

Diversity Business Enterprise Program PROGRAM OVERVIEW

It is the goal of the Diversity Business Enterprise (DBE) program to ensure the firms owned and/or controlled by minorities and women have the opportunity to compete for any expenditure of funds including but not limited to contracts, lease purchase, requisitions, and all forms of equipment, work services, materials, construction, etc.

The DBE program shall make every good faith effort to ensure that certified DBE's in the relevant Cleveland Municipal School District geographic market have the maximum opportunity to proposal for contracts. The Cleveland Municipal School District geographic market is Cuyahoga, Summit, Lake, and Lorain counties.

The District has established goals for DBE participation in all contracts that it awards. The goals range from 15 to 30 percent and vary by the type of contract awarded:

- 15% Service Contracts
- 20% Goods and Supplies
- 30% Maintenance/Construction Repair

A Diversity Business Enterprise encompasses Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Female Business Enterprises (FBEs)

A DBE is an enterprise in which minorities, African Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic or Latin Americans, Asian Pacific Islander Americans, and/or women own at least 51% of the shares of stock or controlling interest.

A FBE is a female-owned enterprise with at least 51% of the shares of stock or controlling interest, which is held by female.

A company may be in compliance with the District's DBE program although the applicable numerical goal is not met if a company makes a good faith commitment to comply with DBE regulations. The Purchasing Director determines whether a company has made a good faith commitment.

DBE requirements under certain circumstances can be waived by the district with convincing proof of good faith efforts.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF NOTICE AND REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE DIVERSITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) OPPORTUNITY

Definition of DBE: A Diversity Business Enterprise (DBE)

“Small Diversity business concern” means a small business concern that is at least fifty-one (51) percent unconditionally owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically diverse, or a publicly owned business that has at least fifty-one (51) percent of its stock unconditionally owned by one or more socially and economically diverse individuals and that has its management and daily business controlled by one or more such individuals. This term also means a small business concern that is at least fifty-one (51) percent unconditionally owned by an economically diverse Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian Organization, or a publicly owned business that has at least fifty-one (51) percent of its stock unconditionally owned by one of these entities, that has its management and daily business controlled by members of an economically diverse Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

1. “Socially diverse individuals” means individuals who have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice or culture bias because of their identity as a member of a group without regard to their qualities as individuals.
2. “Economically diverse individuals” means socially diverse individuals whose ability to compete in the free enterprise system is impaired due to diminished opportunities to obtain capital and credit as compared to others in the same line of business who are not socially diverse. Individuals who certify that they are members of named groups (African Americans, Hispanic Americans or Latin Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Islander Americans, Subcontinent Asian Americans) are to be considered socially and economically diverse.

Definition of FBE: Female Business Enterprise (FBE)

“Female-owned small business concern” means a small business concern:

1. Which is at least fifty-one (51) percent owned by one or more women; or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least fifty-one (51) percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more women and;
2. Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more woman.

TERMS

1. DBE participation will be counted toward meeting the goals outlined in the notice as follows:
 - a. The total dollar value of a correct contract or subcontractor indirect subcontract awarded toward a certified DBE will be counted toward the applicable goal.
 - b. In the case of a joint venture, certified by the Cleveland Municipal School District, the portion of the total dollar value of the contract equal to the percentage of the

ownership and control of the DBE partner in the joint ~~vendor~~service provider will be counted toward the applicable goal. (PLEASE RETURN DBE FORM E)

- c. Only expenditures to DBE that perform a commercially useful function in the work of a contract or subcontract or indirect subcontract will be counted toward DBE goals. A DBE is considered to perform a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of a distinct element of work of a contract or subcontract and carries out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. If a DBE contractor subcontracts a significantly greater portion of the work of the contract than would be expected on the basis of normal industry practices, the DBE is presumed not to be performing a commercially useful function. The DBE may present evidence to rebut this presumption.
 - d. The total dollar value of materials and supplies obtained from DBE suppliers and manufacturers will be counted toward DBE goals if the DBE assumes the actual and contractual responsibility for the provision of the materials and supplies.
2. A proposer who fails or refuses to complete and return this Notice may be deemed a non-responsive proposer.
3. The contractor's goals as set forth in this Notice shall express the contractor's commitment to the percentage of DBE utilization during the term of this contract. The contract shall be deemed to have met its commitment for DBE utilization if the DBE utilization rate of the contractor meets the goals established by this Notice.
4. The contractor must receive the approval of the District before making substitutions for any subcontractors listed in the Notice. Substitution of DBE is not allowed unless the contractor receives District approval.
5. The contractor's commitment to a specific goal is to meet the DBE objectives and is not INTENDED and shall not be used to discriminate against any qualified company or group of companies.
6. The contractor's commitment to a specific goal for DBE utilization as required by this Notice shall constitute a commitment to make every good faith effort to meet such goal by a subcontracting to or undertaking to joint venture with DBE firms. If the contractor fails to meet the goal, it will carry the burden of furnishing sufficient documentation as part of the proposal response of its good faith efforts to justify a grant of relief from the goals set forth in this Notice. Such justification will take the forms of a detailed report which will document at least the following information:
 - a. Attendance at the pre-proposal meeting, if any, scheduled by the District to inform DBE's of Subcontracting opportunities under a given solicitation.

- b. Advertisement in general circulation media, trade association publications, and minority-focus media for at least twenty (20) days before bids or proposals are due. If twenty (20) days are not available, publication for a shorter reasonable time is acceptable.
 - c. Written notification to DBE that their interest in the contract is solicited, and follow-up contact to determine whether the DBE's were interested.
 - d. Efforts made to select portions of the proposed work to be performed by DBE in order to increase the likelihood of achieving the stated goals.
 - e. Efforts to negotiate with DBE for specific sub-proposal, including at a minimum:
 - i. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of DBE's that were contacted.
 - ii. A description of the information provided to DBE regarding the plans and specifications for portion of the work to be performed; and
 - iii. A statement of why additional agreements with DBE were not reached.
 - iv. Completion of (Form E) if DBE's are not involved in the RFP.
 - f. Concerning each DBE the supplier/contractor contacted but rejected as unqualified, the reasons for the supplier's/contractor's conclusion.
 - g. Efforts made to help the DBE's contacted that needed assistance in obtaining required bonding, lines of credit, or insurance.
 - h. Use of the services of minority community organizations, minority contractor's groups, governmental minority business assistance offices, and other organizations that assist in the recruitment and placement of DBE's.
7. Suppliers/contractors that fail to meet DBE goals and fail to demonstrate sufficient good faith efforts are not eligible for contract awarded.
8. The District, through its Diversity Officer will review the contractor's minority business enterprise involvement efforts during performance of this contract. Such review will include, but not be limited to, contractor's quarterly statement of income from the District and what portion of said income went to the DBE enterprise(s) as evidenced by affirmation of the DBE enterprise(s) which the contractor hereby agrees to supply each quarter during the term of its contract with the District. If the contractor meets its goal or if the contractor demonstrates that every reasonable effort has been made to meet its goal, the contractor shall be presume to be in compliance. Where the Diversity Officer finds that the contractor shall be presume

to be in compliance. Where the Diversity Officer finds that the contractor has failed to comply with the requirements of this Notice, said Diversity Officer shall inform the Purchasing Director who shall immediately notify the contractor to take corrective action. If the contractor fails or refuses to comply promptly, then the Purchasing Director, upon approval of the District, shall issue an order stopping all or part of the work until satisfactory corrective action has been taken. No part of the time lost due to any such stop orders shall be made subject of claim for extension of time or for excess costs or damages by the contractor. When the District proceeds with such formal action it has the burden of proving that the contractor has not met the requirements of coming forward and showing that it has met the good faith requirements of the Notice, specifically including paragraph 7 hereof. Where the contractor is found to have failed to exert every good faith effort to involve DBE in the work provided, the District may declare that the contractor is ineligible to receive further District funds, whether as a contractor, subcontractor, or as a consultant, for a period of up to three (3) years.

9. The contractor will keep records and documents for three (3) years following performances of this contract to indicate compliance with this Notice. These records and documents, or copies thereof, will be made available at reasonable times and places for inspection by any authorized representative of the District upon request together with any other compliance information which such representative may require.
10. Proposers and contractors are bound by all requirements, terms and conditions of this Notice.
11. Nothing in this Notice shall be interpreted to diminish the present contract compliance review