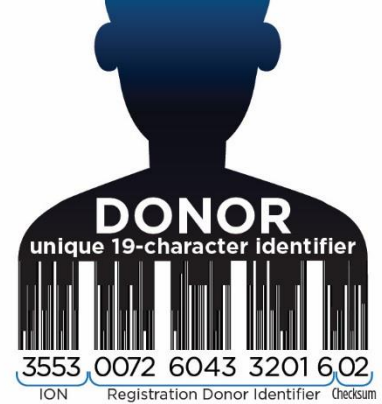


# GRID UPDATES

Global Registration Identifier for Donors: [latest news & information](#)



## Frequently Asked Questions | GRID

### WHAT

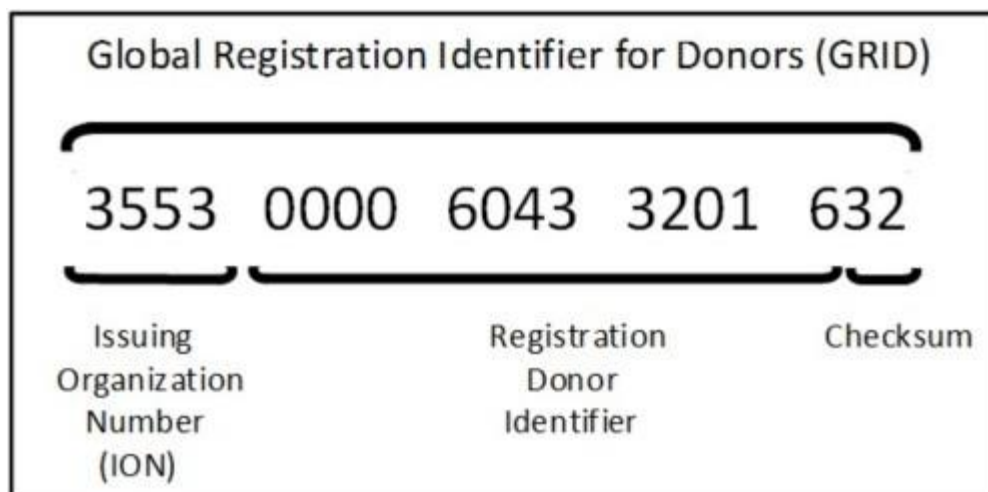
#### What is GRID?

The [World Marrow Donor Association](#) (WMDA) is requiring an updated global standard for donor identification; WMDA collaborated with [ICCBBA](#) to develop and implement a Global Registration Identifier for Donors (GRID).

#### What does GRID look like?

The GRID standard is a 19-character identifier composed of three elements:

- 1) A 4-digit Issuing Organization Number (ION) – **The National Marrow Donor Program® (NMDP) / Be The Match® ION is 3553**
- 2) A 13-character Registration Donor Identifier (RDI) assigned by the issuing organization
- 3) A 2-digit checksum – a calculated number that ensures the preceding 17 digits are accurate and not mistyped



\*other registries may have capitalized alpha characters in their GRID

When displayed, a GRID should use a 4,4,4,4,3 eye-readable layout where the comma indicates a space: 3353 0000 6043 3201 632.

#### Do I have to use the entire GRID number every time?

Yes. The GRID has three sections, and the entire sequence is considered the ID and cannot be parsed, truncated, or separated.

# Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

## What is Primary Donor Identifier(s)?

This term will replace references to Donor Identifier, Coop Donor ID and Donor ID (DID) in NMDP Manual of Operations (MOP), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and other documents. This term is a more generic reference than Donor ID (DID) or Global Registration Identifier for Donors (GRID) and can be used to reference both or either as appropriate. You may have already noticed the use of **Primary Donor Identifier(s)** in NMDP documentation.

## WHY

### Why do we need GRID?

WMDA established GRID to improve national and international communication by using a system to identify potential donors on a global scale.

GRID...

- Provides a standard eye-readable format for the donor identifier that can be used by humans;
- Provides a standard machine-readable format for the donor identifier that can be used by computer systems;
- Provides a check sum for transcription control;
- Provides consistent documentation;
- Improves traceability of donors
- Reduces the risk of misidentification of donors, due to lack of global uniqueness of identifiers.

All donor registries or donor centers that issue donor identification numbers must comply with the GRID standard by deadlines set forth by WMDA.

## WHO

### Who is required to utilize GRID?

All registries listing with WMDA are required to adopt GRID per WMDA standards. As of January 1, 2019, all donors must contain GRID in order to list on WMDA Search and Match Service.

### Who / what requires a GRID?

The GRID **is only for donors**, NOT for donations or Cord Blood Units (CBU). For Be The Match donors, STAR Link® assigns a GRID to all newly created AND existing donors (regardless of NMDP's current Registry Status of the donor).

### Do all donors receive a GRID?

All NMDP registry members / donors have been assigned a GRID.

### Will some donor centers/registries use their own ION? (DoD, Gift of Life, DKMS US)

Yes. The following domestic centers have requested their own ION to utilize when assigning the GRID.

# Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

- Be the Match = 3553
- Be The Match Mexico = 9275
- C.W. Bill Young Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program (DoD) = 5315
- Gift of Life Marrow Registry = 1033
- DKMS US = 5081

IONs are embedded at the beginning of the GRID, assigned by ICCBBA, and aid in identifying centers / registries that assign GRIDs.

For a list of all IONs, click here: <https://www.iccbba.org/tech-library/databases-reference-tables/grid-issuing-organizations>

## WHERE

In alignment with the World Marrow Donor Association (WMDA), the NMDP/Be The Match has decommissioned non-GRID identifier formats. When you need to identify a donor, for any purpose, you should only be using GRID as the donor identifier. Best practice is to copy and paste the GRID from a source of truth instead of risking error due to manual entry.

### Where will GRID be used / displayed?

GRID appears in all the places you typically use a donor identifier. This includes all NMDP controlled documents such as (but not limited to):

- Workup Request Forms
- Consents
- HHSQs
- Draw kit instructions
- Donor Tracking Sheet
- Sample and Product Labeling
- Eligibility documentation
- Form 700 Series Data Collection forms

GRID also appears in NMDP systems/applications where applicable. This includes (but is not limited to):

- STAR Link®
- MatchSource®
- FormsNet3®

GRID is displayed on WMDA's Search and Match Service.

If you are completing NMDP/Be The Match documentation, non-GRID ID fields should contain "N/A" (Not Applicable) as a standard. No fields should be left blank. For those registries that are not implementing GRID, you will also see a Registry Donor ID field. This field is only applicable if a GRID does not exist; when completing forms for these registries, the GRID field should be completed as "N/A" (Not Applicable).

# Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

## Where will GRID not be used / displayed?

The NMDP will NOT be updating historical paper records or relabeling historical samples at the Biorepository. As part of GRID implementation, we must ensure traceability; these items will be able to be located and identified by both IDs in a variety of systems.

The GRID will NOT replace existing product identifiers such as ISBT 128 Donation Identification Number (DIN) or Single European Code (SEC).

## Will sample and product labels change to accommodate GRID?

NMDP/Be The Match product labels are utilizing GRID as the only identifier on the product. For a period, some of the accompanying documentation/tags may still include a field for both GRID and DID after the Dec. 15 transition.

- NMDP/Be The Match system-generated blood sample labels display only GRID. Sample labels include verification/CT, IDM and donor workup/collection samples.
- Until Jan. 31, 2021, hand-written blood sample label templates may display both GRID and DID.
- Until Jan. 31, 2021, accompanying documentation for product and sample labels may display both GRID and DID.

Product Label	Prior to December 2020	after December 15, 2020
NC, Whole Blood Product Labels	DID	GRID
ISBT 128 Products (via HemaTrax®)	DID	GRID
Sample Label	Prior to December 2020 Donor/Sample Identifier	after December 15, 2020
Recruitment Testing (buccal swabs)	Sample ID (GRID format)	Sample ID (GRID format)
Customized Testing (DR, HR)	Sample ID (GRID format)	Sample ID (GRID format)
Confirmatory Typing (CT)	GRID and DID	GRID
Infectious Disease Markers (IDM) Testing	GRID and DID	GRID
Pre-Collection Testing	GRID and DID	GRID
NMDP Research Testing	GRID and DID	GRID
TC Directed Research Testing	GRID and DID	GRID
Other Workup Testing Sample Labels	GRID and DID	GRID

## WHEN

### When will I stop seeing NMDP DID?

The general timeline from WMDA is listed below:

## Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

Transition Period Dates	Original Donor ID	GRID
Current – Dec 31, 2018	Mandatory	Optional
Jan 1, 2019 – Apr 28, 2019	Mandatory	Mandatory for WMDA Search & Match Service
Apr 29, 2019 – Dec 16, 2019	Mandatory*	Mandatory external IT systems / communications
Jul 1, 2019 – Dec 16, 2019	Mandatory*	Mandatory operational forms / documentation
Dec 17, 2019 – Dec 14, 2020	Optional	Mandatory
Dec 15, 2020	Removed	Mandatory

## WHAT ELSE?

The following are additional operational questions related to GRID implementation not addressed in earlier sections.

### How will GRID be implemented for partners and centers who work with NMDP / Be The Match?

Each partner center / department is responsible to complete an assessment of their own forms, processes, documents, systems, vendors, etc. for potential changes anticipated as a result of GRID.

### Will DID disappear and when? How do I maintain traceability with a previous DID?

WMDA has mandated that old ID formats be decommissioned by December 15, 2020, when sharing IDs with other registries.

DIDs will continue to be traceable in the primary NMDP system or NMDP documentation utilized in your center in a less prominent location to align with WMDA requirements (e.g. **MatchSource**® for TCs, STAR Link for DCs, Donor Tracking sheet paperwork for AC/CCs, etc.).

For a **GRID Traceability Guide**, see the GRID page on the Network Website.

## FOR MORE GRID INFORMATION

### Where can I find more details about the GRID standards?

The guidance is issued as ICCBBA ST-015. See this [ICCBBA webpage](#) for details.

### Who can I contact with GRID questions?

Email your NMDP/Be The Match contact.