



Procurement Certification Programs Eastern Kansas and Western Missouri

What are procurement certification programs?

Certification programs can help you market your business to both large business and government procurements. Many large corporations and governmental entities set-aside a percentage of their purchasing contracts for small businesses, minority and/or women owned businesses. Becoming "certified" as one or more of these types of businesses enables a company to bid on contracting opportunities.

If I am certified through one organization, will other organizations accept my certification?

When dealing with the government, the answer is: not usually. There are a few exceptions, but most government entities will require a company to at least go through a streamlined or shortened verification process.

Large corporations however are a little different in that many large corporations accept certification through third parties, such as The MidAmerica Minority Business Development Council, The National Women Business Owners Corporation or The Women's Business Enterprise National Council.

How long does the certification process take?

The process varies from one organization to the next, but 30-90 days is the norm. The best way to expedite this process is to be diligent in supplying the organization with all of the completed documentation requested.

Which type of certification should I obtain, and through which organization?

First things first, with whom do you want to do business? First identify with which governmental agencies or corporations you would like to do business with then contact that entity to inquire about their certification process or which certifications they accept. Some corporations may accept certification obtained from various governmental agencies, but the reverse is usually not true.

**CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL MUNICIPALITY FOR OTHER
CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS IN YOUR AREA**

Programs in Eastern Kansas

State of Kansas-Kansas Department of Commerce

Minority & Women-Owned Business Director

1000 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 100

Topeka, KS 66612

Phone: (785) 296-3425

Contact: Rhonda Harris

rharris@kansascommerce.com

Certifies

Disadvantaged Business

Certification—Business owner may not have a personal net worth of above \$750,000

Certifies all companies seeking bidding opportunities with the State of Kansas that are non-transportation related (see KDOT)

Average Application Process Time

90 Days

Benefits

State contract bidding opportunities

DBE directory listing

Renewal Period

Every three years (financial criteria must be verified annually)

Fee

None

Application/Information available at:

www.kansascommerce.com

Accepts Certification From

None

Kansas Department of Transportation

700 SW Harrison Suite 350

Topeka, KS 66603

Phone: (785) 296-7940

Contact: Lea Ann Curtis

Certifies

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

Certifies all companies seeking bidding opportunities with the State of Kansas for transportation related contract opportunities

Average Application Process Time

60 Days

Benefits

Bidding opportunities with KDOT

DBE Directory Listing

Renewal Period

Every three years (financial criteria must be verified annually)

Fee

none

Application/Information available at:

<http://www.ksdot.org/doingbusiness.asp>

Accepts Certification From

SBA 8(a) program, SBA Small Disadvantaged Business Program

*A site visit by KDOT still required

Programs in Western Missouri

City of Kansas City

Human Relations Department
414 East 12th Street, 4th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: (816) 513-1836
Contact: Diane Hawkins
diane_hawkins@kcmo.org

Certifies

Disadvantaged-Minority-Women
Business Enterprise

Average Application Process Time

30 Days

Benefits

Contract bidding opportunities for
disadvantaged businesses

Renewal Period

Every three years (financial criteria must be verified annually)

Fee

No Fee

Application/Information available at:

www.kcmo.org/humrel.nsf/web/directoryaccess?opendocument

Accepts Certification From

Missouri Department of Transportation (MO DOT)
Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)

Missouri Department of Transportation

External Civil Rights Office
600 NE Colbern Road
Lee's Summit, MO 64086
Phone: (816) 622-0311
Contact: Donnetta Cole
Donnetta.cole@modot.mo.gov

Certifies

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
*Certifies all companies seeking
bidding opportunities with the State
of Missouri for transportation related
contract opportunities*

Average Application Process Time

60-90 Days

Renewal Period

Three years
Annual updates on financials

Benefits

Contract bidding opportunities

Fee

None

Application/Information available at:

www.modot.org

Accepts Certification From

MRCC-unified certification program

State of Missouri Office of Contract Compliance

MBE/WBE Certification Program
P.O. Box 809
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: (573) 751-8130 OR (877) 259-2963
Contact: Janet Carter, MBE/WBE Certification Coordinator
janet.carter@oa.mo.gov

Average Application Process Time

60-90 Days

Renewal Period

Three years

Fee

None

Application/Information available at:

<http://www.oa.mo.gov/oswd/>

Accepts Certification From

Missouri firms having obtained certification from the following entities can apply for Missouri's rapid certification process:

Kansas City Human Relations Department
U.S. Small Business Administration 8 (a) Program
Kansas City MidAmerica Minority Business Development Council
St. Louis Minority Business Council
Missouri Department of Transportation
St. Louis Lambert International Airport Authority Metro
National Women Business owners Corporation (NWBOC)
Metro

Certifies

MBE (minority owned business enterprises)
WBE (women owned business enterprises)

Benefits

State contract bidding opportunities
MBE/WBE directory listing

Federal Programs

SBA Small Business Bidding Opportunities

U.S. Small Business Administration
1500 E. Bannister
Room 1161 Office Symbol 6ADB
Kansas City, MO 64131
Phone: (816) 823-1722
Contact: Dave Turner
david.turner@sba.gov

Applies to

Small Businesses (certification not required)

Average Application Process Time:

Self-Certification, subject to protest

Benefits

Limited to small businesses

Renewal Period

None

Application/Information

Information found at <http://orca.bpn.gov/>

Accepts Certification From

None

SBA 8(a) Program

U.S. Small Business Administration
1000 Walnut 5th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: (816) 426-4911
Contact: Rhonda Hardin
Rhonda.Hardin@sba.gov

Certifies

8(a) Program
Small Disadvantaged Businesses

Average Application Process Time

Fifteen days to review for completeness, then 30-45 days for approval (through the online application process)

Benefits

Competitive Set-Asides restricted to 8(a) companies
Sole source set asides
Automatic qualification for Small Disadvantaged Business Program
Entrepreneurial Training
Mentor-Protégé program

Renewal Period

Reviewed annually by SBA

Fee

None

Application/Information available at:

www.sba.gov/8abd

Accepts Certification From

None

SBA Small Disadvantaged Business Certification

U.S. Small Business Administration
1000 Walnut 5th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: (816) 426-4911
Contact: Rhonda Hardin
Rhonda.Hardin@sba.gov

Certifies
Small Disadvantaged Business
Certification

Average Application Process Time:
30-45 Days

Benefits
Subcontracting opportunities

Renewal Period
Three years

Application/Information available at:
www.sba.gov/sbd

Accepts Certification From
SBA 8(a) Program

SBA HUBzone

U.S. Small Business Administration
1000 Walnut 5th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: (816) 426-4911
Contact: Rhonda Hardin
Rhonda.Hardin@sba.gov

Certifies
HUBzone
Locations designated as historic,
underdeveloped/utilized, chronic
under-employed, 35% of employees
must live within a HUBzone

Average Application Process Time
30-45 days

Benefits
Subcontracting opportunities
SBA-guaranteed surety bonds on
construction and service bids
Sole source & competitive set asides
Subcontracting opportunities

Renewal Period
Annual basis

Application available at:
www.sba.gov/hubzone

Accepts Certification From
None

Corporate Programs

MidAmerica Minority Business Development Council

777 Admiral Boulevard
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: (816) 221-4200 x 104
Contact: Ronald Hopkins
info@mambdc.org

Certifies

Minority Owned Business

Average Application Process Time

60 Days

Benefits

Corporate bidding opportunities reserved for MBE

Renewal Period

Every three years

Fee

\$350 application fee for businesses within a 70 mile radius of Kansas City, \$450 application fee for businesses outside the area
\$150 annual membership fee

Application/Information available at:

www.mambdc.org

Accepted By

180 corporations nationwide

National Women Business Owners Corporation

1001 W. Jasmine Dr., Suite G
Lake Park, FL 33403
Phone: (800) 675-5066
Contact: Janet Harris-Lange
info@nwbo.org

Certifies

Women Owned Businesses

Average Application Process Time

30-60 Days

Benefits

Corporate bidding opportunities
State of Missouri accepts certification

Renewal Period

Annual

Fee

\$350 application
\$200-\$300 renewal

Application available at:

<http://www.nwbo.org/certific.html>

Accepts Certification From

None

Accepted By

Over 100 corporations and organizations nationwide
MO firms that have obtained NWBOC certification can apply for rapid certification

Women's Business Development Center

8 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 400

Chicago, IL 60603

Phone: 312-853-3477 ext. 20

Contact: Virginia Uqdah,

certification@wbdc.org

Average Application Process Time

60-90 Days after all information is received

Renewal Period

Annual

Fee

Fees vary \$300-\$450 based on location. For exact amount, email your exact location to admin@wbenc.org

Application/Information available at:

www.wbenc.org/certification/index.html

Accepts Certification From

None

Certifies

Women Owned Businesses

Benefits

Corporate bidding opportunities
Training & resources for contracting opportunities in both the public and private sector

Accepted By

500 Corporations nationwide