

GRID UPDATES

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



Frequently Asked Questions | GRID

WHAT

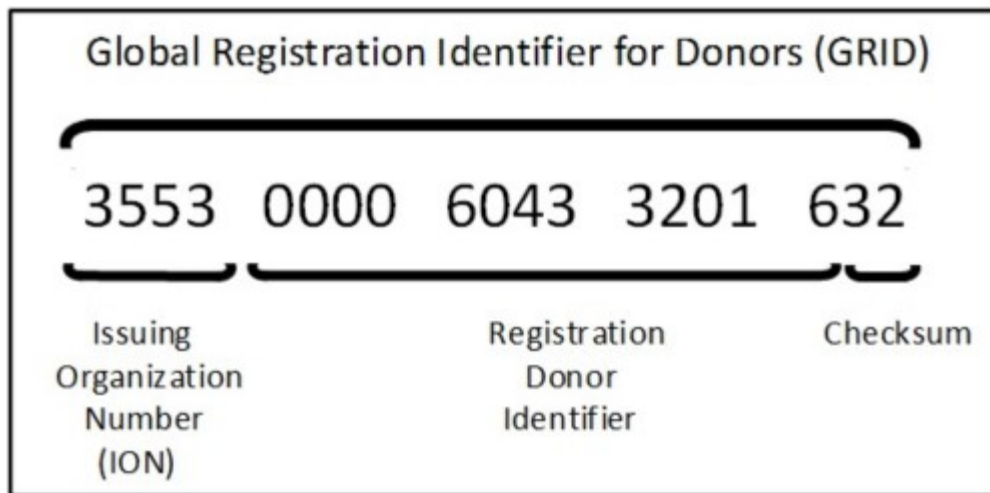
What is GRID?

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. The checksum is the outcome of running an algorithm. The GRID Checksum Calculator can be found [HERE](#).



*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: 3553 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.

What is Primary Donor Identifier(s)?

Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

This new 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.

The implementation of GRID for registries will:

- Provide a standard eye-readable format for the donor identifier that can be used by humans
- Provide a standard machine-readable format for the donor identifier that can be used by computer systems
- Provide a checksum for transcription control
- Provide consistent documentation
- Improve traceability of donors
- Reduce 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 be assigned a 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® will assign 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. The NMDP / Be The Match will be displaying both the GRID and DID to allow a seamless transition to the new GRID format.

Will some donor centers/registries use their own ION?

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

- Be the Match = 3553
- Be The Match Mexico = 9275
- C.W. Bill Young Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program (DoD) = 5315

Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

- 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>

Will donors receive new identification cards when they join the registry?

NMDP/ Be The Match will not be publically communicating the GRID change to donors until a later date.

WHERE

Where will GRID be used / displayed?

GRID will appear in all the places you typically use the Donor ID (DID) or Coop Donor ID. This includes all NMDP controlled documents such as, but not limited to the following:

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

GRID will also appear in NMDP systems/applications where applicable. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- STAR Link®
- Traxis®
- MatchSource®
- FormsNet3®

Through December 2019, **you will continue to see both the DID and the GRID**. This is to comply with WMDA requirements to ensure that every partner can adopt the changes for GRID according to the WMDA timeline as well as help the NMDP ensure traceability.

GRID is already being displayed on WMDA's Search and Match Service and some international registries have begun to use GRID. As registries continue to implement GRID, you may see the number on more incoming documentation and labels.

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.

Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

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

CIBMTR Forms

Due to some unforeseen issues with the federally regulated approval process of the forms: 2400 (Pre-Transplant Essential Data), 2004 (Infectious Disease Markers), 2005 (Confirmation of HLA Typing), and 2006 (Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant (HCT) Infusion) there will not be a GRID field available on these forms until the FormsNet3 fall release on October 25th, 2019. Please see the form for additional information about GRID.

Will sample and product labels change to accommodate GRID?

Yes. The NMDP will update both product and sample labels to display GRID where DID is currently represented. When both the DID and GRID are required, the NMDP will work to include both primary donor identifiers on applicable labels.

Product Label	Current Identifier	Spring 2019 Identifier(s)
NC, Whole Blood Product Labels	DID	DID and GRID
ISBT 128 Products (via HemaTrax®)	DID	GRID *accompanying documentation must contain both DID and GRID *tags should match affixed label
Sample Label	Current Donor / Sample Identifier	Spring 2019 Identifier(s)
Recruitment Testing (buccal swabs)	Sample ID (DID format)	Sample ID (GRID format)
Customized Testing (DR, HR)	Sample ID (DID format)	Sample ID (GRID format)
Confirmatory Typing (CT)	DID	GRID and DID
Infectious Disease Markers (IDM) Testing	DID	GRID and DID
Pre-Collection Testing	DID	GRID and DID
NMDP Research Testing	DID	GRID and DID
TC Directed Research Testing	DID	GRID and DID
Other Workup Testing Sample Labels	DID	GRID and DID

The WMDA has recognized that physical space on some labels may not accommodate both DID and GRID. In these cases, it will be acceptable for one of the IDs (i.e. GRID) to display on the label provided the **accompanying documentation contains both DID and GRID**. If either ID is missing, the registry receiving communication is justified to ask for the other ID.

AC/CCs that do not utilize HemaTrax are responsible for updating their “affixed” product label to accommodate GRID for all donors. If assistance is needed, please contact Sallie Allman, Senior Quality Management Specialist at sallman@nmdp.org.

Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

WHEN

When will I start seeing GRID?

There will be multiple document and system releases leading up to the April 29, 2019 milestone. Currently GRID is being displayed in STAR Link, Traxis and on the Tracking Sheet. The NMDP will try to maintain the same quarterly release schedule for GRID documentation updates when at all possible. However, due to the sheer number of documents requiring updates, additional releases may be required.

You may begin seeing GRIDs from other registries at any point. The general timeline from WMDA is listed below:

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

*on some labels, only one number will display; both numbers are required on accompanying paperwork

HOW

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.

If a partner / centers uses only NMDP systems, they will be ready for GRID.

How will GRID be implemented at NMDP / Be The Match?

The NMDP will take the following approach for each of the areas below:

- 1) **NMDP IT Systems:** NMDP IT systems are being updated based on a priority driven roadmap. Systems needed to support WMDA Search & Match listing will be updated first. Product owners will drive the requirements and updates to accommodate GRID.
- 2) **NMDP Business Process:** Each business area is responsible to evaluate their business processes to determine which (if any) need to be adjusted for adding GRID, including the dual period requiring both GRID and DID.
- 3) **NMDP Controlled Documents:** Departments and designated SMEs will work with their assigned technical writers to update all NMDP controlled documents that reference DID.

Frequently Asked Questions | GRID (Continued)

WHAT ELSE?

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

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

The DID will not disappear at this time from NMDP / Be The Match systems and documents. The NMDP's goal is to transition to GRID as our primary donor identifier for all processes and exchanges with external partners. 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 (e.g. Traxis for TCs, STAR Link for DCs, accompanying paperwork for AC/CCs, etc.).

How do we handle “in-flight” requests with donors during the GRID transition on 4/29/19 (when some documentation may not have GRID)?

Donors who are “in-flight” as of April 29, 2019, may display only DID, depending on where they are in the process and as long as accompanying documentation contains both. For example, some of the donor's documentation during workup may have been completed prior to GRID being available, but collected after GRID was available.

All efforts should be made to add GRID to applicable documentation for requests/orders in-flight, but it is not mandatory. Effective April 29, 2019, GRID will be considered the primary donor identifier.

The best laid plans...

The addition of GRID to our systems and forms has a large impact: hundreds of forms, documents, SOPs, MOP Chapters, etc. require updating to include GRID. With this size and scope, we know there will be things that get missed. When you see something that does not seem to be in accordance with the implementation of GRID, please work with your NMDP / Be The Match partners.

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 the NMDP GRID team at grid@nmdp.org.