Obtaining 501(c)3 Status

Section 501(c)(3) is the portion of the US Internal Revenue Code that allows for federal tax exemption of nonprofit organizations, specifically those that are considered public charities, private foundations, or private operating foundations. RSOs are not covered by the University's 501(c)3 status when making purchases from their off-campus account.

Please Note: *RSOs cannot use the University's Tax ID number, and individual students should not create organizational bank accounts using their personal Social Security Number!*

If a RSO is connected to a nonprofit organization, student officers should work with the large non-profit organization to find out if it is covered under 501(c)3 status.

Should an RSO believe they qualify for non-profit status and seek to apply with the federal government, more information can be found here: **http://nonprofitsupportservices.net/start-a-nonprofit/**

PLEASE NOTE

Obtaining an EIN number does not mean and RSO becomes an official 501(c)3, or tax exempt, Non-Profit Organization that does not have to pay federal or state taxes.

An RSO with an EIN number will pay taxes on purchases with the off-campus bank account, but may not have to file a tax return.