Locating Small, Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises

A partial list of sources for finding SBEs, MBEs, WBEs, and other DBEs

Central Contract Registration (CCR). Go to www.ccr.gov and click on the "Dynamic Small Business Search’ button. Search businesses by geography, NAICS codes, key words, etc. To identify NAICS codes for the capabilities being sought, go to www.census.gov/epcd/naics02.

Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC), administered by the U.S. Department of Defense, are a local resource that can assist businesses in marketing products and services to Federal, state, and local governments. PTAC personnel may be able to identify MBE, WBE, SBE, and DBE capable of meeting an acquisition requirement. www.dla.mil/db/procurem.htm.

Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), U.S. Department of Commerce. Free, on-line “Opportunity” Bid-matching System which notifies and utilizes MBEs. Go to www.mbda.gov. First-time users should click on “Use Business Tools”, followed by “Introduction to Opportunity Application–Part of the Phoenix Application” which can be found under “Available Tools and Resources”. Thereafter, users who are registered in “Opportunity” must log-on with their name and password each time they enter the system. (MBEs are encouraged to register in MBDA’s corollary “Phoenix” database).

Minority Business Development Centers and Native American Business Development Centers. Go to www.mbda.gov, click on “Find a Center”, select a particular region on the network map, and then scroll down the page to the list of Development Centers.

U.S. Small Business Administration (www.sba.gov)

Pro-Net Vendor Profile System. As of Jan 1, 2004, the Central Contract Registration (CCR) assumed all of PRO-Net’s search capabilities and functions. (Note: MBEs, WBEs, and other DBEs who are not yet registered in Pro-Net should register in the CCR). See www.ccr.gov as noted above. Pro-Net has been re-named “Dynamic Small Business Search” on the CCR.

Sub-Net EPA grant recipients, prime contractors, and others may use Sub-Net to post subcontracting opportunities while subcontractors can search Sub-Net to identify opportunities in their areas of expertise. Go to www.sba.gov/pr and click on “Sub-Net” under “Resources”.

Small Business Development Centers and Women’s Business Centers are sources of assistance for finding MBEs, WBE, and other DBEs. Go to www.sba.gov, click on the tab labeled “Services”, then click on “Counseling and Assistance” to find theses centers.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (www.epa.gov)

Small Business Vendor Profile System. Go to www.epa.gov/osbp and click on “Small Business Database” in the left margin of this homepage to access EPA’s database of firms.

For assistance, contact Joe Ochab, U.S. EPA, Region 9 at 415-972-3761 or ochab.joe@epa.gov.

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