

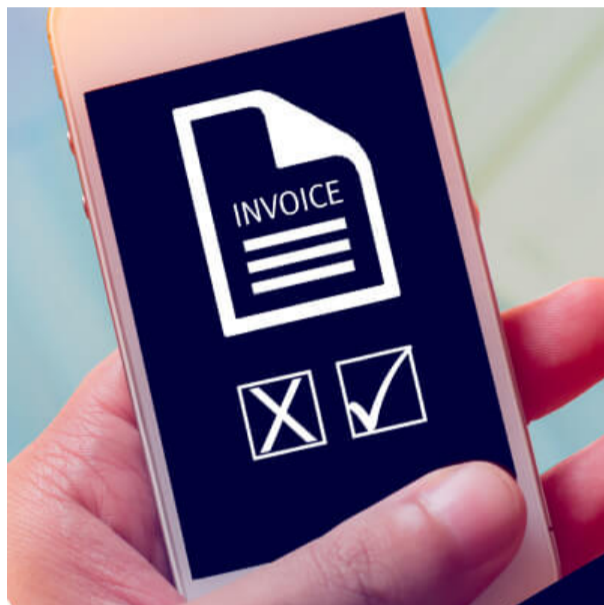
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E-Invoicing

Electronic invoice in public administration 2020

Rolf Holicki | January 23, 2020



You should know that

In 2020, state authorities and federal contractors will have two important dates: From April 18, 2020, the state authorities will be obliged to accept electronic invoices. As of November 27, 2020, contractors who issue invoices to the federal government will be required to submit them electronically.

The following is a summary of the most important facts about the EU Directive 2014/55 / EU, the E-Bill Act and the E-Bill Regulation.

What does the **introduction of electronic invoicing in public administration** mean for you as an authority or entrepreneur in **2020** ? Which bills are affected by the e-bill law and which are affected by the e-bill regulation? What are the requirements for the individual federal states and how can these be implemented in terms of IT technology? The following summary provides answers to these pressing questions. It is based on the ["Guidelines for Practical](#)

[Implementation"](#), Version 1.4, Peters, Schönberger & Partner mbB, Munich, January 8, 2020.

The electronic invoice in public administration will become mandatory in 2020. This should enable a **media-free process from sending invoices to payment** . This affects both federal and state authorities and their contractors. All companies invoicing the public administration are obliged to comply with this regulation. Once the technical requirements have been met, the electronic invoice format can also be used for business partners.

For you as the person concerned, two perspectives are relevant for the implementation. On the one hand the legal perspective, which defines what has to be implemented in what form and by what point in time, and on the other hand the technical perspective. How can the requirements be implemented in terms of IT technology? What are the requirements for your IT system to comply with the legal requirements and how can I integrate everyone involved?

First the legal perspective:

- The e-bill law was published on April 2017. It implements the EU directive 2014/55 / EU.
- The federal e-bill regulation was adopted on September 6, 2017 and published on October 18, 2017.
- The individual federal states are responsible for the implementation of the e-bill law.
- The EU directive regulates the obligation to accept and process electronic invoices only for the so-called "above-threshold [\[1\]](#) " allocation area. The e-bill law, on the other hand, is applicable to all invoices regardless of the value of the contract awarded and also includes subliminal [\[2\]](#) awards within its scope.
- Above a "minimum limit" of EUR 1,000, an invoice must be issued and transmitted in electronic form. The specified formats must be adhered to and the transmission must take place via the specified transmission channels.

Exceptions to the obligation to issue electronic invoices exist in the following cases:

- Direct order acc. § 14 UVgO under 1,000 euros.
- Defense and security specific orders
- Foreign Office affairs
- Other purchases abroad
- Orders in the context of so-called organ loans

Due to the federal structure in Germany, each federal state must implement Directive 2014/55 / EU independently. Below is a current overview:

Land	Unterschwelbereich	Ausstellungspflicht	Portallösung
Bund	Ja	Ja	Ja
Baden-Württemberg	Ja (Ausnahmen)	Ja	Ja
Bayern	Nein	–	–
Berlin	Ja (Ausnahmen)	Nein	Ja
Brandenburg	Ja (Ausnahmen)	Nein	Ja
Bremen	Ja	Ja	Ja
Hamburg	Nein (nicht geplant)		
Hessen	Nein	–	–
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	–	–	–
Niedersachsen	Ja	–	–
Nordrhein-Westfalen	Ja	Nein	Ja
Rheinland-Pfalz	–	–	–
Saarland	Ja	–	–
Sachsen	Ja (Ausnahmen)	–	–
Sachsen-Anhalt	Ja	Nein	–
Schleswig-Holstein	Ja (Ausnahmen)	Nein	Nein
Thüringen	Ja	–	–

Explanation column headings:

sub-threshold area : Even with order values that are less than 1,000 euros, accepts the authority bills and in the electronic format.

Obligation to issue : From November 27, 2020, the contractor must submit his invoices to the authorities in electronic form. Portal

solution : The federal government and the state provide a portal for the transmission of electronic invoices.

The technical perspective:

The aim of electronic invoicing is to completely automate the entire process, from creating, transmitting, receiving and processing an invoice. In this way, the advantages of digitalization in terms of the security and speed of processes and the savings potential can be best exploited. However, this presupposes that *“Inform all parties involved about legal, semantic, organizational and technical standards. Interoperability, i.e. the creation of integrated, electronically networked, media-free process worlds beyond administrative levels and administrative boundaries, requires that the IT systems and applications involved can communicate with one another smoothly and reliably. Existing specialist processes must therefore be designed in such a way that stronger networking of existing stand-alone solutions is made possible.”* (From: The electronic invoice in public administration)

SEEBURGER offers comprehensive and competent advice on the subject of [e-invoicing](#) and the practical implementation of the requirements of electronic invoicing. With the SEEBURGER [e-invoicing solution](#), we support you in digitizing incoming and [outgoing invoices](#). The savings potential of an electronic solution is between 60 and 80 percent of the costs compared to a paper-based process.

Please contact us if you require further information or would like to initiate the changes in good time

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[1] **Upper threshold definition** (found on ibau.de)

The thresholds are adjusted to the general price level every two years. The threshold for construction contracts and concession awards is currently (2019) at EUR 5,548,000, for social and so-called special services at EUR 750,000. This includes z. B. Labor market and artistic services, legal advice, security and postal services, patient transport and canteen operations. The threshold for the awarding of service and delivery contracts is EUR 221,000, in the sectoral sector EUR 443,000, for the awarding of a top federal authority EUR 144,000.

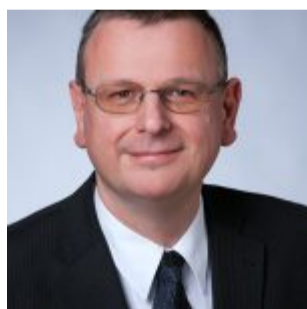
[2] **Subliminal definition** (found on ibau.de)

Unterschwellig werden im Vergaberecht öffentliche Vergaben genannt, deren Auftragswerte unterhalb der Schwellenwerte nach dem Gesetz für Wettbewerbsbeschränkungen (GWB) liegen. Die für diesen Bereich zulässigen Verfahrensarten werden für Liefer- und Dienstleistungsaufträge in der Unterschwellenvergabeordnung (UVgO) geregelt, für Bauleistungen in der Vergabe- und Vertragsordnung für Bauleistungen (VOB/A). Die Definition findet sich in der UVgO. Bei der UVgO handelt es sich um ein Haushaltsrecht der Bundesländer.

Teilen Sie diesen Beitrag, wählen Sie Ihre Plattform!



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Rolf Holicki, Director Business Unit E-Invoicing, SAP & Web Processes, is responsible for the SAP / WEB applications. He has more than 25 years of experience in the areas of e-invoicing, SAP, workflow and business process automation. Rolf Holicki has been with SEEBURGER since 2004.

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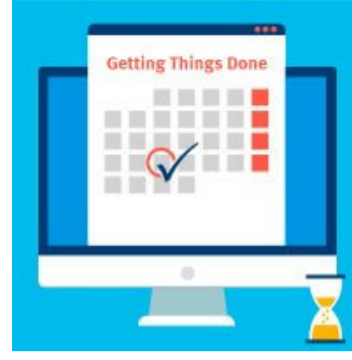
[E-invoicing in France also for B2B e-bills by early 2025](#)



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