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Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Finding Eligible DBEs, MBEs, and WBEs

How do I find eligible DBE, MBE, or WBE Subcontractors for RIDOT Projects?

The Rhode Island Unified Certification Program (RIUCP) at RIDOA maintains a directory identifying all firms eligible to participate as DBEs on RIDOT's federally funded projects, or as MBEs and/or WBEs on RIDOT's 100% state-funded projects. A firm is eligible to participate if it is certified as a DBE and/or as an MBE or WBE (depending on the project funding), and its certification description and/or NAICS Code certification(s) listed in the directory match the specific work items that could be subcontracted on the project. The directory lists the firm's name, address, phone number, date of the most recent certification, and the type of work the firm has been certified to perform as a DBE. The Directory is updated daily. Its location and instructions for use are:

DBE Directory (use for RIDOT's federally-funded projects)

1. Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office
RI Department of Administration
One Capitol Hill, 2nd floor
Providence, RI 02908
2. <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/dbe-program.php>
3. Under "Quick Links" on the right corner of the webpage, click on "Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) & Airport Concessionaire Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) Program."
4. Click on "DBE/ACDBE Directory Search".
5. The "DBE/ACDBE Directory Search" displays two data field types which can be searched by description:
 - The first data field type allows user to search by "Product or Service" or "Company Name". Click on the right-side corner of search box to select search preference.
 - The second data field type allows user to search by "Keywords".

When searching for certified firms using the keyword feature, please note that **you may only search for one word (or partial word) at a time**. Multiple word search terms are not allowed and will not yield any search results. For an example of using the correct search term, use the partial word search term "elec" under product description to allow you to search for electrician, electrical contractor, electrical supplies, etc.

Attention: This DBE/ACDBE Directory Search function is for use in locating DBEs and ACDBEs for participating in solicitations funded in whole or in part with funding from U.S. DOT. It is not to be utilized for locating MBEs and/or WBEs for participating in the State of Rhode Island's MBE program pursuant to RIGL 37-14.1.

MBE Directory (use for RIDOT’s 100% state-funded projects)

1. Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office
RI Department of Administration
One Capitol Hill, 2nd floor
Providence, RI 02908

2. <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/mbe-wbe.php>

3. Under “Quick Links” on the right corner of the webpage, click on “Minority Business (MBE) & Women Business Enterprise (WBE) Program.”

4. Click on “MBE/WBE Directory Search”.

5. The “MBE/WBE Directory Search” displays two data field types which can be searched by description:

- The first data field type allows user to search by “Product or Service” or “Company Name”. Click on the right-side corner of search bar to select search preference.
- The second data field type allows user to search by “Keywords”.

Note, when searching for certified firms using the keyword feature, please note that **you may only search for one word (or partial word) at a time**. Multiple word search terms are not allowed and will not yield any results. For an example of using the correct search term, use the partial word search term "elec" under product description to allow you to search for electrician, electrical contractor, electrical supplies, etc.

Attention: This MBE/WBE Directory Search function is for use in locating MBEs and WBEs for participating in state and/or federally funded solicitations pursuant to RIGL 37-14.1. It is not to be utilized for locating DBEs and/or ACDBEs for projects funded in whole or in part with funding from U.S. DOT.

PRISM “Vendor” Directory:

A more advanced search can be found in PRISM Software System (RIDOT’s Contract Compliance System), by entering a description of work and/or NAICS codes which can be filtered by type of Certification (e.g. D/M/WBE). The Directory is downloadable and searchable by specific criteria. Contact selected D/M/WBEs certified to perform the type of work you’re seeking to subcontract.

1. Log into PRISM Software System

User access can be obtained by contacting:

Nathan Shapiro
PRISM Program Manager
Office of Civil Rights
2 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903
Nathan.Shapiro@dot.ri.gov
401-222-2495 x4410

2. Click on “Vendors” module which can be found on the left side of field tabs.
3. Click on menu option (hamburger) tab. 
4. Click on “Search Vendors”.

5. This search allows users to find companies using specific criteria. Start by typing NAICS industry code or NAICS industry description. Note, narrow your search by adjusting certification (D/M/WBE) and other filters. Enter “Search” tab on the right bottom of page.
6. The search will yield a list of vendors based on the criteria entered.
7. The list can be printed. Click on “Print”. The list of vendors will provide useful information to bidders/offerors. For example, company name, address, phone number, contact name, market area, certification, and NAICS industry codes and description.