



IAE Stakeholder Forum Questions and Answers

On April 20, 2021, the U.S. General Services Administration’s Integrated Award Environment (IAE) hosted an online Stakeholder Forum webinar. With over 600 participants, the program focused on searching for contracting opportunities in the new beta.SAM.gov design. We received many questions from the participants on a variety of topics. Our subject matter experts have provided answers below. Remember, you can search the Federal Service Desk knowledge base for additional videos and frequently asked questions or get help with technical issues at FSD.gov.

Questions	Answers
Will fpds.gov be fully retired? The data available there is much more extensive than what is in beta.sam.gov. I'd hate to lose access to that trove of data.	All of our systems will be integrated into what is today beta.SAM.gov. At this time, only FPDS reports are on beta.SAM.gov . The rest of FPDS and all of its data will be integrated at a later date.
When is the expected transition of FPDS - will the atom feed continue?	The date of full integration of FPDS date is not yet announced. ATOM feeds will continue.
I would appreciate an update on transitioning eSRS to be fully used in sam.gov .	We are in the early stages of the eSRS transition at this time; we will announce more information at a later date.
Once Contract Opportunities is in Sam.gov, will the links that I've shared with coworkers for notices in beta.sam.gov still work?	When SAM.gov integrates into beta.SAM.gov , and the "beta" goes away from the URL, the rest of the URL will remain valid
As both sam.gov and beta.Sam is merged into one, will the current website we log into, which is beta.Sam will the link change and or out login?	If you enter the URL " beta.SAM.gov " after the merge, you will be redirected to SAM.gov. Login will remain the same, via login.gov , with your current credentials.
Will all opportunities currently marked as follow come through with the system updates, or will we have to re-follow?	Your current followed records and saved searches will be preserved through the design and SAM.gov transitions.
Hi--I'm a frequent user of the CFDA. Can you talk a little on what new features might be forthcoming with the search functions, data,	There are no changes to Assistance Listings detail views or data entry at this time. The design of filters and search pages will change.



or anything else? Thank you!	
Will projects you indicate you are interested in or are following on beta.SAM.gov be carried over in the Monday change and ultimately the integration with SAM.gov?	Your current followed records, saved searches, and notices where you've joined the IVL will be preserved through the design and SAM.gov transitions.
Will this impact GSA eBuy? If so, how?	GSA eBuy will not be impacted by the SAM integration.
On the Assistance Listings, I'm confused by what the "active" filter actually means. Thank you	There are 2 states for any record: active or inactive (expired).
Does the RFP API change or is it going to be the same	Neither the Get Opportunities Public API nor the Opportunities Management API will change at this transition.
Currently, on beta.sam, we have to disconnect from the VPN in order for the site to work, or it will just spin and not move to the next field. Do we still have to disconnect from the VPN?	Different networks have different security measures that impact performance.
Also will there be an API for the sam.gov data?	There already are APIs for SAM data, and most are available in production now. Please reach out to newsamtesting@gsa.gov to get the information on how to test and connect.
What changes will take place for those that are posting, as opposed to seeking, contract opportunities?	Federal users of contract opportunities can expect a new public landing page for opportunities and a landing page for federal users to work from with specific help available. Posting and editing opportunities will not change at this time.
Does the "inactive" status mean that the program is not currently funded? Or....? thank you	This is a setting the Assistance Listing Agency controls. Generally, it is meant to show no funding and there are no active opportunities on grants.gov.
Recently I haven't been able to mark myself	There is a known defect with the IVL that is

<p>as an interested vendor. Is that due to current changes and will this be covered in today's training?</p>	<p>currently being worked, separate from the transitions. We expect a fix to be deployed in the next few days.</p>
<p>Do you have to sign in to see only the contract opportunities page?</p>	<p>No, you can search and view contract opportunities without signing in. If you want to save a search or follow a record, you will need to sign in.</p>
<p>Will there be a mobile-friendly site or a phone app?</p>	<p>We have improved the responsiveness of the site. The updated pages are mobile friendly including the new home page, landing pages for contract opportunities and the other domains, and search results pages. We are continuing to update additional pages across the site to improve responsiveness.</p>
<p>I did refer to the help page and confirmed I was aligned to an entity and I was logged in. It would not populate my duns, name or company in the IVL cell.</p>	<p>There is a known defect with the IVL that is currently being worked, separate from the transitions. We expect a fix to be deployed in the next few days.</p>
<p>On the May 24th merge, what will log-in look like? Will sam.gov roles take precedence?</p>	<p>Signing in will be the same; you'll use your same login.gov credentials and your roles from SAM.gov will migrate. If you have a beta.SAM account make sure both accounts have the same email address. If you have roles in both beta.SAM.gov and SAM.gov, you will keep your roles from both systems.</p>
<p>Will the entity registrations from SAM be integrated in the final conversion to beta.SAM??</p>	<p>Yes. Your entity registration data and roles will migrate from SAM.gov. If you have a beta.SAM account make sure both accounts have the same email address.</p>
<p>Will the interested parties list be available publically? and in the API?</p>	<p>The Interested Vendor List is available on contract opportunity notices where the contracting officer has enabled it. It is only available if enabled, if you are signed in to your beta.SAM.gov account, and if your</p>

	account is associated with an entity registered in SAM.gov .
If I am registered in Beta.Sam, will my login credential still work on Sam.gov, of 5/24/21?	If you currently have accounts in both and they both use the same email address, then yes, your same login credentials will work.
Is search functionality for contract opportunities going to be improved?	The new design will provide several enhancements to search. Advanced filters are easier to find. The filtering layout is more compact. Filtering by state is turned on by default. We've improved the date filters, including adding a calendar selector. Search results are more compact. More results are displayed on a page, and the user can set more results per page. We are continuing to make additional improvements.
Will you be able to search for opportunities by state?	Yes, users will find a filter by state option in the "Place of Performance" by default. This option is already in beta.SAM.gov under the "change filters" option.
If our company has two logins- one for beta, one for SAM, both for the same company. Will these blend? OR stay separate?	A user account should be specific to an individual email and login credentials. If both accounts share the same email address, everything will migrate. We will have more on this in the next session, which will be dedicated to the May integration.
If I am registered in Beta.Sam, will my login credential still work on Sam.gov, of 5/24/21?	Yes, all users currently on beta.SAM.gov will continue to use the same sign in credentials for the same access starting May 24th on SAM.gov. If they share the same email address, everything will migrate. We will have more on this in the next session, which will be dedicated to the May integration
Will the 150,000 record download limitation be revised? I pull reports for Contract Data	When FPDS Reports migrated to beta.SAM.gov , we increased the download

<p>and regularly need more than 150k records per download.</p>	<p>limitation significantly to 150,000 records. If you routinely need to pull more than this, we recommend using an API available on Open.GSA.gov/API.</p>
<p>When will the Assistance Listing ad hoc reports be available? Beta.SAM has been noting that ad hoc reports will be coming soon, but has posted that statement for months.</p>	<p>There is not a specific date for release of this functionality at this time.</p>
<p>Will our saved searches be transferred over?</p>	<p>Saved searches in beta.SAM.gov will be preserved through both transitions.</p>
<p>Are you going to add the capability to search for A [and] B?</p>	<p>This is a planned search enhancement that will be deployed after the May SAM.gov integration.</p>
<p>Do you have guidance on how to narrow the search results? That is one of my chief complaints, that there are too many results that come back and it's not easy to filter out what's not relevant.</p>	<p>We recommend using a combination of keywords and filters, such as the date filter, NAICS code filter, Place of Performance, Set-Aside, or Notice Type to narrow your search results.</p>
<p>When will you add Boolean functions?</p>	<p>This is a planned search enhancement that will be deployed after the May SAM.gov integration.</p>
<p>Different email address is used for Sam.gov; only our CEO uses that as he is the company owner; I work in Busiuness development, so I use Beta.sam, to gather and search solicitation data, etc.</p>	<p>Users of legacy SAM.gov will be able to sign in using the same login.gov credentials they have today and access data they have on SAM.gov. If a different email is used for a current beta.SAM.gov account, then the accounts will remain separate without change in May.</p>
<p>When will the DoD additional subtiers be implemented? These search functions are a much-needed enhancement. Also is it planned to always just have multiple</p>	<p>These are both planned enhancements that will be deployed after the May SAM.gov integration. In the meantime, you can use the keyword search to find DoD sub-tiers.</p>

keywords be an "or" syntax or will there be a function to select "or" or "and" in the keywords	
The old FBO site used to send out an email notification each day for new opportunities on a saved search. Will that be the case in the future?	Notifications for saved searches are a capability that exists today. In your saved search, you can edit them and enable notifications.
How do I get a Notice ID?	The notice ID is available at the top of each contract opportunity record.
I may have missed this, but is there a way to switch the search algorithm in more advanced way? Such as: "X" and "Y" or "X" not "Y"?	This is a planned search enhancement that will be deployed after the May SAM.gov integration.
Interested Vendors List began last week NOT recognizing Company Name or DUNS. I have open ticket with Federal Help Desk.	We are aware of that issue for some users and that issue is being addressed.
I just want to make sure that after the full transition is completed in May, I will still be able to log in to Sam.gov, in the same manner that I login to Bet.Sam.gov right now.	Yes, both are using login.gov. If you use the same email address for both, you will be able to log in and access your information.
Is there a way for your search's be set up so you receive an email notification?	Notifications for saved searches is a capability that exists today. In your saved search, you can edit them and enable notifications.
When Controlled Documents (TDPs) are uploaded to the Attachments section of a notice, we copy the link and paste it into the solicitation. Will those links still be valid once the link changes to Sam.gov and "beta" is dropped?	Specific attachment links on a beta.SAM.gov notice page are not static, and controlled attachment links should not be copied to allow others or be shared in this manner.
Will current saved searches in beta.sam.gov move to the new environment in SAM.gov?	Saved searches in beta.SAM.gov will be preserved through both transitions.
Once I sign in I am signed out too quickly. Can the time to be signed in be configured to be	If you are inactive for 15 minutes, the system will notify you that your session will end due

longer	to inactivity. If you do not opt to continue your session, you will be signed out. This time period and action is a part of the site's security requirements and cannot be modified.
Will searches and downloads provide location by state?	You can search and download data from the Data Services area of beta.SAM.gov or use the DataBank to get information based on location. Downloads of search results are intended as summaries to reference alongside a full notice.
Have you fixed the following list so the name of the opportunity appears instead of its number?	This enhancement is still being reviewed with users for overall changes to the following.
If a notice is posted with dashes (ex: SPRDL1-21-R-0003), do I have to include the dashes when I search for the notice? As the site is now, if I search for the notice without the dashes it won't locate it.	Yes, include the dashes if they are a part of the notice ID.
Is there anyway to find incumbent information?	Information about existing contract awards may be viewed on FPDS.gov
Will SAM entity registration points of contact need to create beta.SAM accounts?	If you are listed as the entity POC on your entity registration, you do not need to create an account on beta.SAM.gov, the data will carry over with the rest of the entity registration data.
Is there a point of contact for API-related questions? Using open.gsa.gov/api seems to look for different API keys than the key that you obtain via beta.sam.gov. I am looking for some clarification there.	You can submit an FSD ticket for specific questions on connections. Make sure you are checking the APIs that have "Beta.SAM.Gov" in the label right now. The currently listed "SAM.gov" items are for what will be legacy on May 24th.
Any chance that a the export/download file	We will share this feedback.

<p>might include a link to open the individual program detail record?</p>	
<p>As a PTAC counselor, how can I go into to show clients how to create saved searches?</p>	<p>We have a number of help resources at the Federal Service Desk, including how-to videos on how to save a search. This video shows how to search and save searches in the new design: https://www.fsd.gov/gsafsd_sp?id=gsafsd_kb_articles&sys_id=0c53d7891bfa20d02fe5ed7ae54bcbf6</p>
<p>Can we please disable notifying other followers on the following list for contract opportunities?</p>	<p>We will share this feedback.</p>
<p>The FPDS.gov site used to contain a link to an MS Excel file listing of the various Department, Agency, Contracting Office codes. That list seems to no longer be available at FPDS.gov. Please continue to make that MS Excel file available on FPDS.gov.</p>	<p>We will share this feedback.</p>
<p>Can you briefly cover the need to be assigned a “role” in order to search contract opportunities? As an independent consultant, I support a vendor who has asked me to monitor Sam.gov for contract opportunities. What kind of role must be assigned to me? And who must make that assignment?</p>	<p>Anyone can search, view, and follow contract opportunities with or without a role with an entity. However, if you would like to join the Interested Vendors List (IVL), you must have your beta.SAM.gov account associated with an entity that is registered to do business with the government in SAM.gov. An entity administrator can assign you the role of Viewer, Data Entry, or Administrator of their entity. A Viewer role can view but not update an entity’s entity management registration. Data Entry and Administrator roles can update an entity registration record.</p>
<p>When downloading attachments from contract opportunities, Is there a plan to</p>	<p>Contracting Officers have the option to name a file directly in the system or leave the</p>

<p>remove the long string of numbers from the start of each file name?</p>	<p>attachment with the name as uploaded. There are also links associated with the attachment, so unique URLs are necessary.</p>
<p>If I follow an opportunity, will I automatically be added to the IVL?</p>	<p>No, following a contract opportunity will add it to your following list, which allows you to reference it quickly and be notified if the notice changes. The Interested Vendors List (IVL) allows you to indicate to other entities that you are interested in the opportunity. You must have your beta.SAM.gov account associated with an entity that is registered to do business with the government in SAM.gov in order to join the IVL.</p>
<p>Will the FPDS Ad hoc search feature migrate? I use it a lot and would hate to lose it.</p>	<p>Ad hoc contract data reporting functionality migrated to beta.SAM.gov and is available there today. The FPDS ezSearch feature remains available at FPDS.gov.</p>