Information on Tax Identification Numbers¹

Section I – TIN Description

Entities: Generally TIN of an entity is the Uniform Social Credit Code which can be found on the entity's Business Licence. If no Uniform Social Credit Code is obtained by the entity, its TIN (18 digits) is assigned by local tax office according to relevant rules. During current transition period, the 15-digit old TIN is still in use for some entities, printed on the Tax Registration Certificate.

Individual: TIN depends on its identification. For an individual using Chinese ID card as its identification, TIN is the ID number. For an individual using passport or other ID certificate as its identification, TIN is issued by local tax office according to relevant rules. In some regions, passport numbers are also recognized as TIN for foreign individuals.

Relevant tax provisions:

Coding for the Identification number for tax payers (Shuizongfa [2013]41)

Revision of Coding for the Identification number for tax payers (Gonggao [2015]66)

http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/n810341/n810755/c1826943/content.html

Notice on Taxpayer Identification Number for Individual Taxpayers

http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/n810341/n810755/c3960494/content.html

Additional information on the mandatory issuance of TINs

Does your jurisdiction automatically issue TINs to all residents for tax purposes?

Individuals: YES only for individuals using Chinese ID card as their identification as TIN is their ID numbers. As for individuals using passports or other ID certificates as their identification, the issuance of the Chinese TIN occurs following a first tax-return or following a first tax payment obligation.

Entities: NO. Entities need to be registered with tax authority or industry & commerce authority to obtain their TIN or Uniform Social Credit Code which is recognized as TIN.

¹ The information is to be considered as preliminary guidance only. Should there be any inconsistency between Chinese and English version, the Chinese version shall prevail.

Section II – TIN Structure

The structure of TIN varies depending on the types of taxpayer.

For entities, it consists of 15 characters (old TIN regime) or 18 characters (new TIN regime).

For an individual using Chinese ID card as its identification, TIN is its ID number which consists of 18 characters. For an individual using passport or other ID certificate as its identification, TIN is assigned in the following format. In some areas, passport numbers are also recognized as TIN for foreign individuals.

Type of taxpayer	Format	Explanation
Entity	99999999999999999999999999999999999999	For the old TIN regime, there are 15 numerals. While for the new TIN regime, there are 18 numerals with sometimes letters appearing in the last 10 characters, especially the 9 th , 10 th , 13 rd and 18 th .
Individual (using Chinese ID card as its identification)	99999999999999999999999999999999999999	18 numerals or 17 numerals followed by letter "x"
Individual (using Chinese passport as its identification)	C9999999999999999999 C9999999999999999	First character is "C" followed by 17 numerals or 16 numerals with a letter.
Individual (using Foreign passport as its identification)	W999999999999999 W99999999999999	First character is "W" followed by 17 numerals or 16 numerals with a letter.
Individual (using Soldier card as its identification)	19999999999999	First character is "J" followed by 14 numerals.
Individual (using Mainland Travel Permit for Hong Kong Residents as its identification)	H999999999999999999999	First character is "H" followed by 17 numerals or 16 numerals with a letter.
Individual (using Mainland Travel Permit for Macau Residents as its identification)	M9999999999999999999 M9999999999999999	First character is "M" followed by 17 numerals or 16 numerals with a letter.
Individual (using Mainland Travel Permit for Taiwan Residents as its identification)	T9999999999999999 T9999999999999999	First character is "T" followed by 17 numerals or 16 numerals with a letter.

This section contains information on the alphanumeric structure of the TIN, the use of slashed, capital letter, hyphens, etc. In addition, jurisdictions would outline the meaning given to the numbers and letters that make up the TIN (including for instance the use of check digits).

Section III - Where to find TINs?

Taxpayer who registered with tax authority was issued a certificate of tax registration that contains its TIN. Under the new TIN regime, taxpayer who registers with industry & commerce authority will be issued a business licence that contains its Uniform Social Credit Code, which is also its TIN. For an individual using Chinese ID card as its identification, its TIN number is shown on its identification card. For an individual using passport or other ID certificate as its identification, its TIN number is usually shown on a Tax-Paid Certificate which could be obtained from the local tax office.

For entity: CERTIFICATE OF TAX REGISTRATION (old TIN)

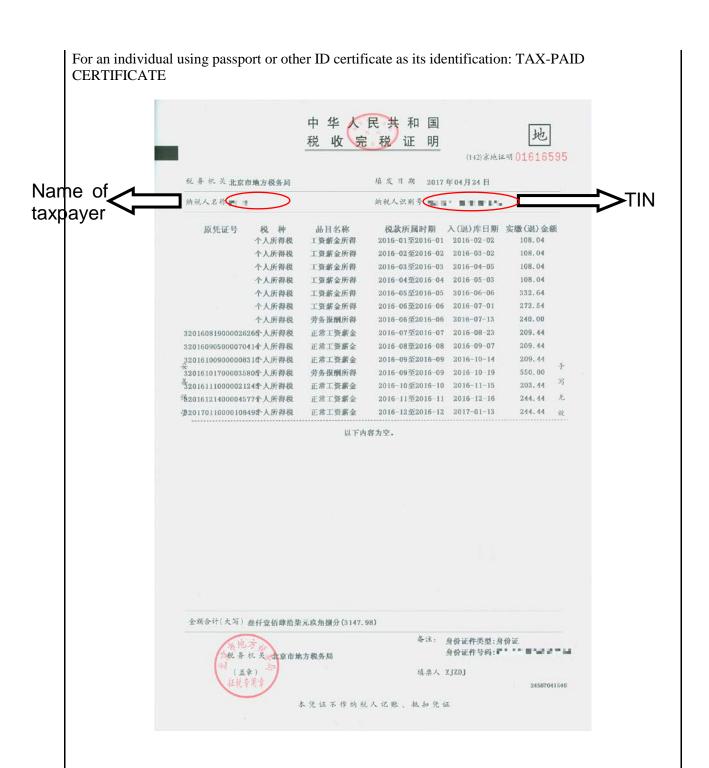


For entity: BUSINESS LICENCE (new TIN)



For an individual using Chinese ID card as its identification: IDENTIFICATION CARD





In this section, jurisdictions should list the official documents where the TIN can be found, such as the photo page of passports, social security cards, corporate documents, etc. Ideally, jurisdictions would provide scans of the documents on which they would highlight the place where the TIN can be found.

Section IV – TIN information on the domestic website

For further information:

http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/n810341/n810755/c1826943/content.html

http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2015-08/13/content_2912366.htm

No online checker is available now.

In this section, jurisdictions can provide hyperlinks to their domestic website where further information on TINs can be found. In addition, jurisdictions could provide a link to an online TIN-verification tool, if available.

Section V – Contact point for further information

Chinese Competent Authority

Global Cooperation and Compliance Division, International Taxation Department, State Administration of Taxation

No. 5, Yangfangdian Xilu, Haidian District, Beijing, P.R.China Email: eoicompetentauthority@chinatax.gov.cn

Under this header, jurisdictions would provide the contact details of the competent service within their tax administration, which can be contacted in case of further questions on TINs.