

Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Program

Who Qualifies

The Department of Small Business Services' (SBS) Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise program certifies businesses primarily owned, operated and controlled by women and/or minorities. The program is designed to help generate growth opportunities for these businesses, including greater participation of minority and women-owned businesses in New York City's procurement. In order to qualify for certification in the M/WBE program, a company must be:

- ✓ At least 51% owned, operated and controlled by a woman or a member of a minority group, including Asian-Indian, Asian-Pacific, African American, Hispanic or Native American
- ✓ Be located in New York City or have a significant tie to the City's business community (i.e., have conducted business in the city, have derived 25% or more of gross receipts from business conducted in the city, possess a license issued by the city, etc.)
- ✓ Operating for at least one year

Benefits of Certification

SBS, through the M/WBE Program, is committed to creating links and providing services to minority and women-owned businesses by ensuring participation in the following opportunities:

- ✓ **FREE Advertising in the M/WBE Online Directory**
This searchable electronic directory makes it easy for public and private sector purchasing agents to find certified businesses. Check it out by visiting <http://www.newyorkbiz.com/mwbe/>
- ✓ **FREE Procurement Assistance**
Attend any one of our free "**Selling to Government**" classes or meet with a procurement counselor to learn how to bid successfully.
- ✓ **NEW Opportunities to bid for New York City Purchases under \$100,000**
M/WBE's now have an enhanced opportunity to be selected for "small" purchases under \$100,000.
- ✓ **DISCOUNTED Computers and Continuing Education Classes**
Purchase low cost Pentium II computer systems from our partner Per Scholas, and register for discounted continuing education or English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at participating City University of New York (CUNY) colleges.