

WHAT IS A DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE)?

A DBE is a business in which a minimum of 51% of the ownership and daily operation, management and overall control is held by minority groups or persons determined by the Small Business Administration to be economically and socially disadvantaged. Citizens presumed to be disadvantaged are: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Native Americans, and women.

WHO ADMINISTERS THE DBE PROGRAM?

DDOT's Office of Contract Compliance is committed to providing the fullest opportunity for DBE participation in the purchase of goods and services.

BID OPPORTUNITIES

DDOT's Office of Contract Compliance provides information (bid opportunity listing) on upcoming contracts and information on prime contractor/consultants with whom potential subcontracts and/or joint venture arrangements can be made.



GET CERTIFIED TODAY!

For additional information contact :

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Complaints may be filed with the Detroit Human Rights Department, 1026 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Detroit, MI 48226. Send ADA complaints to: Department of Transportation, ADA Coordinator, 1301 E. Warren, Detroit, MI 48207. Send Title VI Civil Rights Complaints to: Department of Transportation, Office of Contract Compliance, 1301 E. Warren, Detroit, MI 48207.



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DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM



1301 E. Warren Avenue
 Detroit, Michigan 48207

WHAT IS THE DBE PROGRAM?

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program is a comprehensive program developed by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), which establishes guidelines for the participation of firms owned by socially and economically disadvantaged persons in DOT-assisted contracting. Minority groups or persons presumed to be socially and economically disadvantaged, determined by the Small Business Administration, include: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Native Americans and women. The DBE program provides opportunities for certified DBE companies creating a “level playing field” on which these firms can fairly compete for purchasing and contracting dollars.

WHY IS THE PROGRAM IMPORTANT?

Transportation agencies, such as DDOT, that award more than \$250,000 in federally-funded contracts are required to participate in the DBE program as a means of ensuring non-discrimination in the awarding of these contracts. The DBE program supports DDOT’s continuing efforts to remove barriers that may limit participation by these firms. The program also assists in the development of DBE firms so they can successfully compete in the general marketplace.

DBE CERTIFICATION

To qualify for DBE status, a small business must be profit-based and meet the following criteria:

- Average annual gross revenues of no more than \$22.41 million over the past three years
- Personal net worth of the owner(s) not exceeding \$1.32 million
- At least 51% owned and operated by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals

HOW CAN A BUSINESS BE CERTIFIED?

To be certified as a DBE you must request a “Michigan Uniform Certification” application from DDOT’s Office of Contract Compliance or download from the website: www.michigan.gov/mdotdbe. Once your company is certified as a DBE, it will be listed in the Michigan Unified Certification Program (MUCP) Statewide Directory and will be considered qualified to bid on all contracts in Michigan where DBE participation is needed.

DOES DDOT ACCEPT OTHER CERTIFICATIONS?

Under the Michigan Unified Certification Program (MUCP) companies certified as a DBE by the following agencies: Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT), Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Wayne County Division of Human Relations, and Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) are DBEs in Michigan and may be utilized on contracts where DBE participation is needed.

Companies certified by the Small Business Administration SBA 8(A) must submit a copy of the certification letter and complete the Michigan Uniform Certification application or submit a copy of the SBA application to expedite the certification process.

HOW LONG IS THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS?

Certification could take up to 90 days upon completion of an application, which includes a site visit. Under the newly released CFR 49 Part 26, DBE certification is ongoing upon submission of an annual affidavit 60 days prior to the initial month of certification, which must accompany Personal Net Worth statement and taxes.



BENEFITS OF BEING CERTIFIED

- Access to contracting and procurement opportunities at DDOT and other transportation agencies statewide
- Inclusion in the statewide DBE database maintained by the Michigan Uniform Certification Program (MUCP)
- Management and technical assistance and referrals from DDOT and its partners
- Access to seminars and networking events sponsored by DDOT and other agencies
- Opportunity to develop professional contacts with larger non-DBE firms

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE POLICY STATEMENT

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, DDOT will not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the award of contracts or other procurement activities.

DDOT recognizes its responsibility as a public agency and its commitment to the communities it serves. DDOT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, handicap, sex or sexual orientation.

The DBE Program has been developed to ensure that the spirit and intent of the regulations are adhered to.

It is the responsibility of the DDOT’s Office of Contract Compliance to implement and monitor the program as established by DDOT.