

Agency	Certification Program	Purpose	Who qualifies	Cost & Processing time	Benefits	Federal, State, or Local
Office of Minority & Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE)	DBE Program	Includes three separate certifications •Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) certification •Airport Concession Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) certification •Small Business Enterprise (SBE) certification.	51% business owner Control the managerial and day-to-day operations. Be a U.S. citizen or permanent U.S. resident. Be economically disadvantaged. *having a personal net worth less than \$2.047 million, not including a person's primary residence or an applicant business.	Free -Process takes 90 days -To renew every year	The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) distributes federal funds to finance state and local road and highway projects, as well as public transit, airport, and other transportation projects. Recipients of USDOT funds must set an overall goal for DBE participation and monitor results. Becoming certified allows these entities to identify your firm as a certified business.	Federal
Small Business Administration (SBA)	8(a) Business Development Program	The 8(a) program is a robust nine-year program created to help firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.	Be a small business Not have previously participated in the 8(a) program Be at least 51% owned and controlled by U.S. citizens who are socially and economically disadvantaged Have a personal net worth of \$850 thousand or less, adjusted gross income of \$400 thousand or less, and assets totaling \$6.5 million or less Demonstrate good character Demonstrate the potential for success such as having been in business for two years	Free -Process takes 90 days -To renew every year	Efficiently compete and receive set-aside and sole-source contracts Receive one-on-one business development assistance for their nine-year term from dedicated Business Opportunity Specialists focused on helping firms grow and accomplish their business objectives Pursue opportunity for mentorship from experienced and technically capable firms through the SBA Mentor-Protégé program Connect with procurement and compliance experts who understand regulations in the context of business growth, finance, and government contracting Pursue joint ventures with established businesses to increase capacity Qualify to receive federal surplus property on a priority basis Receive free training from SBA's Empower to Grow program	Federal
Small Business Administration (SBA)	Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) Programs:	Certified veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) will have the opportunity to pursue sole-source and set-aside contracts at the Department of Veterans Affairs under the VA's Vets First program. Certified service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs) will have the opportunity to compete for federal sole-source and set-aside contracts across the federal government.	51% Veteran ownership Registered as a small business with SAM Be a Small Business according to SBA's Size standard Be a for-profit business of any legal structure Be independently owned and operated Not be nationally dominant in its field Be physically located and operate in the U.S. or its territories	Free -Process takes 90 days -To renew every year	All federal government purchases between \$10,000 and \$250,000 are automatically set aside for small businesses, as long as there are at least two companies that can provide the product or service at a fair and reasonable price. Access to SBA tools to prepare for federal procurement, connect with commercial supply chains, meet your local business community, purchase surplus federal property, access capital, and mitigate disaster damage. Getting certified by SBA as veteran-owned (VOSB) makes your business eligible to compete for sole-source and set-aside contracts at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The VA sets aside at least 7% of its contracts each year specifically for certified VOSBs and SDVOSBs. You can also compete for contracts under other qualifying socio-economic programs. Getting certified by SBA as service-disabled veteran-owned (SDVOSB) makes your business eligible to compete for sole-source and set-aside contracts. At least 5% of all federal contracting dollars each year are set aside specifically for certified SDVOSBs. You can also compete for contracts under other qualifying socio-economic programs.	Federal
Small Business Administration (SBA)	HUBZone Program	The HUBZone program fuels small business growth in historically underutilized business zones with a goal of awarding at least 3% of federal contract dollars to HUBZone-certified companies each year.	To qualify for the HUBZone program, your business must: Be a small business according to SBA size standards Be at least 51% owned and controlled by U.S. citizens, a Community Development Corporation, an agricultural cooperative, an Alaska Native corporation, a Native Hawaiian organization, or an Indian tribe Have its principal office located in a HUBZone* Have at least 35% of its employees living in a HUBZone*	Free -Process takes 90 days -To renew every year	The government limits competition for certain contracts to businesses in historically underutilized business zones. It also gives preferential consideration to those businesses in full and open competition. Joining the HUBZone program makes your business eligible to compete for the program's set-aside contracts. HUBZone-certified businesses also get a 10% price evaluation preference in full and open contract competitions. HUBZone-certified businesses can still compete for contract awards under other socio-economic programs they qualify for	Federal
Small Business Administration (SBA)	Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) Program	Participants can receive sole source contracts up to \$4 Million for Goods & Service and \$6.5 Million for manufacturing. The Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) Certification Program is one of two SBA programs targeted towards providing business assistance to small disadvantaged businesses. SDB certification pertains specifically to federal procurement.	The firm must be 51% or more owned and controlled by one or more disadvantaged persons. The disadvantaged person or persons must be socially disadvantaged and economically disadvantaged. The firm must be small, according to SBA's size standards.	Free -Process takes 90 days -To renew every year	Efficiently compete and receive set-aside and sole-source contracts Receive one-on-one business development assistance for their nine-year term from dedicated Business Opportunity Specialists focused on helping firms grow and accomplish their business objectives Pursue opportunity for mentorship from experienced and technically capable firms through the SBA Mentor-Protégé program Connect with procurement and compliance experts who understand regulations in the context of business growth, finance, and government contracting Pursue joint ventures with established businesses to increase capacity Qualify to receive federal surplus property on a priority basis Receive free training from SBA's Empower to Grow program	Federal
Small Business Administration (SBA)	Native American-Owned Business Certification	to ensure that American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians seeking to create, develop and expand small businesses have full access to the necessary business development and expansion tools available through the Agency's entrepreneurial development, lending and procurement	American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians	Free -Process takes 90 days -To renew every year	The U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Native American Affairs (ONAA) facilitates full access to business growth and expansion tools for small businesses owned by Native Americans. The federal government provides opportunities in contracting, business development, and other programs for Native American small business owners.	Federal
Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC)	WBE Program	Through certification, women-owned businesses gain access to a vast network of support, including targeted business opportunities for certified women-owned firms, increased visibility in corporate and government supply chains, education and development programs to spur growth and increase capacity, and networking and mentorship opportunities with thousands of women entrepreneurs and those who support them. WBENC is also an approved third-party certifier for the SBA's Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Federal Contracting Program.	The minimum requirements to qualify as a WBE with the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) or any other WBE program administered by a city, county or state are: Owners are Women U.S. Citizens or legal residents A for-profit business located in the United States 51% owned by a woman, or a group of women who are verified owners The top executive officer, responsible for daily operations, is a woman with technical expertise	The non-refundable processing fee for new applications and recertification is based on annual gross revenue as reported on Federal Taxes and is divided into five (5) tiers. Please identify which range your company's revenues fall within to identify the required fee. Revenue Category Under \$1 million: \$350 \$1M < \$5M: \$500 \$5M < \$10M: \$750 \$10M < \$50M: \$1,000 \$50M+: \$1,250	the Women Business Enterprise Certification gives your firm access to corporations, Fortune 1000 companies, and large government agencies looking to purchase products and services. More benefits include: A percentage of spending dedicated to businesses like yours Educational training exclusive to WBE Certified companies Networking opportunities Mentorship programs Government buyer connections with subcontracting goals	Federal

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MSDC National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC)	MBEs	At the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC), it's about upward mobility for the emerging majority of Americans, an equal shot for minority business enterprises (MBEs) at participating in the American experiment of free-market capitalism and entrepreneurship.	Minorities must own and control at least 51% of the business Minority owner(s) must serve as President or CEO (if both positions exist) Minority owner(s) must be active in daily management Minority owner(s) must be a U.S. citizen	The cost for certification depends on where the business is located, and which local regional affiliate your business is aligned to. -Process takes 30 days -To renew every year	Access — MBEs have exposure to 17,000+ other MBEs to engage in business opportunities and the ability to form partnering relationships, strategic alliances, and/or joint ventures for success. Conferences & Exchanges — NMSDC and its regional affiliates hold the largest U.S. conferences focused on minority business development. MBEs can present themselves to hundreds of prospective buyers, government agencies, and procurement professionals in a single setting. Capacity Building — NMSDC has created capital access opportunities for MBEs throughout their business life cycle through our partnership with the Business Consortium Fund, the Growth Initiative Certification, and Capital Managers Program. Contract Opportunities — NMSDC facilitates business connections between buying agencies and MBEs, which sets the foundation for future partnering and business opportunities. Customized Education and Development— NMSDC offers a wide range of programs and other concentrated training and technical assistance to create stronger and sustainable businesses while developing leadership tools for our MBE CEOs. Networking Opportunities — NMSDC helps to create connections to expand your network and business relationships.	Federal
National LGBT Chamber of Commerce	LGBT Business Certification	These corporate and government partners are committed to creating a diverse supply chain that is inclusive of LGBTQ-owned businesses, and have targeted amounts for spending with diverse business enterprises. Getting your business certified is a necessary element of gaining access to these billions of dollars in life-changing business opportunities.	Provide documentation proving the LGBTQ Status of the business owner (List of documentation available on the website) Be at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned, operated, managed, and controlled by an LGBTQ person or persons who are either U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.	\$899 certification fee valid for 3 years & recertification fee is \$499 Fees waived when the business joins their local chamber of commerce 60 to 90 days process time	National recognition by America's top corporations as a Certified LGBT Business Enterprise® supplier. Eligibility to exhibit at the annual NGLCC International Business and Leadership Conference, as well as at regional events. Automatic inclusion in the NGLCC's online searchable database of certified businesses, which is accessible by NGLCC Corporate Partners. Use of the NGLCC Certified Business logo on your marketing materials, which identifies your business as LGBTQ-owned through the NGLCC to an international audience. Eligibility to receive sourcing opportunities from the NGLCC and its Corporate Partners. Eligibility to participate in mentorship programs, leadership trainings, and scholarship opportunities presented by NGLCC Corporate Partners. Eligibility for involvement with the Transgender & Gender Expansive (TGX) Initiative for TGX-owned businesses, and the Communities of Color Initiative (CoC) for business owners of color.	Federal
Office of Minority & Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE)	MBE - Minority Business Enterprise - owned by minorities MWBE - Minority Women's Business Enterprise - owned by minority women WBE - Women's Business Enterprise - owned by women CBE - Combination Business Enterprise - owned by women and minorities SEDBE - Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Business Enterprise - owned by non-minority men who are found to be socially and economically disadvantaged on a case by case basis PWSBE - Public Works Small Business Enterprise - race and gender neutral certification for small businesses owned by economically disadvantaged individuals	To create and implement programs that provide maximum opportunity for participation of businesses owned by minorities, women, and other under-represented communities in public contracting.	For profit. Licensed to do business in Washington State. Able to perform the core services necessary to fulfill a contract in the business's eligible owner(s) area of specialty or expertise. A small business based on U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) size standards, which is measured in two ways: An overall business size standard of \$30.72 million in gross receipts over a three-year average. Size standards according to your businesses' North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes. OMWBE will assign your business NAICS codes according to the goods and services you indicate your business will provide. Each NAICS code has a size standard listed in the SBA's size standard tables.	Free until June 30, 2025 Process takes 60 days -To renew every year	The purpose is to enhance procurement opportunities for certified businesses participating in state-funded projects or working with state agencies, local governments, school districts, and public universities. Projects include any work or product state agencies, or other entities, wish to buy from private companies. This includes a wide variety of different types of businesses, such as construction, consulting, training, translation services, supplies and equipment, and many other industries and services. Becoming state certified also makes you eligible to apply for the Linked Deposit Program which can decrease interest rates on small business loans up to 2%.	State
Department of Enterprise Services (DES)	Small Business Certification	To dismantle barriers that prevent small, diverse, and veteran-owned business in Washington state from selling goods and services to governments and organizations.	As defined in RCW 39.26.010, Businesses can self-certify as a Washington small business in WEBS. When they register in WEBS, they have the option to select "Small Business": Small Businesses (Less than \$7M annual gross revenue) Small business means the primary location is in Washington state and the business has 50 or fewer employees or a gross annual revenue of less than \$7 million. Mini Business (between \$1M and \$3M annual gross revenue) Micro Business (Less than \$1M Gross Revenue)	Free	Washington State agencies have been asked by Governor Insee to do 5% of their purchasing from Veteran or Servicemember Owned Businesses. By linking the WDVIA Certified Veteran and Servicemember Owned Business list to WEBS, state agencies will now have a way to identify WDVIA Certified Businesses AND keep track of how they're doing toward their purchasing goals. It will also help private businesses and citizens across the state with easy access to your business information through the list of WDVIA Certified Veteran or Servicemember Owned Businesses in their communities.	State
Department of Enterprise Services (DES)	Veteran-Owned Business Certification	To dismantle barriers that prevent small, diverse, and veteran-owned business in Washington state from selling goods and services to governments and organizations.	Veterans who can provide: Proof of Qualifying Discharge Status Proof of 51% ownership Proof the business is in WA State	Free	Washington State agencies have been asked by Governor Insee to do 5% of their purchasing from Veteran or Servicemember Owned Businesses. By linking the WDVIA Certified Veteran and Servicemember Owned Business list to WEBS, state agencies will now have a way to identify WDVIA Certified Businesses AND keep track of how they're doing toward their purchasing goals. It will also help private businesses and citizens across the state with easy access to your business information through the list of WDVIA Certified Veteran or Servicemember Owned Businesses in their communities. And it makes you eligible to apply for the Veterans Linked Deposit Program which can improve access to capital for certified Veteran and Servicemember Owned Business enterprises by decreasing interest rates on small business loans by 2%!	State

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Department of Enterprise Services (DES)	Diverse Businesses to include: MBE SBE WBE	To dismantle barriers that prevent small, diverse, and veteran-owned business in Washington state from selling goods and services to governments and organizations.	Diverse businesses are at least 51% owned by minorities, women, and other under-represented communities.	Free	Washington State agencies have been asked by Governor Inslee to do 5% of their purchasing from Veteran or Servicemember Owned Businesses. By linking the WDVA Certified Veteran and Servicemember Owned Business list to WEBS, state agencies will now have a way to identify WDVA Certified Businesses AND keep track of how they're doing toward their purchasing goals. It will also help private businesses and citizens across the state with easy access to your business information through the list of WDVA Certified Veteran or Servicemember Owned Businesses in their communities. And it makes you eligible to apply for the Veterans Linked Deposit Program which can improve access to capital for certified Veteran and Servicemember Owned Business enterprises by decreasing interest rates on small business loans by 2%!	State
City of Seattle	Women & Minority-owned Business	The City actively supports utilization of WMBE (women- and minority-owned businesses) on City contracts as both primes and subcontractors, and each City department establishes plans and annual voluntary goals for WMBE inclusion in consulting and purchasing contracts.	The City of Seattle defines WMBE firms as state-certified or self-identified firms at least 51% owned by women and/or minorities.	Free	Access to City of Seattle Bid Opportunities	Local