

DBE Utilization

The Department began its DBE race neutral program January 1, 2000. **Contract specific goals are not placed on Federal/State contracts;** however, the Department has an overall 10.65% DBE goal it must achieve. In order to assist contractors in determining their DBE commitment level, the Department has reviewed the estimates for this letting.

As you prepare your bid, please monitor potential or anticipated DBE utilization for contracts. When the low bidder executes the contract with the Department, information will be requested of the contractor's DBE participation for the project. While the utilization is not mandatory in order to be awarded the project, continuing utilization of DBE firms on contracts supports the success of Florida's DBE Program, and supports contractors' Equal Employment Opportunity and DBE Affirmative Action Programs.

Any project listed as 0% DBE availability does not mean that a DBE may not be used on that project. A 0% DBE availability may have been established due to any of the following reasons: limited identified subcontracting opportunities, minimal contract days, and/or small contract dollar amount. Contractors are encouraged to identify any opportunities to subcontract to DBE's.

Please contact the Equal Opportunity Office at (850) 414-4747 if you have any questions regarding this information. Forms may be downloaded at: www.dot.state.fl.us/proceduraldocuments/.

DBE Reporting

If you are the prime contractor on a project, enter your DBE participation in the Equal Opportunity Compliance system prior to the pre-construction or pre-work conference for all federal and state funded projects. This **will not** become a mandatory part of the contract. It will assist the Department in tracking and reporting planned or estimated DBE utilization. During the contract, the prime contractor is required to report actual payments to DBE and MBE subcontractors through the web-based Equal Opportunity Compliance (EOC) system.

All DBE payments must be reported whether or not you initially planned to utilize the company. In order for our race neutral DBE Program to be successful, your cooperation is imperative. If you have any questions, please contact EOOHelp@dot.state.fl.us.

Bid Opportunity List

The Federal DBE Program requires States to maintain a database of all firms that are participating or attempting to participate on FDOT-assisted contracts. The list must include all firms that bid on prime contracts or bid or quote subcontracts on FDOT-assisted projects, including both **DBE's and non-DBEs**.

Please complete the Bidders Opportunity List through the Equal Opportunity Compliance system within 3 business days of submission of the bid or proposal for ALL subcontractors or sub-consultants who quoted to you for specific project for this letting. The web address to the Equal Opportunity Compliance system is:

<https://www3.dot.state.fl.us/EqualOpportunityCompliance/Account.aspx/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fEqualOpportunityCompliance%2f>.

DBE/AA Plans

Contractors bidding on FDOT contracts are to have an approved DBE Affirmative Action Plan (FDOT Form 275-030-11B) on file with the FDOT Equal Opportunity Office before execution of a contract. DBE/AA Plans must be received with the contractors bid or received by the Equal Opportunity Office prior to the award of the contract.

Plans are approved by the Equal Opportunity Office in accordance with Ch. 14-78, Florida Administrative Code. Plans that do not meet these mandatory requirements may not be approved. Approvals are for a (3) three year period and should be updated at anytime there is a change in the company's DBE Liaison Officer and/or President. Contractors may evidence adoption of the DBE/AA Policy and Plan and/or a change in the designated DBE Liaison officer as follows:

- Print the first page of the document on company stationery ("letterhead") that indicates the company's name, mailing address, phone number, etc.
- Print the company's name in the "____" space; next to "Date" print the month/day/year the policy is being signed; record the signature of the company's Chief Executive Officer, President or Chairperson in the space next to "by" and print the full first and last name and position title of the official signing the policy.
- Print the DBE Liaison's full name, email address, business mailing address and phone number the bottom of email.

E-mail the completed and signed DBE AA Plan to: **eeoforms@dot.state.fl.us**.

The Department will review the policy, update department records and issue a notification of approval or disapproval; a copy of the submitted plan will not be returned to the contractor.