

New Orleans Starts DBE Set-Aside Program

By City of New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—The City of New Orleans has announced the launch of the Set-Aside Program to enhance opportunities for disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs). The Set-Aside Program allows the City of New Orleans to allocate up to twenty-five percent of its contracts for specific procurement of goods, services, and construction work to socially and economically disadvantaged businesses. This initiative ensures that certified DBEs can compete for designated contracts among themselves, rather than against larger or prime contractors.

The Set-Aside Program aims to catalyze long-term growth and give new energy to local businesses through building wealth for minority entrepreneurs and small businesses. The program also levels the playing field for DBE owners who wish to do business with the City of New Orleans, allowing them to have a fair chance.

Currently, there are 2,105 DBEs that have obtained their certification. Information regarding the Set-Aside Program has been disseminated via

email to all certified DBEs. However, only 645 have registered on the City's BRASS database, the supplier portal which allows vendors to receive solicitations, upload invoices, set up direct deposit, and view and print payment information. The criteria to participate include previous establishment as a certified DBE and BRASS registration through the City's supplier portal.

For assistance with BRASS registration, vendors can call the City of New Orleans Bureau of Purchasing at 504-658-1550.

Certified vendors can also register for the BRASS portal at <https://nola.gov/nxt/services/doing-business-with-the-city/information-for-suppliers/register-as-a-supplier/>.

The Office of Supplier Diversity was created to help mitigate the effects of past and present social and economic discrimination by increasing the utilization of certified disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs) in the procurement of goods and services by the City of New Orleans. The office oversees certification, compliance, outreach, training, and capacity building for disadvantaged businesses in the City of New Orleans. For more



information on how to become a DBE, visit <https://nola.gov/applying-for-dbe%C2%A0certification/>.

The Office of Supplier Diversity, in partnership with the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and the New Orleans Aviation Board, administers

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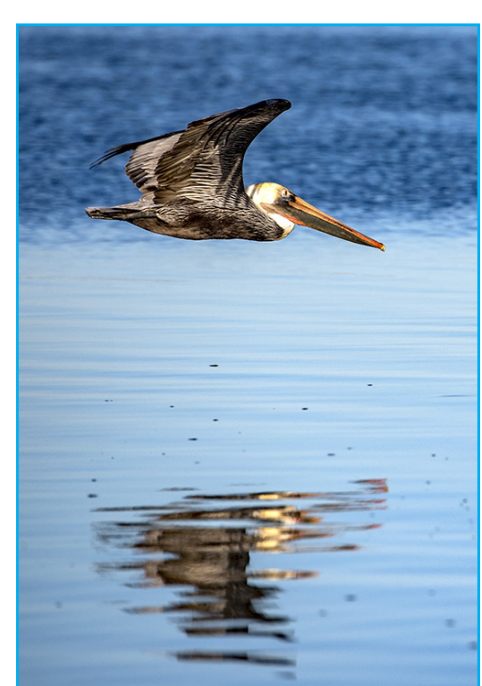
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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH AT 11AM CT

Guest

Kawana Davis, MSM
VP of Programming & Administration
Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Host

Sevetri Wilson
CEO/Founder
Solid Ground Innovations

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 • 11:00 am

Webinar

Join us for a webinar with Kawana Davis, Vice President of Programming and Administration at the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation, to learn more about their program offerings for small businesses in Louisiana. Kawana manages a \$6 million grant portfolio and will be discussing the array of services and benefits for small businesses throughout Louisiana.

Register TODAY at <http://bit.ly/4eibh8u>

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For more info contact
Valerie Voorhies at
vvv@sbeinc.com

SOUTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2024

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar
Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 1:00 pm–2:30 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: Patrice Dozier, patrice.dozier@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required

Welcome to the WOSB webinar series! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions will include an overview of the self-certification process, as well as a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register for this free webinar at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/woman-owned-small-business-wosb-certification-program-tickets-853224426227>

8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar
Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 9:30 am–10:30 am CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, illinois.do@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required

Join the Small Business Administration (SBA)

Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer additional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. To register for this free webinar, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8a-orientation-sam-registration-tickets-518989961947>

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar
Thursday, October 24, 2024, 12:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required

Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register on line at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611> SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning.

CERTIFICATION

Small Business Exchange, Inc.
is **DBE certified** by the Louisiana UCP.

