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New director ID requirement

We are letting you know about the director identification number (director ID) requirement that is now available on the new Australian Business Registry Services (ABRS) website. ABRS is a new service, managed by the Australian Taxation Office, that will streamline how you register, view and maintain your business information with government.

It is part of the Modernising Business Registers (MBR) program and the first service to be delivered.

A director ID is a unique identifier a director applies for once and keeps forever. It will help prevent the use of false or fraudulent director identities. A person will keep their director ID even if they stop being a company director, change their name or move interstate or overseas. It confirms a director's identity and will in the future show which companies they're linked to.

If you are planning on becoming a director or are already a director, you will need to apply for a director ID. We **can't** apply on your behalf as the Registrar needs to verify your identity.

When to apply

The dates for when you need to apply, depends on when you become a director.

The first key date is for those who become a director between 1 November 2021 and 4 April 2022. They need to apply within 28 days from their appointment.

If you were a director <u>before 1 November 2021</u>, you need to apply before 30 November 2022.

It's free to apply and the fastest way to apply is online. The ABRS has other options available for those who can't apply online. See https://www.abrs.gov.au/director-identification-number/apply-director-identification-number

You will need a myGovID with a Standard or Strong identity strength to apply for a director ID online. If you don't have the myGovID app you can set it up at https://www.mygovid.gov.au/set-up

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You will also need to verify information held on your ATO record, such as a Notice of assessment. Once you have this information, the online application is intuitive and takes less than 5 minutes. You will get your director ID instantly.

You then need to give your director ID to the company secretary and to us, your tax and ASIC agent.

This video can also assist with what is needed. Director ID overview:

https://tv.ato.gov.au/ato-tv/media?v=bi9or7odjorhp6

From 5 April 2022 all directors will need a director ID before they are appointed.

To find out more about the ABRS, its role in administering delegated ASIC Registry functions and director ID visit https://www.abrs.gov.au/about-us

