

WisDOT REGIONAL CONTACTS

Southwest Region
608/242-8040
608/785-9051

Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, La Crosse, Lafayette, Monroe, Richland, Rock, Sauk and Vernon counties.

Southeast Region – 262/548-5668

Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha counties.

Northeast Region – 920/492-5715

Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Sheboygan and Winnebago counties.

North Central Region – 715/421-8332

Adams, Florence, Forest, Green Lake, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Menominee, Oneida, Portage, Price, Shawano, Vilas, Waupaca, Waushara and Wood counties.

Northwest Region – 715/395-3036

Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Buffalo, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer, St. Croix, Taylor, Trempealeau and Washburn counties.

Out-of-State Applicants Only – 608-266-6961

WisDOT DBE Office, Madison WI

Bureau of Equity and Environmental Services, Room 451
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
PO Box 7965
Madison, WI 53707-7965
414/438-4583

www.dot.wisconsin.gov

DOING BUSINESS WITH WISDOT

Every year, WisDOT spends \$600 to \$700 million on highway, airport and transit projects. Because we receive Federal dollars for much of this work, some must go to small disadvantaged businesses, including those owned and controlled by minorities and women.



If you are a **woman, minority or other** socially or economically **disadvantaged construction-related business owner**, you may be eligible for DBE certification to compete for WisDOT projects.



WisDOT's DBE Program is governed by the Federal Government's Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 49, Part 26 under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and abides by the equal opportunity parameters.



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Madison, WI 53707-7965



WISDOT'S DBE PROGRAM

Brought to you by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation – WisDOT



Bureau of Equity and Environmental Services

WisDOT DBE

Are MBEs and EBEs eligible?

Certification **does not** qualify you to compete for WisDOT projects as a DBE. You **must** have Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) certification to qualify.

How to become WisDOT DBE-certified?

First, make sure you and your company meet the criteria:

❑ Disadvantaged Status

Claims of minority status will be evaluated by WisDOT, and some claims do get rejected. WisDOT may also determine, on a case-by-case basis, individuals who do not belong to any of these groups to be socially and/or economically disadvantaged.

❑ Ownership

The business must be at least 51% owned by a socially and economically disadvantaged person(s), such as African Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic, Asian-Pacific, Asian-Indian Americans, and/or Women. Claims of minority status will be evaluated by WisDOT, and some claims do get rejected. WisDOT may also determine, on a case-by-case basis, individuals who do not belong to any of these groups to be socially and/or economically disadvantaged.



❑ Small Business Status

The firm (including its affiliates) must be a small business as defined by Small Business Administration standards. It must not have annual average gross receipts over \$19.057 million in the previous three fiscal years (\$30 million for airport concessionaires). This threshold is adjusted periodically for inflation by the US-DOT. Depending on the type of work, the revenue cap can be as low as \$4 million.

❑ Independence

The business must not be tied to another firm in such a way that it compromises the applicant firm's independence and the disadvantaged owner's equity.

❑ Personal Net Worth

The disadvantaged owner's personal net worth (not including primary residence and ownership in the business) may not exceed \$750,000 to qualify as "economically disadvantaged."

Meet the criteria. Now what?

1. Call the WisDOT Regional Office nearest you and ask for the **Labor Compliance Coordinator**. He/she will mail you an application to complete and return. Regional offices and phone numbers, and the counties they represent, are listed elsewhere in this brochure.
2. When you return your completed application, WisDOT will check it for any missing documentation. If necessary, we may call and ask you for more information.
3. Once your application has been approved, an on-site visit will be scheduled. WisDOT will review your business firsthand to verify the documentation submitted.

How long does it take?

If your application is complete, the process should take about 90 days. The Regional Office staff will forward the application to Central Office. When we have to check information, make changes, or call and ask you to send us something more, the process can take much longer.

Once certified, then what?

Then it's time for you to get busy building good relationships with prime contractors. You'll likely work with WisDOT as a subcontractor, so get to know the primes who work with us.



Submit **competitive** bids to them for WisDOT highway, airport and transit projects. WisDOT has programs to help you.



DBE Support Services

Following certification, support services are available to firms **free** of charge.

Programs to Assist DBEs

In addition, WisDOT offers two programs designed to help DBEs make connections and begin working with prime contractors:

- **Mentoring Connection:** a 6-month program to help you network in the industry and connect with a suitable prime contractor.
- **Mentor-Protégé:** an extension of Mentoring Connection, this is a 3-year contractual program in which DBEs work with their prime mentors.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Applicants carry the burden of proof regarding their eligibility and must demonstrate that they meet all requirements concerning group membership or individual disadvantage, business size, ownership and control.