

How to Get Certified

To get certified, a business must:

- Submit its application on the form(s) provided by Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) and all requested documentation
- Demonstrate that it meets the requirements concerning ownership and control
- Cooperate fully with IDOA's requests for information and documentation
- Disclose all material and relevant information

For more detailed information on the MBE/WBE certification process, please see the IDOA website at: <http://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe/index.htm>.

You can also contact the IDOA directly for specific questions regarding MBE/WBE certification at:

Telephone: (317) 232-3061

Fax: (317) 233-6921

E-mail: mwbe@idoa.in.gov

Resources

Directory of Certified MBE/WBE Vendors

IDOA maintains a comprehensive and up-to-date directory of all MBE/WBE vendors, which can be found at: www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe/2743.htm.

State of Indiana Bidding Opportunities

IDOA also maintains a list of bidding opportunities currently available with the State, which can be found at: www.in.gov/cgi-bin/idoa/cgi-bin/bidad.pl.

Evansville and Vanderburgh County Bidding Opportunities

The City and County maintain a list of bidding opportunities currently available with local government agencies, which can be found at: www.evansville.in.gov/purchasing.

EVSC

The EVSC maintains a list of bidding opportunities, which can be found at: http://district.evscschools.com/about_us/facilities or <http://district.evscschools.com/cms/one.aspx?portalid=74772&pageid=170288>.

The Vanderburgh County MBE/WBE Utilization Board

For more information, please contact us at:

MBE/WBE Utilization Board

1 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Civic Center Complex, Room 323

Evansville, Indiana 47708

Telephone: (812) 436-4961

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) AND Women Business Enterprise (WBE)

INFORMATION AND RESOURCE GUIDE



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is for everyone.



What is the MBE/WBE Program?

The MBE/WBE Program is a joint initiative of Vanderburgh County, the City of Evansville, and Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation that works to assist minorities and women in developing opportunities to contract with local government. The Program works to economically empower historically underserved communities and create a fair, competitive, and equitable business environment, and in doing so strengthen the vitality of our local business economy.



Mission Statement

The MBE/WBE Utilization Board strives to enhance the economic opportunities for Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprises, increase participation and development of historically underutilized businesses, and promote and encourage equal business opportunities in Vanderburgh County and the City of Evansville.

The Program Objectives

The MBE/WBE Program's goal is to increase business opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses. Specifically, the Program seeks to achieve the following:

- Strive for minimum participation goals of 12% and 7% for MBE and WBEs respectively for the amount spent on construction, goods, supplies, and professional services
- Increase the amount of businesses certified by the State of Indiana as a MBE or WBE
- Promote utilization of MBEs and WBEs by the private sector

Diverse Business Qualifications

To qualify as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or Women Business Enterprise (WBE), a firm must be fifty-one percent (51%) owned by qualifying minorities or women who:

- Possess expertise in the field
- Control the business enterprise
- Are U.S. citizens

Qualifying minority groups include African-Americans, Native Americans, Latino/Hispanics, Pacific Asians, and Subcontinent Asians.

Benefits to Certification

Certified Minority or Women Business Enterprises enjoy numerous benefits:

- Qualify for MBE/WBE subcontracting opportunities on state and local contracts in Indiana, which provide for the attainment of business diversity goals
- Receive notification of business opportunities
- Receive access to training opportunities
- Receive notice of upcoming events and networking opportunities
- Appear in a directory of certified firms
- Qualify as an MBE/WBE for purchasing by casinos and state universities, as well as other public and private organizations

