

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES/WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS) and its Office of Purchasing has a longstanding commitment to creating and improving contract opportunities for Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBE). The Office of Purchasing is dedicated to inclusiveness and diversity in its efforts to serve business owners while aligning its work to the Strategic Plan of Kansas City Public Schools.

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) – A business enterprise that is at least 51 percent owned and controlled by individuals of African American, Hispanic, Native American or Asian descent. The business owner(s) must be a U.S. citizen. The business must receive minority certification from a third-party certifier such as the city, state or regional minority business council.

Women Business Enterprise (WBE) – A business enterprise that is at least 51 percent owned, operated and controlled by a woman who is a U.S. citizen. “Control” in this context means exercising the power to make policy decisions. “Operate” in this context means being actively involved in the day-to-day management. The business must receive certification from a third-party certifier such as the city, state or regional women’s business council.

Diversity Certification Requirements

KCPS does not certify diverse businesses. Any business that wishes to be certified will be required to complete and submit for certification, appropriate documents required by issuing agencies including, but not limited to, the following:

City of Kansas City, Missouri
www.kcmo.gov

State of Missouri
www.mo.gov

State of Kansas
www.kansascommerce.com

National Minority Supplier Development Council (regional/local affiliates)
www.nmsdc.org

Women’s Business Enterprise National Council (regional/local affiliates)
www.wbenc.org

National Women Business Owners Corporation (regional/local affiliates)
www.nwboc.org

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Goals

To further support the initiatives of inclusion and diversity, KCPS is seeking to adopt an annual goal for MBE and WBE. The annual goal for MBE should equal 9.8 percent of the applicable District Spend. The annual goal for WBE should equal 8.5 percent of the applicable District Spend. KCPS will calculate prime and subcontractor spend toward these annual goals.

KCPS's combined annual goal for MBE/WBE equals 18.3 percent of the applicable District Spend.

First Tier and Second Tier

KCPS will monitor MBE/WBE spend on a first-tier and second-tier basis. First tier is defined as a vendor with a direct relationship to KCPS, and the second tier is defined as a subcontractor working for a vendor with a direct relationship with KCPS and on the behalf of KCPS.

Responsibility and Coordination

Every employee who is delegated the responsibility to either directly or indirectly commit the expenditures of funds for the purchase of goods and services, construction or related contracting is charged with using good-faith efforts to achieve KCPS's MBE and WBE goals set forth above. The Manager of the Purchasing Office or designee is responsible for administering the KCPS MBE/WBE policy. This person will lead our supplier diversity effort, monitor and report our progress, and make recommendations for improvement and on-going success.

Compliance with KCPS's MBE/WBE goals may be demonstrated through the utilization of MBE/WBE businesses or by making and providing evidence of good-faith efforts to achieve the MBE/WBE goals and requesting a waiver of the goals. Good-faith efforts are efforts that, given all relevant circumstances, a bidder or proposer actively and aggressively demonstrates in attempting to meet the prescribed goals. Good-faith efforts must be demonstrated to be meaningful and not merely formalistic compliance. Good-faith waivers will be reviewed and approved by the Manager of the Purchasing Office and the Chief Financial and Operations Officer (CFOO).

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

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Legal Refs: Chapter 38, Section 38-BT, Section 38-100-5

Kansas City 33 School District, Kansas City, Missouri