

SPECIAL ATTENTION

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Policy. It shall be the policy of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) to ensure nondiscriminatory opportunity for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE's) to participate in the performance of all contracts and subcontracts financed with Federal funds as specified by the regulations of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration and as set forth below.

1. Policy. It is the policy of the United States Department of Transportation to ensure nondiscriminatory opportunity for disadvantaged business enterprises, as defined in 49 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 26, to participate in the performance of contracts and subcontracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds. Consequently, the DBE requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 applies to this contract.

2. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Obligation. The State and its Contractor agree to ensure nondiscriminatory opportunity for disadvantaged business enterprises, as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, to participate in the performance of contracts and subcontracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds. **Prime Contractors and subcontractors who further sublet must include this assurance in every subcontract:** *The Contractor, sub recipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of this contract. The Contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of USDOT-assisted contracts. Failure by any contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this Contract or such other remedy, as the NHDOT deems appropriate.*

3. Sanctions of Non-Compliance. The Contractor is hereby advised that failure of the Contractor, or any Subcontractor performing work under this Contract, to carry out the requirements set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall constitute a breach of contract and, after notification of the United States Department of Transportation, may result in termination of this Contract or such remedy as the State deems appropriate.

Overall Statewide DBE Goals. The NHDOT currently employs a race/gender neutral DBE policy to attain its overall statewide DBE goals. This means that unless otherwise stated in the Contract, the NHDOT relies on the voluntary cooperation of all contractors to utilize DBE's on every project, sufficient to meet or exceed the current statewide DBE goal. Although the majority of statewide DBE goals are currently voluntary, failure of the NHDOT to meet or exceed the overall statewide DBE goal as required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), could necessitate placement of mandatory DBE participation requirements on all future statewide projects.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Goals. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation is required to set an overall DBE goal for participation in all transportation related Federal-aid projects. The goal is determined following guidelines set forth in 49 CFR 26.45, and based on the availability of ready, willing and able DBE's who submitted bids for transportation related projects, compared as a percentage of all available contractors who submitted bids for transportation related projects during the same time period. The DBE goal may be adjusted to take into account other factors impacting DBE utilization, in an effort to narrowly tailor the overall DBE goal. The detailed goal setting methodology and current overall DBE goal may be viewed on the NHDOT website at www.nh.gov/dot.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Definition. A DBE is defined as a business that is owned and controlled by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged person(s). For the purpose of this definition:

- A. "Socially and economically disadvantaged person" means an individual who is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States and who is a Woman, Black, Hispanic, Portuguese, Native American, Asian American, or a member of another group, or an individual found to be disadvantaged by an individual determination of social disadvantage as described in 49 CFR 26 appendix E, determinations of social and economic disadvantage.
- B. "Owned and controlled" means a business which is:
 - (1) A sole proprietorship legitimately owned and controlled by an individual who is a disadvantaged person.
 - (2) A partnership, joint venture or limited liability Company in which at least 51% of the beneficial ownership interests is legitimately held by a disadvantaged person(s).
 - (3) A corporation or other entity in which at least 51% of the voting interest and 51% of the beneficial ownership interests are legitimately held by a disadvantaged person(s).

The disadvantaged group owner(s) or stockholder(s) must possess control over management, interest in capital, and interest in earnings commensurate with the percentage of ownership. Disadvantaged participation in a joint venture must also be based on the sharing of real economic interest and must include proportionate control over management, capital, and earnings, as above. If the disadvantaged group ownership interests are real, substantial and continuing and not created solely to meet the requirements of this program, a firm is considered a bona fide DBE.

Certified DBE Directory. The current New Hampshire Unified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Directory is available online at www.nh.gov/dot. This directory contains all currently certified DBE's available for work in New Hampshire, and is updated monthly. Only firm's listed in this directory are eligible for DBE credit on NH Federal-aid projects. If you have questions about DBE certification, or do not have access to the Internet, please call the DBE Coordinator at (603) 271-6612 for assistance.

Counting DBE Participation For Project Goals. In order for payments made to DBE contractors to be counted toward DBE goals, the DBE contractors must perform a commercially useful function (CUF). The DBE must be responsible for execution of the work of the contract and must carry out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved, consistent with standard industry practices. This means that:

- A. The DBE must also be responsible for ordering its own materials and supplies, determining quantity and quality, negotiating price, installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself;
- B. The DBE must perform work commensurate with the amount of its contract;
- C. The DBE's contribution cannot be that of an extra participant or a conduit through which funds are passed in order to obtain the appearance of DBE participation;
- D. The DBE must exercise responsibility for at least fifty percent of the total cost of its contract with its own work force;
- E. None of the DBE's work can be subcontracted back to the Prime Contractor, nor can the DBE employ the prime's, or other subcontractor's supervisors currently working on the project;

7/29/2013

Page 3 of 4

- F. The DBE's labor force must be separate and apart from that of the Prime Contractor or other subcontractors on the project. Transferring crews between primes, subcontractors, and DBE contractors is not acceptable;
- G. The DBE owner must hold a Public Works license and any other professional or craft licenses required for the type of work he/she performs on the project;
- H. The DBE may rent or lease, at competitive rates, equipment needed on the project from customary leasing sources or from other subcontractors on the project.

Allowable credit for payments made to DBEs for work performed. A contractor may take credit for payments made to a certified DBE that satisfies (CUF) requirements at the following rate.

- A. A DBE Prime Contractor; count 100% of the value of work performed by own forces, equipment and materials count towards DBE goals.
- B. An approved DBE subcontractor; count 100% of the value of work performed by the DBE's own forces, equipment and materials, excluding the following:
 - The cost of materials/supplies purchased from a non-DBE Prime Contractor.
 - The value of work provided by non-DBE lower tier subcontractors, including non-DBE trucking to deliver asphalt to a DBE contractor.
- C. A DBE owner-operator of construction equipment; count 100% of expenditures committed.
- D. A DBE manufacturer; count 100% of expenditures committed. The manufacturer must be a firm that operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises the materials or supplies obtained by the Prime Contractor.
- E. A regular DBE dealer/supplier; count 60% of expenditures committed.
A regular dealer/supplier is defined as a firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, warehouse or other establishment, in which the materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract are bought, kept in stock, and regularly sold or leased to the public in the usual course of business. A person may be a dealer in such bulk items as petroleum products, steel, cement, gravel, stone or asphalt without owning, operating or maintaining a place of business, if the person both owns and operates distribution equipment for the products, by the means of a long term agreement, and not by a contract by contract basis.
- F. A DBE Broker; count for DBE credit only the fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement, and, fees and transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies required at the job site, but not the cost of materials procured. A broker is defined as any person(s) or firm who arranges or expedites transactions for materials or supplies, and does not take physical possession of the materials or supplies at their place of business for resale.
- G. A DBE renter of construction equipment to a contractor; count 20% of expenditures committed, with or without operator.
- H. A bona fide DBE service provider; count 100% of reasonable fees or commissions.
Eligible services include professional, technical, consultant, or managerial, services and assistance in the procurement of essential personnel, facilities, equipment, materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract. Eligible services also include agencies providing bonding and insurance specifically required for the performance of the contract.
- I. A trucking, hauling or delivery operation, count 100% of payments when trucks are owned, operated, licensed and insured by the DBE and used on the contract and, if applicable, includes the cost of the materials and supplies. 100% of payments when the DBE leases trucks from another DBE firm including an owner-operator. 100% of reasonable fees, or commissions, the DBE receives as a result of a lease arrangement for trucks from a non-DBE, including an owner-operator.
- J. Any combination of the above.

7/29/2013

Page 4 of 4

Reporting Requirements for Payments Made To DBE's: On all Federal-aid projects, the Prime Contractor is required to report payments made to DBE's during the life of the contract, on a quarterly basis, for the periods covering January 1st–March 31st, April 1st–June 30th, July 1st–September 30th and October 1st–December 31st. The NHDOT will provide the Prime Contractor with a quarterly DBE payments report, detailing all DBE's subcontracted by the Prime Contractor, per project. The Prime Contractor shall report any payments made to DBE's during the requested reporting period. This documentation shall be submitted to the Office of Federal Compliance within the time period stated on the NHDOT quarterly request. Failure of the Prime Contractor to submit this information may result in the Department withholding progress payments.

Removal of Approved DBE From Transportation Related Project: Contractors may not terminate for convenience, any approved DBE subcontractor and perform the work with their own forces, without prior written consent from the NHDOT.

MUNICIPAL PROJECTS ONLY: Timely submission of invoices to Municipalities: Prime Contractors must submit all invoices received for satisfactorily completed work, from any subcontractor/lower-tier subcontractor/material supplier, to Municipalities for payment within 30 days of receipt.