



Washington State Office of
**MINORITY &
WOMEN'S**
Business Enterprises

ABC Construction School

July 9, 2020



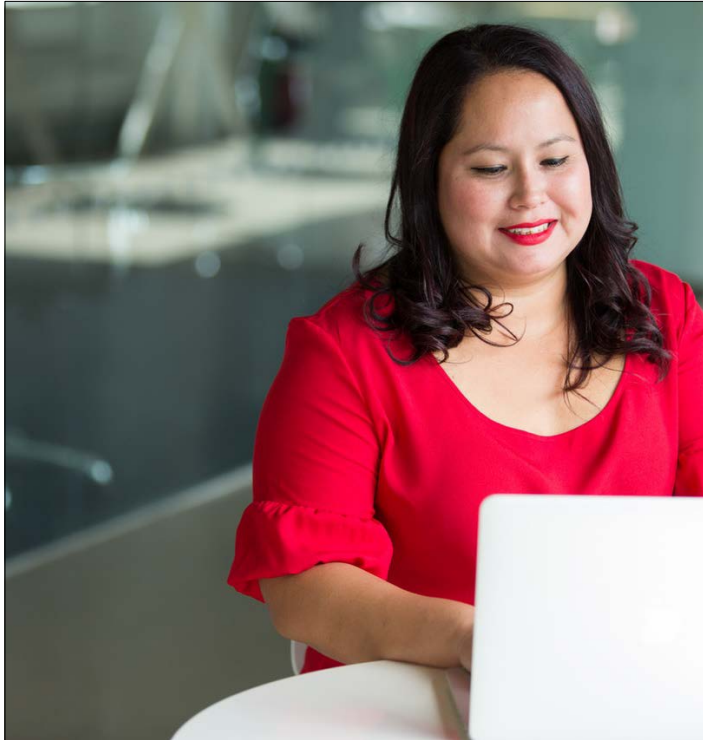
Today's Discussion

- Certification Basics
- Certification Qualifications
- Application Basics
- Q&A

What is certification?

- OMWBE certifies small businesses that are owned by minorities and women.
- Business owners provide us with information about their company, and we verify that they meet the certification criteria.

Why get certified? It helps make your business more competitive



- Federally-funded transportation projects have mandatory goals for participation of certified firms.
- State agencies and colleges have supplier diversity goals.
- Some private companies also use OMWBE's certification for their supplier diversity goals.

Why get certified with OMWBE?

- Increases visibility by inclusion on our directory
- State certified firms eligible for Linked Deposit Program.
 - Up to 2% interest rate reduction on a small business loan.
 - Enrollment form and participating banks at omwbe.wa.gov under *Small Business Assistance*

Types of certification

Federal Certification: For transportation projects funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. Work is related to transportation construction projects and work in airports, along with any support work.

State Certification: A Washington State program. Projects include any work or product state agencies and other public entities wish to acquire or purchase. Provides access to Linked Deposit.

Many firms get both federal and state certification.

Types of certification

Federal certification

- Renews every year
- \$25 fee to apply; \$20 fee to renew annually

State Certification

- Renews every three years
- \$50 - \$100 fee to apply or to renew.
 - Sole proprietor: \$50
 - Partnership: \$75
 - LLC/Corporation: \$100

Want both?

- Submit a federal application, and get both certifications for just the \$25 federal fee.
- In the future, you will have to submit both renewals and pay each fee.

Certification qualifications

We verify:

- Firms licensed to do business in Washington.
- Eligible person(s) owns at least 51% of business.
- Eligible person(s) controls managerial and day-to-day operations.
- Applicant indicates what line of work the business performs. Firm must be able to independently perform these services.

Certification qualifications

- Primary owner(s) must be both socially and economically disadvantaged.
- Federal and state rules define who is “presumptively” socially disadvantaged for purposes of certification:
 - Women
 - Latino
 - Black/African American
 - Asian
 - Native American
 - Alaska Native
 - Native Hawaiian

Certification qualifications

- Other persons may apply and show they are socially disadvantaged; evaluated case-by-case.
- “Economically disadvantaged” is generally defined as having a personal net worth less than \$1.32 million.

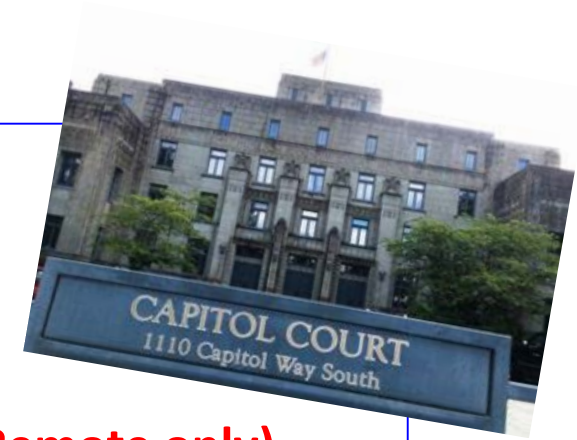
How does the application work?

- Create an account on our certification portal
 - omwbe.wa.gov – “Start or Renew” your certification
- Online Application
 - Choose state or federal. Start a federal application if you want both
- Answer questions and upload documents about your business

Location

1110 Capitol Way S, Suite 150
Olympia, WA 98501

We're open Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. **(Remote only)**



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Q&A

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Thank you