**shmget**() returns the identifier of the System V shared memory segment associated with the value of the argument key. A new shared memory segment, with size equal to the value of size rounded up to a multiple of PAGE\_SIZE, is created **if key has the value IPC\_PRIVATE or key isn't IPC\_PRIVATE, no shared memory segment corresponding to key exists, and IPC\_CREAT is specified in shmflg.**

**If shmflg specifies both IPC\_CREAT and IPC\_EXCL and a shared memory segment already exists for key, then shmget() fails with errno set to EEXIST**. (This is analogous to the effect of the combination O\_CREAT | O\_EXCL for open(2))

The value shmflg is composed of:

**IPC\_CREAT** to create a new segment. If this flag is **not used**, **then shmget() will find the segment associated with key and check to see if the user has permission to access the segment**. If key already exists, that existing object is returned.

**IPC\_EXCL** used with IPC\_CREAT to ensure failure if the segment already exists. **Setting the IPC\_EXCL bit, without setting the IPC\_CREAT bit, has no meaning.**

**mode\_flags** (least significant 9 bits) specifying the permissions granted to the owner, group, and world. These bits have the same format, and the same meaning, as the mode argument of open(2). Presently, the execute permissions are not used by the system.

**SHM\_HUGETLB** (since Linux 2.6) Allocate the segment using "huge pages." See the Linux kernel source file Documentation/vm/hugetlbpage.txt for further information.

**SHM\_NORESERVE** (since Linux 2.6.15) This flag serves the same purpose as the mmap(2) MAP\_NORESERVE flag. Do not reserve swap space for this segment. When swap space is reserved, one has the guarantee that it is possible to modify the segment. When swap space is not reserved one might get SIGSEGV upon a write if no physical memory is available.