

# Welcome to the City of Chicago Department of Procurement Services Bid & Bond Room

Rahm Emanuel, Mayor Jamie Rhee, Chief Procurement Officer



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#### Welcome to the Department of Procurement Services

Professional Declaration of Eligibility (PDE)



City of Chicago Minority Owned Business Enterprise (MBE) Women Owned Business Enterprise (WBE) Certification Program

## What is Professional Declaration of Eligibility?

The Professional Declaration of Eligibility is an innovative way of allowing qualified Attorneys and CPAs to review, verify, and attest that an applicant meets the requirements to become certified with the City of Chicago for:

Minority Owned Business Enterprise (MBE) or Women Owned Business Enterprise (WBE)

#### Program Guidelines for MBE/WBE Eligibility

Regulations Governing Certification of Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises, Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises, and Business Enterprises Owned or Operated by People with Disabilities For Non-Construction Contracts

https://www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/dol/rulesandregs/CertificationRegulationsNonconstruction.pdf

## What should be done:

- Full Review of Electronic Application and all Documentation Completed and Provided by Applicant Vendor
- Site Visit
- Summary Report (detailed)
- Attestation by Licensed Professional CPA or Licensed Attorney

# Who's Eligible

## – Eligibility Includes:

- MBE / WBE
- Non-construction\*, non-supplier/distributor
- No denial within past three years
- No withdrawal within past three years
- No graduation within past three years

## What is the timeframe?

 Once the file is received, a cursory review will take place within 10 business days by a Certification Officer and a decision will be issued.

## What happens next?

- Application, supporting documentation (including Site Visit and Summary Report), and attestation
- Once a decision is issued following the initial review, the file is subject to a full scope audit.
- Firm must submit annual No Change Affidavit and all other program regulations with respect to continuing eligibility.

## Licensed Professional Requirements

- Attorney or CPA
- Licensed in Illinois
- At least 3 years
- Has not been convicted or found liable of fraud and/or making false statements.
- No ownership interest or familial relationship

#### The City does Not endorse any licensed professionals

 The City does not certify or endorse CPAs or Attorneys to prepare applications for those vendors seeking certification with the City of Chicago.

## **Documentation**

- Completed Electronic Application
- Copy of all required documents submitted with Electronic Application
- Professional Declaration of Eligibility Affidavit submitted with Electronic Application.
- Electronic Application and document list are available via the DPS Certification and Compliance System (C2) www.chicago.mwdbe.com

## Documentation continued....

- Contact Information
- Type of Certification You Are Seeking
  - MBE and/or WBE
- Ownership Information
- Employee Information
- Facility Information
- Financial Information (including personal and corporate Tax Returns)
- Licenses (for applicant and business)

#### Documentation continued....

- Experience
  - Resumes
  - Professional Associations
  - Listing of Equipment
  - Leases
- Contract Information
  - Pending
  - Past Year (Two Years)
  - Invoices/Purchase Orders

#### Documentation continued....

- Attachment 1
  - Individual Statement of Ownership
- Attachment 4
  - Affidavit of Social Disadvantage
- Attachment 5
  - IRS Form 4506T-Request for Transcript of Tax Return
- Downloadable Form
  - Personal Net Worth Statement

## **Full Scope Audit**

- Full review of certification and firm
- 100% of Files Submitted
- Subject to decertification

#### Technical Errors - Not Intentional

- Errors that didn't affect the certification outcome:
  - 1st Strike Notice
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Strike Additional training
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Strike Lose Eligibility

#### Technical Errors –Intentional

 If it is determined there is an intentional error to obtain certification, you will lose eligibility.

#### Substantive Errors – Not Intentional

Errors that did affect the certification outcome:

- 1st Strike Will require adopting Compliance Integrity Agreement (CIA)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Strike –Professional will be barred from the program. A proposed decertification will be sent with right to appeal

#### Substantive Errors – Intentional

 If it is determined there is an intentional error to obtain certification, you will lose eligibility

#### **Additional Penalities**

- –Professional of Record:
  - Referred to Inspector General's Office
  - Referred to State licensing board for discipline
  - Referred to Corporation Counsel for Prosecution under the City's False Statements Ordinance

## Where to go for help:

- Department of Procurement Services:
   Certification Unit
  - 121 North LaSalle, Suite 806
  - 312-744-4900, option #1

Your Area Assist Agency

## Hurdles To The Application Process

- Incomplete Applications, Site Visits and/or Summary Recommendation Report
  - Lack of Details
  - Lack of Specifics
- Incorrect Type of Application Submitted
- Failure to Timely Respond to Requests for Information
- Failure to Fully Respond to Requests for Information
- No Payment Received

#### www.facebook.com/ChicagoDPS/www.twitter.com/ChicagoDP



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## Department of Procurement Services

For more information visit: www.cityofchicago.org/procurement

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Chief Procurement Officer