

CERTIFICATE TYPE	ISSUING AUTHORITY	ACCEPTING AGENCIES	DESCRIPTION	ELIGIBILITY	COST	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)	Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)	Illinois Unified Certification Program (IL UCP)	In accordance with Federal regulations, Disadvantage Business Enterprise is required for state and local governments receiving funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), and its modal agencies. Recipients are primarily state highway, transit and airport agencies with a DBE participation goal of approximately 20% for each year. Firms certified with one participant are certified with all Illinois Unified Certification Program (IL UCP) agencies.	Personal net worth cannot exceed \$1,320,000. Items excluded from a person's net worth calculation include an individual's ownership interest in the applicant firm, and his or her equity in their primary residence. Firm must be at least 51%-owned by a socially and economically disadvantaged individual(s) who also controls the firm. Disadvantaged owner must be a U.S. citizen or lawfully admitted permanent resident of the U.S. Firm must be a small business that meets the SBA's size standard and does not exceed \$22.41 million in gross annual receipts in the previous three fiscal years.	FREE	www.dot.state.il.us/sbe/sbeprw.html
	Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)				FREE	www.transitchicago.com
	METRA				FREE	www.metrarail.com
	PACE				FREE	www.pacebus.com/sub/purchasing/dbe_program.asp
	City of Chicago				FREE	www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/comp.html
Airport Concessionaire Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE)	City of Chicago	Unified Certification Program (UCP) or contact airports directly	The program seeks to ensure nondiscrimination and to remove the barriers to the participation of ACDBEs in opportunities for concessions at airports receiving DOT financial assistance. It should also ensure that only the qualified firms could participate and must follow the applicable laws	Only the small business are eligible to be certified as the ACDBEs if its gross receipt, averaged over the firm's previous three fiscal years, do not exceed \$30 million. Additionally, to banks and financial institution, Car rental companies and pay telephone, the standard is \$275m in assets, \$40 m averaged in previous 3 years and 1500 employees respectively. The personal net worth standard used in determining eligibility for purposes of this part is \$1,320,000.	FREE	http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_office/acr/bus_ent_program/training_conf/
Minority/Women Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE)	City of Chicago	City, CMS, MPEA, County, Chicago Park District, Tollway, CPS, CHA, PBC	Chicago's Minority and Women-Owned Business (M/WBE) Certification Program demonstrates the City's continued commitment to the success of minority-and women-owned businesses by offering certification opportunities to MBE and WBE firms.	The Department of Procurement Services Certification and Compliance division certifies minority-and women-owned businesses that: have at least 51 percent ownership by a minority or woman have at least 51 percent of their business controlled by a one or more minority groups or women	Certification Application - \$250	www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/comp.html
	Cook County	CMS, MPEA, CPS, County, Chicago Park District, CHA, PBC	Cook County's Office of Contract Compliance certifies Minority, Women (MBE/WBE) to participate in the County's Economic Development Program. Continued annual validation is required during the three (3) year term. On the Certifications three (3) year anniversary, a Re-Certification Affidavit is required. The goal of proportion is 25 % MBE and 10% WBE in service and Supply, 24% MBE and 10% WBE in Construction, 35% Overall in Professional Service	Personal net worth cannot exceed \$2 million less the equity in personal primary residence. At least 51% owned by a minority (African-American Hispanic-American, Asian-American, American Indian, Pacific Islander) and women legally entitled to conduct business in the United States wanting to take advantage of the opportunities afforded to them under the M/WBE program.	Certification Application - \$200 Re-Certification Application - \$100 No-Change Affidavit - \$50 Veteran Application - No Charge	www.cookcountygov.com/portal/server.pt/community/contact_compliance%2C_office_of/285/mbe_wbe_wbe_certification
	State of Illinois Central Management Service (CMS)	State of Illinois Agencies and Universities, Peoria Housing Authority, City of Aurora, MPEA, Chicago Public Schools, City of Colleges, Chicago Park District, Tollway, Chicago Housing Authority, Public Building Commission of Chicago, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Of Greater Chicago	MBE/FBE is provided by state gov contracting authorities. Increase the business visibility of a small business. The business is listed in an MBE/WBE directory provided to companies doing business with the gov. Aspirational 20% goal is slated as 11% MBE, 7% FBE, and 2% Disabled.	You may be certified as a diverse business under Business Enterprise Program (BEP) if you meet the following criteria: At least 51 percent owned and controlled by persons who are minority, women or designated as disabled. Must be a United States citizen or resident alien. Annual gross sales of less than \$75 million	FREE	www.cms.illinois.gov
Small Business Set-Aside Program (SBSP)	State of Illinois Executive Ethics Commission (EEC)	State of Illinois	The SBSP promotes the economic development of small Illinois business by setting aside millions of dollars worth of contracts exclusively for small business. The SBSP allows for the Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) of the State of Illinois to allocate a portion of contracts so that only small Illinois business can compete for them. Not less than 10% of the total dollar amount of State contracts shall be established as a goal to be awarded to small business.	To qualify must be an Illinois business with annual gross sales of \$6 million or less for Retail or Service, \$10 million or less for Wholesales and Construction, \$10 million and 250 employees or less for Manufacturing	FREE	http://www2.illinois.gov/cms/business/sell2/sbsp/Pages/Set_Aside.aspx
Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE)	State of Illinois Central Management Service (CMS)	CMS, state agencies and universities	Through the Veterans Business Program (VBP), state agencies and universities are encouraged to spend at least 3% of their procurement budgets with certified Veteran-owned businesses.	Illinois businesses with annual gross sales under \$75 million that are 51% owned by one or more qualified service-disabled veterans or qualified veterans living in Illinois.	FREE	http://www2.illinois.gov/cms/business/sell2/Pages/VeteranOwnedBusinesses.aspx
	Cook County	Chicago Housing Authority, Chicago Park District, Chicago Transit Authority, City Colleges of Chicago, City of Chicago, Housing Authority of the County of Cook, Metra, Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, Public Building Commission of Chicago	Cook County's Office of Contract Compliance certifies Minority, Women and Veteran Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE/VBE) to participate in the County's Economic Development Program. Continued annual validation is required during the three (3) year term. On the Certifications three (3) year anniversary, a Re-Certification Affidavit is required.	Cook County will certify firms that are at least 51% owned and operated by Veterans.	Certification Application - \$200 Re-Certification Application - \$100 No-Change Affidavit - \$50 Veteran Application - No Charge	http://www.co.cook.il.us/portal/server.pt/community/contact_compliance_office_of/285/mbe_wbe_vbe_certification
Fortune 500 Minority/Women Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE)	Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council (CMSDC)	Fortune 500 corporations, State of Illinois, Cook County, Chicago Park District, City Colleges of Chicago and the MPEA	The Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council (Chicago MSDC) is an exciting organization focused on building strategic alliances between our buying members and our diverse, minority business enterprise (MBE) membership.	To become a Certified MBE, your business must meet the following requirements. Both current and historical facts are considered in determining ownership qualifications and participation in the management and operations of the company. Your business is a for-profit enterprise. Your business is physically located in the United States or its trust territories. Your business is at least 51% ethnic minority owned. Ethnic minority owned is defined as any business having owner(s) belonging to the following minority groups: African-American, Hispanic-American, Native American, Asian and Pacific Islander American (Asian-Indian included). The minority/ethnic owner(s) of the business are U.S. citizens. The minority/ethnic owner(s) of the business must be active in management and daily business operations.	Certification Application: Gross Annual Sales <2 million-----\$500.00 Gross Annual Sales from 2 to 8 m-----\$650.00 Gross Annual Sales->8 million-----\$950.00 Recertification Application: Gross Annual Sales <2 million----- \$275.00 Gross Annual Sales from 2 to 8 m-----\$575.00 Gross Annual Sales->8 million-----\$875.00 Reciprocal Application: \$250.00	http://msdc.adaptone.com/chicagomsdc/
	Women's Business Development Center (WBDC/WBENC)	Fortune 500 corporations, Chicago Park District, Chicago State University, City Colleges of Chicago, City of Evanston, Illinois Capital Development Board, Illinois Institute of Technology, MPEA and Village of Oak Park	The Women's Business Entrepreneurial National Council (WBENC) Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) certification for women-owned businesses through the Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) is one of the most widely recognized and respected certifications in the nation. Accepted by thousands of corporations within the country and a number of federal and government agencies, your WBE certification will be an important marketing tool for expanding your company's visibility among decision makers in corporate supply chain diversity and procurement.	WBE (Women's Business Enterprise) is an independent business concern that is at least 51% owned, operated and controlled by one or more women who are U.S. citizens or Legal Resident Aliens; whose business formation and principal place of business are in the US or its territories; and whose management and daily operation is controlled by one or more of the women owners.	Gross Annual Revenues< 2 million-----\$350 Gross Annual Revenues from 2 to 8 m-----\$650 Gross Annual Revenues> 8 million-----\$950	www.wbdc.org
Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB)	Small Business Administration (SBA)	Federal Agencies	The Small Disadvantaged Business Program (SDB Program) is administered by SBA and designed to help small disadvantaged businesses compete in the American economy by providing specific advantages and benefits in the federal procurement process. It is now a self-certifying check box within CCR.	To qualify as a Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB), the business must be a small business concern that is at least 51 percent owned and controlled by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged. The owner's net worth may not exceed the limit set by law. All individuals must have a net worth of less than \$750,000, excluding the equity of the business and primary residence.	FREE	http://www.toolkit.com/small_business_guide/sbg.aspx?nid=P09_4410
Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program (WOSB)	Small Business Administration (SBA)	Federal Agencies	The Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program provides equal access to federal contracting opportunities for women-owned small businesses (WOSB) and economically disadvantaged women-owned small businesses (EDWOSBs). The program allows contracting officers to set aside specific federal contracts for certified WOSBs and EDWOSBs. Additionally, the Program provides procuring agencies a tool to help meet their WOSB contracting goal of 5% of prime contracting dollars being awarded to WOSBs.	Must be at least 51% owned and controlled by one or more women, and primarily managed by one or more women. The women must be U.S. citizen. The firm must be "small" in its primary industry in accordance with SBA's size standards for that industry. Its owners must demonstrate economic disadvantage in accordance with the requirements set forth in the final rule.	FREE	www.sba.gov/content/contracting-opportunities-women-owned-small-businesses
Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUB Zone)	Small Business Administration (SBA)	Federal Agencies	The HUB Zone Enterprise Contracting program encourages economic development in historically underutilized business areas by providing federal contracting opportunities for qualified small businesses located in the specific designated areas. Fostering the growth of these federal contractors as viable business, for the long term, helps to empower communities, create jobs, and attract private investment. Its 10% price evaluation preference is provided in full and open contract competitions, as well as subcontracting opportunities. The federal government has a goal of awarding 3% of all dollars for federal prime contracts to HUB Zone-certified small business concerns.	The business must be small, based on SBA Size Standards. The principle office (A principal office is the location where the greatest number of employees at any one location are performing work, with the exception of the construction and service industries) must be located in the designated HUB Zone area, and 35% of the employees must reside (at least 180 days, or as a currently registered voter, and with intent to live there indefinitely) in this area. The business must be owned and controlled at least 51% by U.S. citizens, or a Community Development Corporation, an agricultural cooperative, or an Indian tribe.	FREE	www.sba.gov/hubzone/
Service Disable/Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB/SDVOSB)	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)	Federal Agencies	This federal mandated program provides Federal contracting assistance to eligible SDVOSB firms. Federal contracting agencies establish an overall strategy and achieve a participation goal of 3% of the total value of all prime contract and subcontract awards for each fiscal year for small business owned and controlled by veterans with service connected disabilities.	The SDV, who must have a service-connected disability that has been determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs or Department of Defense, must hold the highest officer position and control the management and daily operation in the SDVOSB. Meanwhile, The SDV must unconditionally own 51% of the SDVOSB.	FREE	www.vetbiz.gov
8(a) Business Development Program	Small Business Administration (SBA)	Federal Agencies, Chicago Park District, Cook County, Chicago Public Schools	SBA contracts for goods and services with Federal agencies and then subcontracts work to socially and economically disadvantaged entrepreneurs. Participants may receive sole-source contracts, up to a ceiling of \$3 million for goods and services and \$5 million for manufacturing. The program helps firms build their competitive and institutional knowledge through technical assistance providers.	It should be at least 51% owned and controlled by a socially and economically disadvantaged individual or individuals who are native American, and it should have been in business for a minimum of 2 years. The objective criteria to determine economic disadvantage based on personal income (\$250,000 for initial eligibility, \$350,000 for continued eligibility), adjusted Net Worth (\$250,000 for initial eligibility or \$750,000 for continuing eligibility), and total assets (\$4 million for initial eligibility, \$6 million continued eligibility).	FREE	www.sba.gov/8abd