all those codes, numbers and acronyms the federal government casually throws around? Following are the most commonly used with a brief explanation.

ANSI: American National Standards Institute
<http://www.ansi.org/>

A&E: Architect and Engineering

CAGE Code: Commercial and Government Entity
A DoD coding system which uses a unique 5 character alphanumeric code, assigned to each SAM registered government or business entity.
https://www.bpn.gov/bincs/begin_search.asp

CFR: Code of Federal Regulations
<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html>

CLIN: Contract Line Item Number; sequential four digit numbers assigned to separately priced items in a solicitation (0001, 0002, etc.)

DFARS: Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations Supplement <http://farsite.hill.af.mil/VDFARa.htm>

DIBBS: Defense Internet Bid Board System
<https://www.dibbs.bsm.dla.mil/>

DLA: Defense Logistics Agency; <http://www.dla.mil/>

DoD: Department of Defense

DODISS: DoD Index of Specs & Standards
<http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/stresources/standards/index.html>

DOT: Department of Transportation; <http://www.dot.gov/>

DUNS: Dun & Bradstreet Number; A unique 9 digit number assigned to each registered business entity. Also a pre-requisite for registering in www.sam.gov
<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>

EBB: Electronic Bulletin Board

FBO: FedBizOpps; The designated government wide Point of Entry for procurement opportunities
<https://www.fbo.gov/>

FAR: Federal Acquisition Regulations
<http://farsite.hill.af.mil/VFFARa.htm>

FSC: Federal Supply Code; 4 digit code used in the Federal Procurement Data System to group common types of supplies, appears as the first 4 digits of National Stock Numbers.
<http://www.outreachsystems.com/resources/tables/pscs/>

GAO: General Accounting Office; <http://www.gao.gov/>

GPO: Government Printing Office
<http://www.gpo.gov/>

GSA: General Services Administration
<http://www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov/ElibMain/ElibHome>

MILSTD: Military Standard

MILSPEC: Military Specification
<https://assist.daps.dla.mil/quicksearch/>

MPIN: Marketing Partner Identification Number
A number created by you when you register in SAM, a personal code that allows you to access other government applications such as the Past Performance Information Retrieval System (PIRS). The MPIN acts as your password in other systems.

NAICS: North American Industrial Classification System
A coding system of business size designations for all types of business establishments.
<http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naicstab.htm#>.

NIST: National Institute of Standards and Technology
<http://www.nist.gov/>

NSN: National Stock Number

PSC: Product Service Code
An alpha-numeric code of the Federal Procurement Data System, grouping common types of services.
<http://www.outreachsystems.com/resources/tables/pscs/>

QPL: Qualified Product List

RFP: Request for Proposal
RFQ: Request for Quotation

SAM: System for Award Management; federal government initiative to register all vendors for the primary purpose of paying them by Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF). A prerequisite for DoD awards.
<http://www.sam.gov>

SBA: Small Business Administration;
<http://www.sba.gov/>

SBIR: Small Business Innovative Research

SDB: Small Disadvantaged Business

SIN: Special Item Number; A GSA numbering system under the Federal Supply Schedules program.
<http://www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov/ElibMain/ElibHome>