

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, SC EBID TO COMPETE FOR CITY BID OPPORTUNITIES

The City is always seeking to:

- ▶ Streamline and simplify the City's procurement process.
- ▶ Increase the number and diversity of vendors and contractors interested in providing goods and services to the City.

REGISTER FOR EBID & REVIEW BID OPPORTUNITIES AT:

<https://columbiasc.ionwave.net>



QUESTIONS?

PLEASE CONTACT US:

Office of Business Opportunities
1401 Main Street, 4th Floor
Columbia, SC 29201

Melissa Lindler
Director

Ayesha Driggers
Deputy Director

Latonya Germany
Program Compliance Specialist

Kalenna Ginyard
Program Coordinator

WEB

obo.columbiasc.gov

PHONE

803.545.3950

EMAIL

obocompliance@columbiasc.gov

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CITY OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIA DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

CDBE

Maximizing Contract Opportunities for DBEs



PURPOSE OF CDBE

The purpose of the Columbia Disadvantage Business Enterprise (CDBE) program is to ensure that CDBEs have an equitable opportunity to compete for City subcontracts.

In 2021, the City of Columbia's Office of Business Opportunities worked diligently with City leadership and across departments to revise the Columbia Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (CDBE) policy. The policy provides that Disadvantage Business Enterprises (DBEs) shall be afforded the opportunity to participate fully in the City's overall procurement process.

A CDBE goal is set by the City Manager on qualifying projects. The goal is based on the relative availability of subcontractors who are able to perform identified tasks of a specific project.

BENEFITS OF THE CDBE PROGRAM

- Your company will be listed in the City's CDBE Directory* as a resource for contractors and city staff seeking to use CDBEs.
- Utilizing the tiered approach, prime contractors must utilize CDBEs prior to DBEs in meeting the CDBE goal placed on a project.
- Enhanced capacity to network and build relationships with city staff, prime contractors and other DBEs.

*DBEs outside of the eight county CSA will be added to the directory and may be counted towards good faith efforts, if necessary.

TIERED APPROACH

The tiered approach is the required process necessary in demonstrating good faith efforts were made by a prime to utilize registered CDBEs prior to DBEs in meeting the CDBE goal placed on a project. The sequence must be followed as outlined below:

TIER ONE Utilization of CDBEs within the **Columbia-Orangeburg-Newberry CSA** (All offerors/ primes must demonstrate outreach to registered CDBEs prior to seeking DBEs in Tier 2)

- Utilize the OBO CDBE Directory (found on the OBO website at www.columbiasc.gov/obo.)

TIER TWO Utilization of Certified DBEs within the **Columbia-Orangeburg-Newberry CSA** (All offerors/primes must demonstrate solicitation to certified DBEs within the eight county CSA prior to proceeding to Tier 3)

- SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT) (SC Department of Transportation DBE Directory) and South Carolina Division of South Carolina Division of Small Minority Business Contracting and Certification (SMBCC MBE Listing)

TIER THREE Utilization of Certified DBEs within the state of South Carolina

- SCDOT (SC Department of Transportation DBE Directory) and South Carolina Division of South Carolina Division of Small Minority Business Contracting and Certification (SMBCC MBE Listing)

COMMERCIAL NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the City of Columbia to prohibit and discourage commercial discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, disability or any other form of unlawful discrimination in any City procurement or contract.

CDBE QUALIFICATIONS & HOW TO APPLY

- Disadvantage Business Enterprises (DBEs) are for-profit small business concerns where socially and economically disadvantage individuals own at least 51% interest and also control management and daily business operations.
- DBEs are certified by SCDOT, SBA, SC Office of Small and Minority Business Contracting and Certification, the National Minority Supplier Development Council, WBENC, or any other certifying agency.
- A CDBE is a certified DBE registered and approved City of Columbia's Office of Business Opportunities.
- A CDBE must have a physical office located within the eight county Columbia-Orangeburg-Newberry CSA (Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, and Saluda counties) for a period of one year.
- A CDBE must be in good standing with the City of Columbia and the State of South Carolina.

GUIDELINES & THE APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND AT:
<https://www.columbiasc.gov/obo>

