

Jurisdiction's name:	PANAMA		
Information on Tax Identification Numbers			
Section I – TIN Description			
<p>Please provide here a narrative description of the criteria governing the issuance of the TIN (e.g. some jurisdictions may only issue TINs to individuals, or to individuals that are filing tax returns; other jurisdictions may also issue TINs to (a subset of) Entities). In addition, information about the TIN issuing bodies, as well as the taxes for which the TIN is used as means of identification (e.g. income tax, wage tax, withholding taxes, VAT, etc.). In case a jurisdiction issues separate TINs for different taxes (e.g. income taxes, VAT, etc.), please only provide information in relation to the TINs you would expect to be provided for identification purposes in the context of the CRS.</p> <p>Furthermore, jurisdictions may provide any useful information regarding the validity and frequency of renewal of TINs, as well as any recent changes made to the structure of their TINs.</p> <p>Any further information regarding TINs that jurisdictions deem useful for publication on the CRS Portal may also be added in this narrative section.</p> <p>The Single Taxpayer Registry (<i>Registro Único de Contribuyente RUC</i>) is the tax identification number of every Panamanian natural or legal person. The RUC is therefore an individual unique number that identifies and individualizes natural or legal persons for tax purposes. Without this identification number, stakeholders will not be able to exercise any commercial dealings in Panama. It is important to note that, although it may not be feasible to exercise an economic activity in Panama without having a RUC, every legal person registered in Panama whether it operates or not in the Republic of Panama must have a RUC.</p> <p>The RUC of a natural person consists of the number of their personal identity card accompanied by a verification code (<i>dígito verificador DV</i>) allocated by the General Directorate of Revenue (<i>Dirección General de Ingresos DGI</i>), while for a legal person corresponds to their assigned registration number at the Public Registry followed by either a combination of other registry numbers provided by the Public Registry Office (i.e. microjacket, roll, or image) or, by the year of its incorporation, with a DV as well. Likewise, for a foreign natural person or foreign legal person residing in Panama, the RUC is the tax number (<i>Número Tributario NT</i>) assigned in the DGI.</p> <p>The DGI registers and activates the RUC at the request of the taxpayer and subject to a registration procedure. Registration of RUC is essential for the tax compliance of natural and/or legal persons that cause or must withhold taxes based on the economic activities they engage in, therefore covering all national taxes established in the Tax Code of the Republic Panama. There are no separate RUCs for different taxes.</p> <p>Its Legal basis is Law 76 of December 22, 1976 and the last changes made to the structure of the RUC were in 2014 by Executive Decree 847 of October 20, 2014.</p> <p>For Identification purposes in the context of CRS, the TINs expected to be provided would be those of Individuals and Entities.</p>			
Additional information on the mandatory issuance of Tax Identification Numbers (TINs)			
Question 1 – Does your jurisdiction automatically issue TINs to <u>all</u> residents for tax purposes?			
Individuals	[Yes]	Entities	[No]

Question 2a – If you answered No to Question 1 with respect to individuals, describe those instances where individuals are not being automatically issued a TIN.

Response:

Question 2b – If you answered No to Question 1 with respect to Entities (as defined by the CRS), describe those instances where Entities are not being automatically issued a TIN.

Response: The General Directorate of Revenue registers and activates the RUC at the request of the taxpayer and subject to a registration procedure.

Section II – TIN Structure

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

- **Natural Person:** consists of the number of the holder's personal identity card with an assigned DV.

For example: 8-100-678 DV: 90

The first number identifies the province or region (1-9 10, 12 or 13) of birth of the taxpayer.

- **Legal Person:** consists of the registration number assigned by the Public Registry with an assigned DV. For companies registered before 1985, the entry consists of numbers, periods and/or other characters.

For example:
4789-321-1515 DV: 85

Further explanation about the sequence of RUC for legal persons, is provided in the next page.

- The RUC for foreigners residing in Panama corresponds to the Tax Number, assigned by the DGI and identified with the prefix NT.

Executive Decree 847 of October 20, 2014 ordered the use of the Electronic Registry Registration System (*Sistema Electrónico de Inscripción Registral SIR*), which replaces the registration method of the record and document with the electronic real folio, consequently generating a restructuring of the RUC format for legal entities as of October 24, 2014.

The new structure of the RUC is Real Folio-2-YYYY or Real Folio-3-YYYY depending on the type of company since there are two consecutives after the FOLIO, one for Commercial Companies (2) and another for Non-Commercial Companies (3), being YYYY the year of registration of the company.

The Real Folio-2-YYYY structure will apply to the following types of companies:

- Limited liability
- Anonymous society
- Limited Partnership by Shares
- Simple Limited Partnership
- Branches or Agencies of Foreign Companies
- Collective Societies

For example: 155986022-2-2019

The Real Folio-3-YYYY structure will apply to the following types of companies:

Private Interest Foundations
Non-profit Associations
Civil Partnerships

For example: 26631254-3-2020

The sequential of the Folio comprises of 9 digits for commercial companies and 8 digits for non-commercial companies. It is consecutive and incremental and it will not be limited only to this number of digits, but will grow over time.

According to data from the Public Registry of Panama, to date there have been four generations of RUC for entities, namely:

1st Generation	TOME	FOLIO	ENTRY	1913-1974
2nd Generation	ROL	IMAGE	TAB	1974-1999
3rd Generation	REDI DOC	1	TAB	1999 – October 21 2014
4th Generation	REAL	FOLIO 2(*) 3(*)	YYYY	October 24 2014 - to date

2 (*) Commercial Companies

3 (*) Non-Commercial Companies

For Estates (*Fincas*), before Executive Decree 847 of October 20, 2014 their RUC was made up of the estate number and the location code. The first number of the location code indicates the province where the property is located.

For example: 000001-8001 (8 = Panama Province)

With the implementation of the Electronic Registry Registration System, the new Estates that originate with the new system will be identified with a Real Electronic Folio Number, without using data such as volume, document, roll, etc. The new Electronic Real Folios -FINCAS- originating from segregations, will have 8 digits.

Section III – Where to find TINs

Please list here 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.

With respect to individuals, their RUC can be found in their personal identity card or birth certificate.

Regarding entities, there is no official document containing the assigned RUC number, upon successful registration/approval from DGI, a confirmation email is sent to the taxpayer or representative that requested the RUC. Additionally, active RUC numbers can always be verified at the DGI's website by simply writing the taxpayer's name. It can also be found in Tax Returns and other tax forms.

Section IV – TIN information on the domestic website

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

<https://dgi.mef.gob.pa/Registro.php>

<https://dgi.mef.gob.pa/FormulariosPdf/Formulario-RUC.pdf>

<https://dgi.mef.gob.pa/PreguntasFrecuentes/ruc.php>

<https://etax2.mef.gob.pa/etax2web/Login.aspx#>

Section V – Contact point for further information

Please provide here the contact details of the competent service authority, which can be contacted in case of further questions on TINs.

Martin Barciela Chambers
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General Directorate of Revenue
Ministry of Economy and Finance
Republic of Panama
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