

MINORITY, WOMEN OWNED, SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE **MWSBE PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The City of Houston's Minority- and Women- Owned Small Business Enterprise Program (MWSBE) stimulates the growth of local minority- and women-owned business enterprises by encouraging their participation in all phases of City contracts. MWSBEs are supported with training and networking events and promoted with full opportunities to compete on City contracts. Ongoing efforts are intentional to ensure minority- and women-owned businesses are included in all contracting activities awarded through the Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD).

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Our team of professionals are committed to promoting minority- and women-owned business participation to the maximum extent. HCDD-awarded projects have seen significant increase of MWSBE participation. Contractors are provided necessary tools to achieve program requirements. We host networking events, partner with community organizations on initiatives that encourage MWSBE participation and offer free quarterly Technical Assistance Trainings that teach regulatory requirements and best practices.

CREATING **EQUAL** OPPORTUNITIES & **ELIMINATING** HISTORIC SYSTEMIC **DISCRIMINATION**

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MWSBE PROGRAM





BENEFITS OF CERTIFICATION

Certifications with the City of Houston Office of Business Opportunity give businesses a professional edge that enhances business credibility, provides advantages during selection processes that increase economic opportunities, and offers other benefits, like instant notification of procurements, networking opportunities, customized education and much more.

The City of Houston Minority and Women-Owned Small Business Enterprise Certification is also accepted by the following agencies:

- METRO
- Port of Houston Authority
- Houston Independent School District
- Houston Community College
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Houston Housing Authority
- Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Airport Transportation Agencies Statewide

CONTRACT PARTICIPATION

Goal-oriented projects with the city require a prime contractor to demonstrate **Good Faith Efforts** to hire and provide opportunities to MWSBE's. These opportunities vary between construction, professional services, purchasing and goods and services contracts.

Is your business' expertise, knowledge and skills in demand? Do you have a competitive advantage over competitors due to experience, pricing, work capacity etc? If so, your team of professionals could be integral in city efforts to increase the supply of safe, high-quality homes that houstonians can afford.

Apply today!

HCDD PROJECTS

Currently, the Housing and Community Development Department administers over \$100M annually in various federal, state and local programs. From investing in neighborhood parks, multifamily communities and economic development, we work to improve the quality of life for Houston's neighborhoods and families. Businesses can have the opportunity to work on various project types with teams across our department, from creating new affordable homes to Houstonians to promoting essential service providers and projects across the city.

WHERE TO BEGIN

The City of Houston, Office of Business Opportunity Department manages the MWSBE certification process.

A weekly certification workshop is held every Thursday at 2:00 PM, located at 611 Walker, 7th Floor, Houston, TX 77002.

For more information about the MWSBE program or certification requirements, visit: www.houstontx.gov/obo or contract the certification hotline number at **832-393-0600 ext. 1.**

For more information about Housing and Community Development Department procurement opportunities visit: <https://houstontx.gov/housing/funding> To register to attend a Technical Assistance training that educates and encourages compliance achievement during post award activities contact our team at hcdcontractcompliance@houstontx.gov