

Your complete guide to

Director Identification



All Australian company directors are required to have a Director Identification Number (director ID) issued by the Australian Business Registry Service (ABRS). It is a unique number that is used to verify the identity of a person who is appointed company director. An Australian company director must have their director ID before their appointment to the company.

Directors have obligations under the law and it is important that stakeholders and regulators have the ability to know who the directors of a company are. The director ID will help prevent the use of false or fraudulent director identities. This means it will be easier to trace directors' relationships with companies and identify and eliminate director involvement in illegal activity such as illegal phoenix activity.

A director will only need to apply once via the ABRS and will retain the director ID for their lifetime. A person keeps their director ID forever even if they change companies, stop being a director, change their name and move interstate or overseas. This is only for directors, shareholders and secretaries will not be required to apply.

Who is eligible?

Only directors need a director ID, meaning only a person appointed as a director or an alternate who is acting in that capacity.

Intending directors may also apply if they intend to become a director or alternate director within 12 months.

How to apply

A director must apply for their director ID themselves because they will need to show proof of their identity. No one can apply on their behalf.



Where to start

Go to the ABRS website to access ABRS director ID service and learn about director ID requirements



Step 01

Verify your identity using your myGovID credential; or create a myGovID using your smartphone and Australian identity documents



Step 02

Proof of record ownership (PORO): Answer two questions about your ATO record. These may include information about your:

- Notice of Assessment
- PAYG payment summary
- Dividends statement
- Centrelink payment summary
- Bank account details
- Superannuation account details



Step 03

Complete a director ID application on the ABRs platform

Once you receive your director ID, you will need to pass it on to your company record-holder, typically your company secretary, another director, contact person or an authorised agent of the company. You can also store your director ID within your Lawpath account.

To find out more information and how to apply, please visit - <https://www.abrs.gov.au/>