

Form 5500-SF

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Short Form Annual Return/Report of Small Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500-SF.

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- A This return/report is for: [X] a single-employer plan [ ] a multiple-employer plan (not multiemployer) (Pension Plan filers checking this box must attach Schedule MEP. Other plans must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
B This return/report is [ ] the first return/report [ ] the final return/report [ ] an amended return/report [ ] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C Check box if filing under: [ ] Form 5558 [ ] automatic extension [ ] DFVC program [ ] special extension (enter description)
D If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here [ ]
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here [ ]

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: BLACK ASSOCIATES, INC. 401(K) PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 001
1c Effective date of plan: 01/01/2021
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): BLACK ASSOCIATES, INC.
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 81-0462205
2c Sponsor's telephone number: 406-682-4015
2d Business code (see instructions): 444130
3a Plan administrator's name and address: [X] Same as Plan Sponsor.
3b Administrator's EIN
3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report.
4b EIN
4d PN
5a Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year: 12
5b Total number of participants at the end of the plan year: 11
5c(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item): 5
5c(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item): 6
5d(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year: 12
5d(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year: 11
5e Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested: 0

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established. Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including, if applicable, a Schedule SB or Schedule MB completed and signed by an enrolled actuary, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, and Name. Includes entries for Julie Bittick as plan administrator and employer/plan sponsor, both dated 06/16/2025.

- 6a** Were all of the plan's assets during the plan year invested in eligible assets? (See instructions.) .....  Yes  No
- b** Are you claiming a waiver of the annual examination and report of an independent qualified public accountant (IQPA) under 29 CFR 2520.104-46? (See instructions on waiver eligibility and conditions.) .....  Yes  No
- If you answered "No" to either line 6a or line 6b, the plan cannot use Form 5500-SF and must instead use Form 5500.**
- c** If the plan is a defined benefit plan, is it covered under the PBGC insurance program (see ERISA section 4021)? .....  Yes  No  Not determined
- If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year \_\_\_\_\_ (See instructions.)

<b>Part III Financial Information</b>			
<b>7</b> Plan Assets and Liabilities		<b>(a) Beginning of Year</b>	<b>(b) End of Year</b>
<b>a</b> Total plan assets .....	<b>7a</b>	108877	170954
<b>b</b> Total plan liabilities .....	<b>7b</b>		
<b>c</b> Net plan assets (subtract line 7b from line 7a) .....	<b>7c</b>	108877	170954
<b>8</b> Income, Expenses, and Transfers for this Plan Year		<b>(a) Amount</b>	<b>(b) Total</b>
<b>a</b> Contributions received or receivable from:			
<b>(1)</b> Employers .....	<b>8a(1)</b>	7626	
<b>(2)</b> Participants .....	<b>8a(2)</b>	38290	
<b>(3)</b> Others (including rollovers) .....	<b>8a(3)</b>	0	
<b>b</b> Other income (loss) .....	<b>8b</b>	17207	
<b>c</b> Total income (add lines 8a(1), 8a(2), 8a(3), and 8b) .....	<b>8c</b>		63123
<b>d</b> Benefits paid (including direct rollovers and insurance premiums to provide benefits) .....	<b>8d</b>	0	
<b>e</b> Certain deemed and/or corrective distributions (see instructions) .	<b>8e</b>	0	
<b>f</b> Administrative service providers (salaries, fees, commissions) .....	<b>8f</b>	1046	
<b>g</b> Other expenses .....	<b>8g</b>		
<b>h</b> Total expenses (add lines 8d, 8e, 8f, and 8g) .....	<b>8h</b>		1046
<b>i</b> Net income (loss) (subtract line 8h from line 8c) .....	<b>8i</b>		62077
<b>j</b> Transfers to (from) the plan (see instructions) .....	<b>8j</b>		

<b>Part IV Plan Characteristics</b>	
<b>9a</b>	If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions: 2E 2G 2J 2K 3D
<b>b</b>	If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

<b>Part V Compliance Questions</b>				
<b>10</b> During the plan year:		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program) .....	<b>10a</b>		X	
<b>b</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 10a.) .....	<b>10b</b>		X	
<b>c</b> Was the plan covered by a fidelity bond? .....	<b>10c</b>	X		21110
<b>d</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty? .....	<b>10d</b>		X	
<b>e</b> Were any fees or commissions paid to any brokers, agents, or other persons by an insurance carrier, insurance service, or other organization that provides some or all of the benefits under the plan? (See instructions.) .....	<b>10e</b>		X	
<b>f</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan? .....	<b>10f</b>		X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan have any participant loans? (If "Yes," enter amount as of year-end.) .....	<b>10g</b>		X	
<b>h</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.) .....	<b>10h</b>		X	
<b>i</b> If 10h was answered "Yes," check the box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3 .....	<b>10i</b>		X	

**Part VI Pension Funding Compliance**

**11** Is this a defined benefit plan subject to minimum funding requirements? (If "Yes," see instructions and complete Schedule SB (Form 5500) and lines 11a and b below.) If this is a defined contribution pension plan, leave line 11 blank and complete line 12 below.  Yes  No

**a** Enter the unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 **11a**

**b PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If the plan is covered by PBGC and the amount reported on line 11a is greater than \$0, has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

Yes.

No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.

No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.

No. Other. Provide explanation \_\_\_\_\_

**12** Is this a defined contribution plan subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Code or section 302 of ERISA? (If "Yes," complete line 12a or lines 12b, 12c, 12d, and 12e below, as applicable.) If this is a defined benefit pension plan, leave line 12 blank and complete line 11 above.  Yes  No

**a** If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions, and enter the date of the letter ruling granting the waiver. Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**If you completed line 12a, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB (Form 5500), and skip to line 13.**

**b** Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year **12b**

**c** Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year **12c**

**d** Subtract the amount in line 12c from the amount in line 12b. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) **12d**

**e** Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 12d be met by the funding deadline?  Yes  No  N/A

**Part VII Plan Terminations and Transfers of Assets**

**13a** Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted in any plan year?  Yes  No

**a** If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year. **13a**

**b** Were all the plan assets distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?  Yes  No

**c** If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

13c(1) Name of plan(s):	13c(2) EIN(s)	13c(3) PN(s)

**Part VIII IRS Compliance Questions**

**14a** Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules?  Yes  No

**14b** If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).

- Design-based safe harbor method
- "Prior year" ADP test
- "Current year" ADP test
- N/A

**15** If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 12 / 31 / 2018 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q703276A.

### Authorization to Electronically Sign and File Form 5500

I hereby authorize any employee of ERISA Partners, Inc. ("Service Provider") to electronically sign and file 5500 forms on my behalf for the following year: 2024.

I further understand the following:

- I must sign a paper copy of the completed Form 5500.
- An image of my signature will be included with the rest of the return/report posted by the Department of Labor on the internet for public disclosure. (Not applicable if this is a one participant Form 5500-SF filing.)
- I may revoke or change this authorization at any time by written notification to the Service Provider.

By:  D1E3AEEFEF7B45A...

Date: 6/16/2025

## Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: A9F70EB5-88A2-41E8-ABF3-D1BBC6D9FB9B  
 Subject: Black Associates, Inc. 401(k) Plan - 2024 Year-End Packet  
 Source Envelope:  
 Document Pages: 35  
 Certificate Pages: 5  
 AutoNav: Enabled  
 Envelopeld Stamping: Enabled  
 Time Zone: (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

Status: Completed  
 Envelope Originator:  
 ERISA Consultants  
 215 Centerview Drive  
 Suite 110  
 Brentwood, TN 37027  
 operations@erisa.com  
 IP Address: 45.16.10.26

## Record Tracking

Status: Original  
 6/16/2025 2:25:03 PM  
 Holder: ERISA Consultants  
 operations@erisa.com  
 Location: DocuSign

## Signer Events

Ryan Bogle  
 ryan.bogle@erisa.com  
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
 (None)

## Signature

Signed by:  
  
 9FB35A0BFCF8443...  
 Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style  
 Using IP Address: 45.16.10.26

## Timestamp

Sent: 6/16/2025 2:29:12 PM  
 Viewed: 6/16/2025 2:29:45 PM  
 Signed: 6/16/2025 2:30:10 PM

## Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 5/12/2025 11:22:10 AM  
 ID: e207e48b-2979-4855-ae9b-0c3ab14c320b

Julie Bittick  
 juliebittick@yahoo.com  
 Human Resources  
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
 (None)

DocuSigned by:  
  
 D1E3AEEFF7B45A...  
 Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style  
 Using IP Address: 216.129.239.119  
 Signed using mobile

Sent: 6/16/2025 2:30:12 PM  
 Resent: 6/16/2025 2:38:37 PM  
 Viewed: 6/16/2025 2:49:34 PM  
 Signed: 6/16/2025 2:51:46 PM

## Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 6/16/2025 2:49:34 PM  
 ID: 6df7a03b-f8f9-4b3f-8cb9-35fd18e3896e

In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	6/16/2025 2:29:12 PM

<b>Envelope Summary Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
Envelope Updated	Security Checked	6/16/2025 2:38:37 PM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	6/16/2025 2:49:34 PM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	6/16/2025 2:51:46 PM
Completed	Security Checked	6/16/2025 2:51:46 PM

<b>Payment Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
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**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure**

## **ELECTRONIC RECORD AND SIGNATURE DISCLOSURE**

From time to time, ERISA Partners (we, us or Company) may be required by law to provide to you certain written notices or disclosures. Described below are the terms and conditions for providing to you such notices and disclosures electronically through the DocuSign system. Please read the information below carefully and thoroughly, and if you can access this information electronically to your satisfaction and agree to this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure (ERSD), please confirm your agreement by selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

### **Getting paper copies**

At any time, you may request from us a paper copy of any record provided or made available electronically to you by us. You will have the ability to download and print documents we send to you through the DocuSign system during and immediately after the signing session and, if you elect to create a DocuSign account, you may access the documents for a limited period of time (usually 30 days) after such documents are first sent to you. After such time, if you wish for us to send you paper copies of any such documents from our office to you, you will be charged a \$0.00 per-page fee. You may request delivery of such paper copies from us by following the procedure described below.

### **Withdrawing your consent**

If you decide to receive notices and disclosures from us electronically, you may at any time change your mind and tell us that thereafter you want to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format. How you must inform us of your decision to receive future notices and disclosure in paper format and withdraw your consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically is described below.

### **Consequences of changing your mind**

If you elect to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format, it will slow the speed at which we can complete certain steps in transactions with you and delivering services to you because we will need first to send the required notices or disclosures to you in paper format, and then wait until we receive back from you your acknowledgment of your receipt of such paper notices or disclosures. Further, you will no longer be able to use the DocuSign system to receive required notices and consents electronically from us or to sign electronically documents from us.

### **All notices and disclosures will be sent to you electronically**

Unless you tell us otherwise in accordance with the procedures described herein, we will provide electronically to you through the DocuSign system all required notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you during the course of our relationship with you. To reduce the chance of you inadvertently not receiving any notice or disclosure, we prefer to provide all of the required notices and disclosures to you by the same method and to the same address that you have given us. Thus, you can receive all the disclosures and notices electronically or in paper format through the paper mail delivery system. If you do not agree with this process, please let us know as described below. Please also see the paragraph immediately above that describes the consequences of your electing not to receive delivery of the notices and disclosures electronically from us.

### **How to contact ERISA Partners:**

You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

To contact us by email send messages to: [corporate@erisa.com](mailto:corporate@erisa.com)

### **To advise ERISA Partners of your new email address**

To let us know of a change in your email address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at [corporate@erisa.com](mailto:corporate@erisa.com) and in the body of such request you must state: your previous email address, your new email address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

If you created a DocuSign account, you may update it with your new email address through your account preferences.

### **To request paper copies from ERISA Partners**

To request delivery from us of paper copies of the notices and disclosures previously provided by us to you electronically, you must send us an email to [corporate@erisa.com](mailto:corporate@erisa.com) and in the body of such request you must state your email address, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We will bill you for any fees at that time, if any.

### **To withdraw your consent with ERISA Partners**

To inform us that you no longer wish to receive future notices and disclosures in electronic format you may:

- i. decline to sign a document from within your signing session, and on the subsequent page, select the check-box indicating you wish to withdraw your consent, or you may;
- ii. send us an email to [corporate@erisa.com](mailto:corporate@erisa.com) and in the body of such request you must state your email, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We do not need any other information from you to withdraw consent.. The consequences of your withdrawing consent for online documents will be that transactions may take a longer time to process..

### **Required hardware and software**

The minimum system requirements for using the DocuSign system may change over time. The current system requirements are found here: <https://support.docusign.com/guides/signer-guide-signing-system-requirements>.

### **Acknowledging your access and consent to receive and sign documents electronically**

To confirm to us that you can access this information electronically, which will be similar to other electronic notices and disclosures that we will provide to you, please confirm that you have read this ERSD, and (i) that you are able to print on paper or electronically save this ERSD for your future reference and access; or (ii) that you are able to email this ERSD to an email address where you will be able to print on paper or save it for your future reference and access. Further, if you consent to receiving notices and disclosures exclusively in electronic format as described herein, then select the check-box next to ‘I agree to use electronic records and signatures’ before clicking ‘CONTINUE’ within the DocuSign system.

By selecting the check-box next to ‘I agree to use electronic records and signatures’, you confirm that:

- You can access and read this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure; and
- You can print on paper this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure, or save or send this Electronic Record and Disclosure to a location where you can print it, for future reference and access; and
- Until or unless you notify ERISA Partners as described above, you consent to receive exclusively through electronic means all notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you by ERISA Partners during the course of your relationship with ERISA Partners.