

## LOOK UP MULTIPLE FAINS ON USASPENDING

### Using API Application: Postman

Agencies are encouraged to visit [USAspending.gov](https://www.usaspending.gov) to confirm the publication of all submitted records for Award display at the web site per the 2014 DATA Act. Agency files contain dozens of records each month, so rather than looking up one FAIN at a time, the following instructions allow the agency to look up many records in one action.

#### What you need

*Be sure you have downloaded the Postman application (accessible on the web) before starting the Step-by-Step.*

- **Postman** | *The Collaboration Platform for API Development* at <https://www.postman.com>  
This is a onetime download.
- Fresh Excel document to prepare list of FAINs for the script
- Fresh Notepad document for script
- Internal folder for saving your work and results

**NOTE** Steps 2-8 below are only needed for your initial set-up of the Postman application.  
Future queries are performed using Step 1 and Steps 9-13 (beginning on page 4).

### STEP 1 GATHER AND PREPARE THE LIST OF FAINS

Open an Excel document and follow these instructions:

Place FAINs of interest in Column A	Place formula into B2 cell: =CONCATENATE("","A2","","") then copy it down over remaining cells	Copy the results from Column B and PASTE VALUES into Column C	Remove the comma from the last FAIN in Column C
21IC11132762212	"21IC11132762212",	"21IC11132762212",	
20IG11132762361	"20IG11132762361",	"20IG11132762361",	
22IC11132762093	"22IC11132762093",	"22IC11132762093",	
22IC11132762044	"22IC11132762044",	"22IC11132762044",	Example: "22IC11132762044"

- Place your FAINs in Column A.
- Paste the formula into cell B2. =CONCATENATE("","A2","","")
- Highlight cell B2 and copy downward in the B column to place the formula into each subsequent cell.  
Should look like this:  
=CONCATENATE("","A2","","")  
=CONCATENATE("","A3","","")  
=CONCATENATE("","A4","","")  
=CONCATENATE("","A5","","")
- Highlight and copy the **values** in Column B.
- Highlight cell C2, right click and "Paste Values"
- Remove the comma from the last cell in Column C

## **STEP 2 MOVE LIST OF FAINs FROM COLUMN C INTO THE SCRIPT**

### **Script**

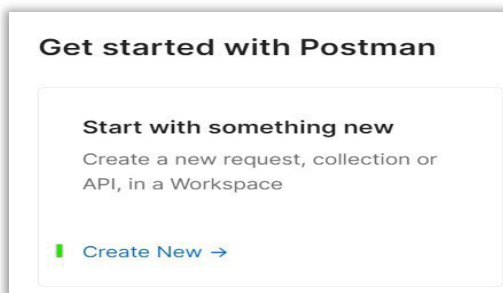
```
{
  "filters": {
    "award_ids": ["XXXXXXXXXX",
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX",
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX",
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX",
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"]
  },
  "subawards": false,
  "sort": "Start Date",
  "order": "desc"
}
```

Copy data from Column C and paste into the green highlighted area within the script. Then *Remove the last blank*

```
{
  "filters": {
    "award_ids": ["AM180100XXXXG146",
"15FMPPC00079",
"AM190100XXXXG128",
"AM190100XXXXG138",
"16LFPPHI0012",
"AM170100XXXXG141"]
  },
  "subawards": false,
  "sort": "Start Date",
  "order": "desc"
}
```

## **STEP 3 OPEN POSTMAN APPLICATION TO BEGIN PROCESS**

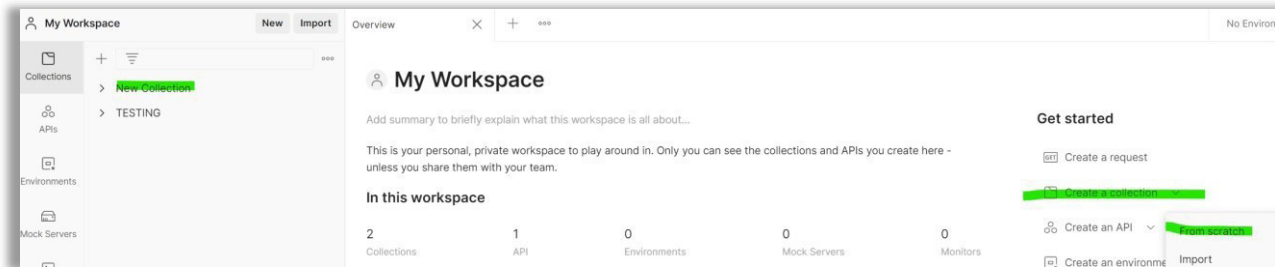
In the ***“Start with something new”*** box, click on ***“Create New”***



## **STEP 4 CREATE A COLLECTION** (See green highlights in screenshot below.)

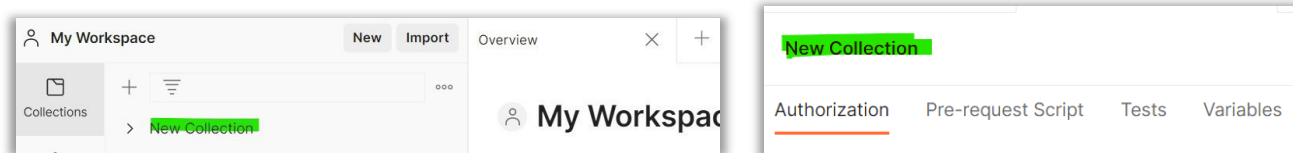
On the *My Workspace* screen

1. Click on *Collections* icon at top of Left side
2. On the far-right side, click on *Create a collection* and select 'From scratch' in the dropdown.
  - a. This will create the folder to save the script within Postman.
  - b. Look for "New Collection" on the left.



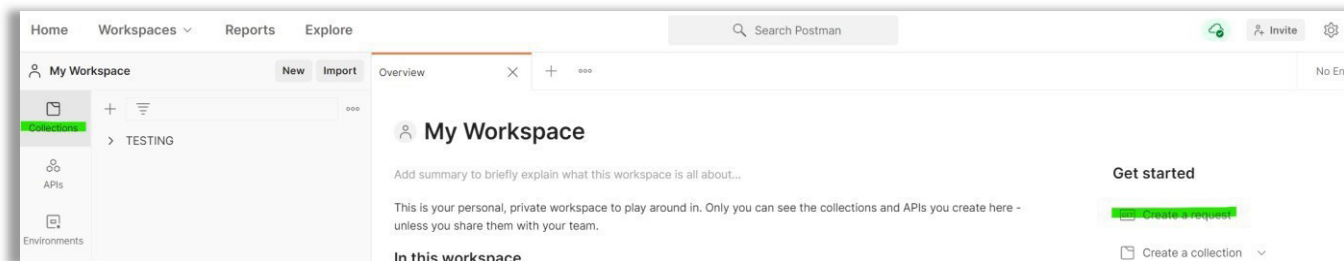
## **STEP 5 NAME YOUR COLLECTION**

To Name the collection, click on **New Collection** again and revise the title as desired.  
Hit **Enter**.

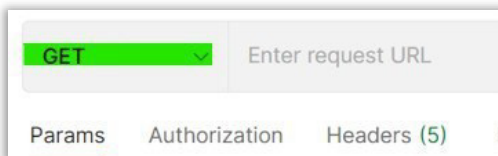


## **STEP 6 CREATE A REQUEST**

Click on **Create a request** See green highlights

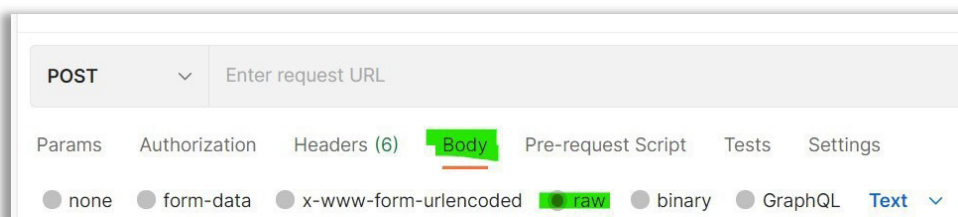


## **STEP 7 CHANGE GET TO POST**



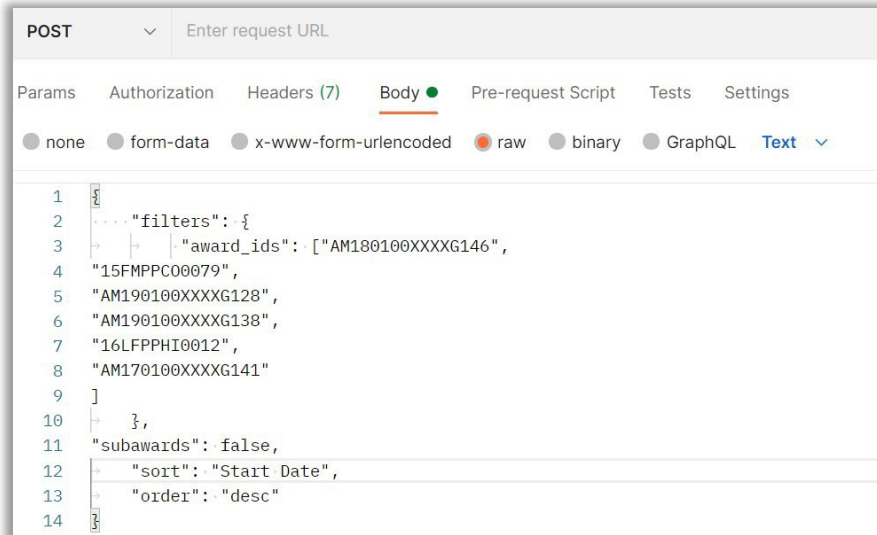
## **STEP 8 MAKE SELECTIONS**

- Click on *Body* and select 'raw'
- Click on *Text* and select **JSON**



## STEP 9 MOVE DATA TO POSTMAN

Paste the data from your script file into the Box

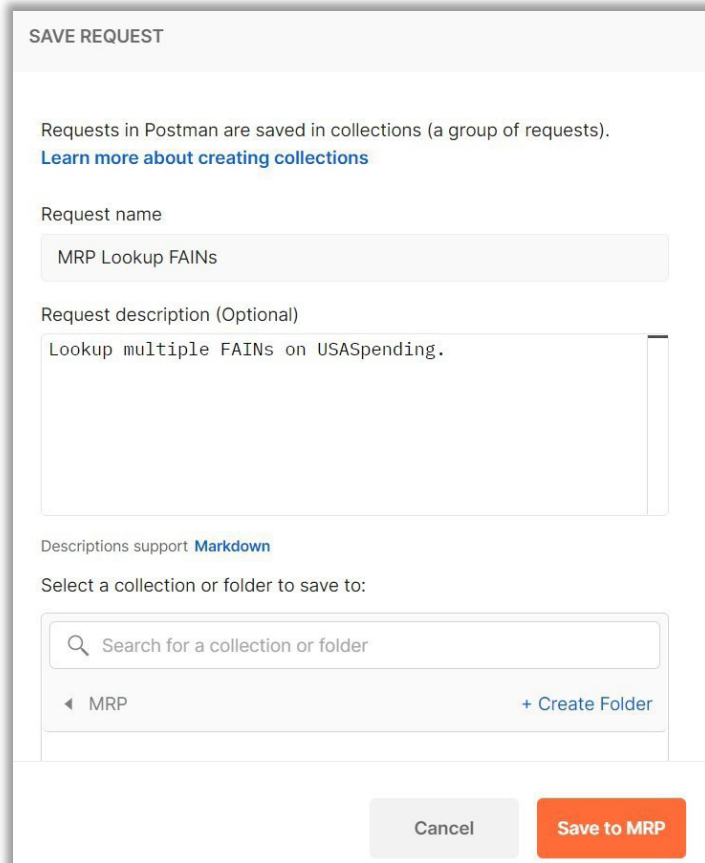


The image shows the Postman interface for a POST request. The 'Body' tab is selected, and the data is entered as raw JSON. The JSON body is as follows:

```
1 {  
2   "filters": {  
3     "award_ids": ["AM180100XXXXG146",  
4     "15FMPPC00079",  
5     "AM190100XXXXG128",  
6     "AM190100XXXXG138",  
7     "16LFPPHI0012",  
8     "AM170100XXXXG141"  
9   ]  
10  },  
11  "subawards": false,  
12  "sort": "Start Date",  
13  "order": "desc"  
14 }
```

## STEP 10 SAVE REQUEST

Click **Save** to save this request and **Save** to the desired folder

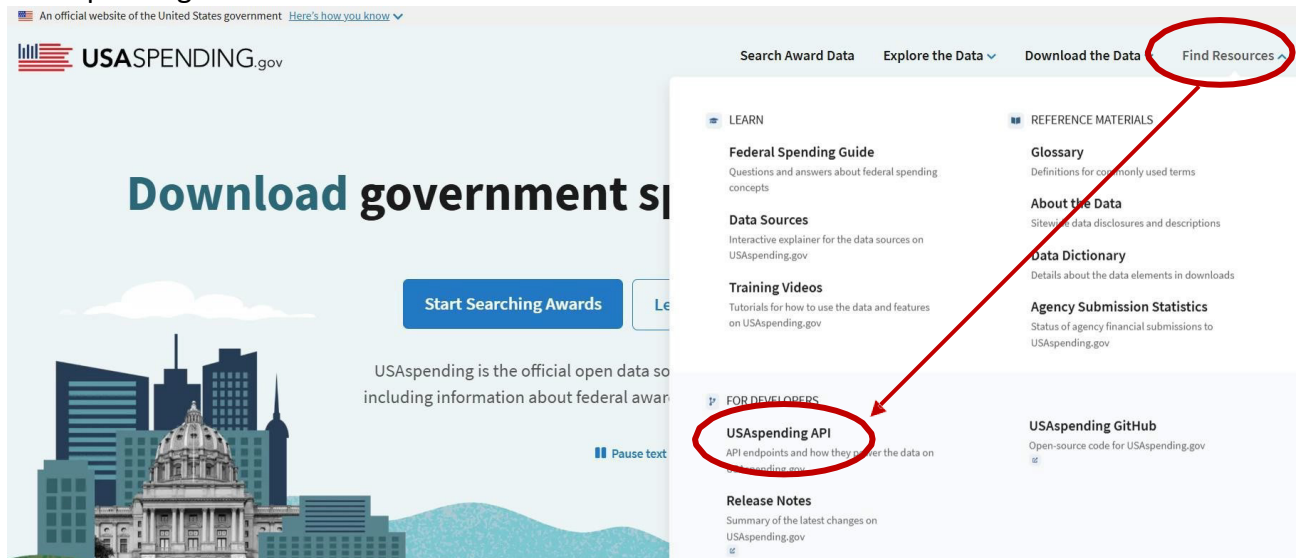


The image shows the 'SAVE REQUEST' dialog box in Postman. It contains the following fields and options:

- Request name:** MRP Lookup FAINs
- Request description (Optional):** Lookup multiple FAINs on USASpending.
- Descriptions support:** Markdown
- Select a collection or folder to save to:** A search bar with the text 'Search for a collection or folder'. Below the search bar, 'MRP' is listed as a folder, and there is a '+ Create Folder' button.
- Buttons:** 'Cancel' and 'Save to MRP'.

## STEP 11 ACCESS THE DATA ON USASPENDING.GOV

1. In top menu on *USASpending.gov*, click dropdown for “Find Resources” on the right, then select “USAspending API.”

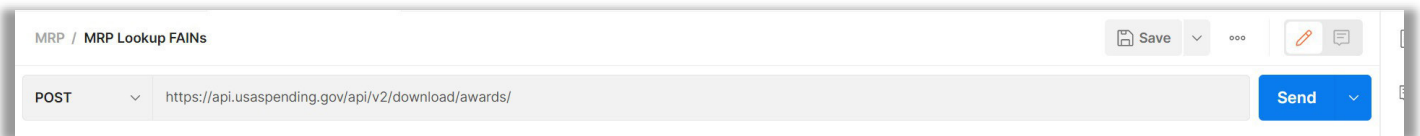


2. On the left side of the new page, select **Endpoints**
3. Scroll down to find the section **Endpoint Index** then scroll way down the alphabetized list to find: [/api/v2/download/awards/](https://api.usaspending.gov/api/v2/download/awards/)

<a href="https://api.usaspending.gov/api/v2/download/awards/">/api/v2/download/awards/</a>	POST	Generates zip file for download of award data in CSV format
--	------	---

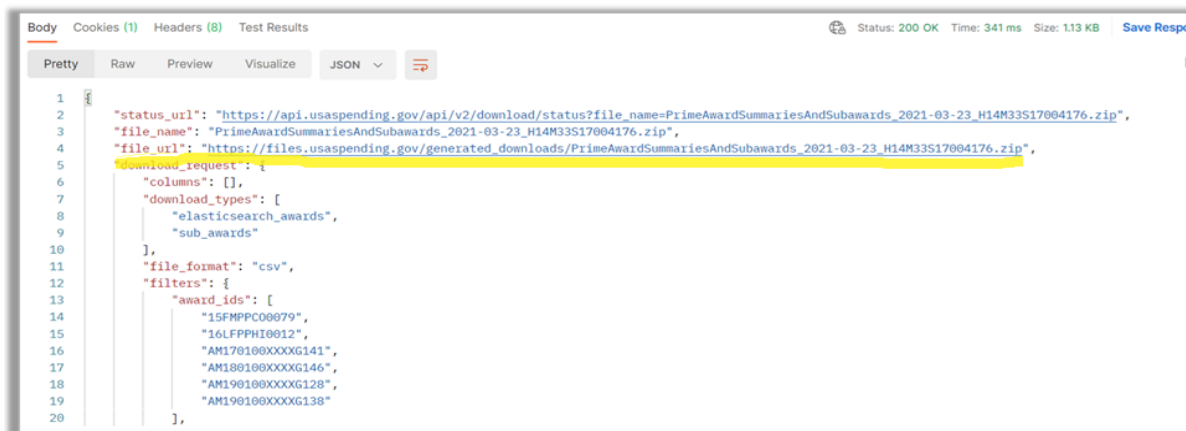
## STEP 12 PROVIDE URL TO POSTMAN APPLICATION

Paste the URL, <https://api.usaspending.gov/api/v2/download/awards/> into Postman at the *POST* prompt and click the Send button



## STEP 13 PLACE RESULTING FILE URL IN NEW SESSION AND SAVE FILE

Copy the file URL into a new session and click enter. **NOTE:** The link that is generated by the Postman app will be different every time. The "file\_url" (yellow highlighted line 4 in the screen capture below) provides an example of the file URL you will copy.



```
1  {
2    "status_url": "https://api.usaspending.gov/api/v2/download/status?file_name=PrimeAwardSummariesAndSubawards_2021-03-23_H14M33S17004176.zip",
3    "file_name": "PrimeAwardSummariesAndSubawards_2021-03-23_H14M33S17004176.zip",
4    "file_url": "https://files.usaspending.gov/generated_downloads/PrimeAwardSummariesAndSubawards_2021-03-23_H14M33S17004176.zip",
5    "download_request": {
6      "columns": [],
7      "download_types": [
8        "elasticsearch_awards",
9        "sub_awards"
10     ],
11     "file_format": "csv",
12     "filters": {
13       "award_ids": [
14         "15FMPPC00079",
15         "16LFPPHI0012",
16         "AM170100XXXXG141",
17         "AM180100XXXXG146",
18         "AM190100XXXXG128",
19         "AM190100XXXXG138"
20       ]
21     }
22   }
23 }
```

Save the file to your desired location

File name:	MRP lookup_03.23.2021
Save as type:	Compressed (zipped) Folder

In the Download, Open the file called: **Assistance\_PrimeAwardSummaries\_x**

A		B	
assistance_award_unique_key		award_id_fain	a
ASST_NON_AM170100XXXXG141_12K2		AM170100XXXXG141	
ASST_NON_16LFPPHI0012_12K2		16LFPPHI0012	