

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Forms

MBE UTILIZATION AND FAIR SOLICITATION AFFIDAVIT & MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

PART 1 - INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING THIS DOCUMENT

This form includes Instructions and the MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule which must be submitted with the bid/proposal. If the bidder/offeror fails to accurately complete and submit this Affidavit and Schedule with the bid or proposal, the Buyer shall deem the bid non-responsive or shall determine that the proposal is not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award unless the inaccuracy is determined to be the result of a minor irregularity that is waived or cured in accordance with COMAR 14.39.03.07.

1. Contractor shall structure its procedures for the performance of the work required in this Contract to attempt to achieve the minority business enterprise (MBE) subcontractor participation goal stated in the Invitation for Bids or Request for Proposals. Contractor agrees to exercise good faith efforts to carry out the requirements set forth in these Instructions, as authorized by the MBE Procedures for State Funded Public School Construction Projects.
2. MBE Goals and Subgoals: Please review the solicitation for information regarding the Contract's MBE overall participation goals and subgoals. After satisfying the requirements for any established subgoals, the Contractor is encouraged to use a diverse group of subcontractors and suppliers from the various MBE classifications to meet the remainder of the overall MBE participation goal.
3. MBE means a minority business enterprise that is certified by the Maryland Department of Transportation ("MDOT"). Only MBEs certified by MDOT may be counted for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. In order to be counted for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals, the MBE firm, including an MBE prime, must be MDOT-certified for the services, materials or supplies that it is committed to perform on the MBE Participation Schedule. A firm whose MBE certification application is pending may not be counted.
4. Please refer to the MDOT MBE Directory at <https://mbe.mdot.maryland.gov/directory/> to determine if a firm is certified with the appropriate North American Industry Classification System ("NAICS") Code **and** the product/services description (specific product that a firm is certified to provide or specific areas of work that a firm is certified to perform). For more general information about NAICS codes, please visit <https://www.census.gov/naics/>. Only those specific products and/or services for which a firm is certified in the MDOT Directory can be used for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. **CAUTION:** If the firm's NAICS Code is in graduated status, such services/products may not be counted for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. A NAICS Code is in the graduated status if the term "Graduated" follows the Code in the MDOT MBE Directory.
5. **Guidelines Regarding MBE Prime Self-Performance.** Please note that when a certified MBE firm participates as a prime contractor on a Contract, a procurement agency may count the distinct, clearly defined portion of the work of the Contract that the certified MBE firm performs with its own workforce toward fulfilling up to, but no more than, fifty percent (50%) of the overall

MBE participation goal, including up to one hundred percent (100%) of not more than one of the MBE participations subgoals, if any, established for the Contract.

- ✓ In order to receive credit for self-performance, an MBE prime must be certified in the appropriate NAICS code to do the work and must list its firm in the MBE Participation Schedule, including the certification category under which the MBE prime is self-performing and include information regarding the work it will self-perform.
 - ✓ For the remaining portion of the overall goal and the remaining subgoals, the MBE prime must also identify on the MBE Participation Schedule the other certified MBE subcontractors used to meet those goals or request a waiver.
 - ✓ These guidelines apply to the work performed by the MBE Prime that can be counted for purposes of meeting the MBE participation goals. These requirements do not affect the MBE Prime's ability to self-perform a greater portion of the work in excess of what is counted for purposes of meeting the MBE participation goals.
 - ✓ Please note that the requirements to meet the MBE participation overall goal and subgoals are distinct and separate. If the contract has subgoals, regardless of MBE Prime's ability to self-perform up to 50% of the overall goal (including up to 100% of any subgoal), the MBE Prime must either commit to use other MBEs for each of any remaining subgoals or request a waiver. As set forth in the Waiver Guidance, the MBE Prime's ability to self-perform certain portions of the work of the Contract will not be deemed a substitute for the good faith efforts to meet any remaining subgoal or the balance of the overall goal.
 - ✓ In certain instances where the percentages allocated to MBE participation subgoals add up to more than 50% of the overall goal, the portion of self-performed work that an MBE Prime may count toward the overall goal may be limited to less than 50%. Please refer to the Governor 's Office of Small Minority & Women Business Affairs' website for the MBE Prime Regulations Q&A for illustrative examples.
http://www.goMDsmallbiz.maryland.gov/Documents/MBE_Toolkit/MBEPrimeRegulation_QA.pdf
6. Subject to items 1 through 5 above, when a certified MBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, a procurement agency may count a portion of the total dollar value of the Contract equal to the distinct, clearly-defined portion of the work of the Contract that the certified MBE performs with its own forces toward fulfilling the Contract goal, and not more than one of the Contract subgoals, if any.
7. The work performed by a certified MBE firm, including an MBE prime, can only be counted towards the MBE participation goal(s) if the MBE firm is performing a commercially useful function on the Contract.
8. **Materials and Supplies: New Guidelines Regarding MBE Participation.**
- ✓ **Regular Dealer** (generally identified as a wholesaler or supplier in the MDOT Directory): Up to 60% of the costs of materials and supplies provided by a certified MBE may be counted towards the MBE participation goal(s) if such MBE is a Regular Dealer of such materials and supplies. Regular Dealer is defined as a firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, a warehouse, or any other establishment in which the materials, supplies, articles, or equipment are of the general character described by the specifications required under the contract and are bought, kept in stock, or regularly sold or leased to the

public in the usual course of business; and does not include a packager, a broker, a manufacturer's representative, or any other person that arranges or expedites transactions.

Example for illustrative purposes of applying the 60% rule:

Overall contract value: \$2,000,000

Total value of supplies: \$100,000

Calculate Percentage of Supplies to overall contract value: \$100,000 divided by \$2,000,000 = 5%

Apply 60% Rule - Total percentage of Supplies/Products 5% x 60% = 3%

3% would be counted towards achieving the MBE Participation Goal and Subgoal, if any, for the MBE supplier in this example.

- ✓ **Manufacturer:** A certified MBE firm's participation may be counted in full if the MBE is certified in the appropriate NAICS code(s) to provide products and services as a manufacturer.
- ✓ **Broker:** With respect to materials or supplies purchased from a certified MBE that is neither a manufacturer nor a regular dealer, a unit may apply the entire amount of fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement of the materials and supplies, fees, or transportation charges for the delivery of materials and supplies required on a procurement toward the MBE contract goals, provided a unit determines the fees to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services. A unit may not apply any portion of the costs of the materials and supplies toward MBE goals.
- ✓ **Furnish and Install and other Services:** The participation of a certified MBE supplier, wholesaler, and/or regular dealer certified in the proper NAICS code(s) to furnish and install materials necessary for successful contract completion may be counted in full. Includes the participation of other MBE service providers in the proper NAICS code(s) may be counted in full.

9. **Dually certified firms.** An MBE that is certified in more than one subgroup category may only be counted toward goal fulfillment of ONE of those categories with regard to a particular contract.

Example: A woman-owned Hispanic American (dually certified) firm may be used to fulfill the women-owned OR Hispanic American subgoal, but not both on the same contract.

10. **CAUTION:** The percentage of MBE participation, computed using the percentage amounts determined for all of the MBE firms listed on Attachment B, **MUST** meet or exceed the MBE participation goal and subgoals (if applicable) as set forth on Attachment A- for this solicitation. If a bidder/offeror is unable to meet the MBE participation goal or any subgoals (if applicable), then the bidder/offeror must request a waiver on Attachment A or the bid will be deemed not responsive, or the proposal not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. You may wish to use the attached Goal/Subgoal Worksheet to assist in calculating the percentages and confirming that your commitment meets or exceeds the applicable MBE participation goal and subgoals (if any).

If you have any questions as to whether a firm is certified to perform the specific services or provide specific products, please contact MDOT's Office of Minority Business Enterprise at 1-800-544-6056 or via email to mbe@mdot.state.md.us sufficiently prior to the submission due date.

Subgoals (if applicable)

Total African American MBE Participation:	_____ %
Total Asian American MBE Participation:	_____ %
Total Hispanic American MBE Participation:	_____ %
Total Women-Owned MBE Participation:	_____ %

Overall Goal

Total MBE Participation (include all categories):	_____ %
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