

The Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) Program

While the 8(a) Program offers a broad scope of assistance to socially and economically disadvantaged firms, SDB certification strictly pertains to benefits in federal procurement. 8(a) firms automatically qualify for SDB certification.

SBA certifies SDBs to make them eligible for special bidding benefits. Evaluation credits available to prime contractors boost subcontracting opportunities for SDBs. The SBA provides the gateway to opportunity for small contractors and subcontractors.

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

The Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program is intended to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts in the Department's highway, transit, airport, and highway safety financial assistance programs. Eligible women- and minority-owned firms can be certified as DBEs by contacting their state or local Department of Transportation.

Although women-owned businesses are not required to obtain third-party certification to do business with the federal government as a women-owned business, there are several other federal certification programs for which some women-owned business may qualify. These include: The above. For additional information: visit. <http://www.dotcr.ost.dot.gov/asp/dbe.asp>