



CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



DPS DEPARTMENT OF
**PROCUREMENT
SERVICES**

As the contracting, certification and compliance authority for the City of Chicago, DPS maintains the highest commitment to diversity, transparency & innovation while continuously expanding the resources and programs that empower citizens to become involved in the contracting opportunities. We have an obligation in government to ensure that all firms have an opportunity to participate in contracts that are paid for with taxpayer dollars. DPS manages the certifications of approximately 2,500 new and renewing firms that are minority, women-owned or disadvantaged businesses.

TYPES OF CERTIFICATIONS

- Minority-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE)
- Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE)
- Business Enterprises Owned or Operated by People with Disabilities (BEPD)
- Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise (VBE)
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
- Airport Concession Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE)

BASIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- **Ownership:** At least 51% of the business entity must be owned by one or more women or minority groups.
- **Independence:** Must demonstrate the ability to independently perform in the firm's area of specialty/expertise.
- **Control:** Must exercise control over the management and daily business operations of the firm.
- **Expertise:** Must demonstrate prior experience and expertise in the desired specialty area (i.e. training, licenses, certifications or academic credentials).
- **Location:** Must be located in the Illinois counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Will, Lake, McHenry
- **Size:** Firm's gross receipts must not exceed the maximum dollar threshold value and must meet other U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) size standards.

BENEFITS OF CERTIFICATION

- The City of Chicago is a part of the Illinois Unified Certification program (IL-UCP)
- Reciprocity with Cook County, which means certified firms will be qualified for opportunities through Cook County, as well as other government entities.
- Opportunities to participate in a number of programs, including the Target Market Program, which is designed to promote contracting opportunities for MBE and WBE firms.
- Contract specific goals for participation by certified firms on contracts bid by the city.
- Listing in the Chicago Certified Firms Directory.

HOW TO APPLY

- Visit www.cityofchicago.org/dps
- Certification applications are accepted **ONLINE** only.

Chicago Certified Firms Directory - ONLINE



ONLINE
SEARCHABLE
DATABASE
Search for certified
firms by a number
of criteria, including:

- Name
- Description
- Commodity Code
- Location
- Certification Type
- Ward
- Community Area

Get instant results,
export as an Excel
of CSV file.

Certification and Compliance System (C2)

Chicago Certified Firms Directory

Search City of Chicago's Certified Firms Directory by entering search terms and clicking **Search**. You must select at least one certification type.

Department of Procurement Services Disclaimer

Search by Business Name or DBA
Business Name/DBA
Tip: Try just a few letters of the firm's name.

Search by Business Description
Business Description
Tip: Try just a few letters of a keyword.

Search by Commodity Code
Commodity Code
[Click to Lookup Commodity Code](#)
(popup window will appear to browse and search available Commodity Codes)

Search by Contact Person
Contact Person/Owner
First name Last name
Tip: Use the first letter. Tip: Try just the first few letters.

Search by Location
City
State
Zip Code
Phone Area Code

Search by Certification Type
Certifications
 Airport Concessionaire Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE)
 Business Enterprises owned by People with Disabilities (BEPD)
 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
 Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)
 Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE)
 Women Business Enterprise (WBE)

Search by Reference
Ward
Community Area

Download Search Results:
 Include Commodity Codes in download

>> 63 businesses with 64 certifications found <<

Search Results
Click the certification type for contact information and certification details

Vendor	Location	Certification
A D & A Construction INC	Chicago, IL	WBE
AMALGAMATED CONSTRUCTION INC., DBA AMALGAMATED CONSTRUCTION	Chicago, IL	WBE

TRAINING

DPS offers free workshops presented quarterly or monthly, to educate citizens and business owners about the fundamentals of procurement and the latest developments in procurement, certification and compliance.

To view the workshop calendar and register, go to www.cityofchicago.org/dpsevents

All workshops available on www.youtube.com/ChicagoDPS

CERTIFICATION/COMPLIANCE WORKSHOPS
How to Become Certified

The Online Schedule A Application – MBE/WBE/BEPD

The ABC's of DBE and ACDBE Certification

Your Business Is Certified: Now What?

Compliance Documentation 101

WEBINARS

Vendors are able to participate in online webinars, which are held multiple times per week, including evening and weekend sessions. Classes include: Online Certification Application and Contract Compliance Reporting.

CONTACTS

To apply for certification or check the status of a firm's certification, visit: <https://chicago.mwdb.com>

Certification Contacts:

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