



- Ensures nondiscrimination in the award and management of DOT-assisted contracts in highway, transit and airport financial assistance programs
- Creates a level playing field on which DBEs compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts
- Confirms that only firms fully meeting 49 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations), Parts 26 and 23, eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBE/ACDBEs
- Helps remove barriers to the participation of DBEs and ACDBEs in DOT-assisted contracts
- Serves as a marketing tool, promotes use of DBE/ACDBE for varying types of federally-assisted contracts
- Assists firm development to compete successfully in the marketplace outside of the DBE Program
- Provides outreach, training and supportive services

Certifying PARTICIPANTS

ALLEGHENY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MINORITY, WOMEN, AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

204 County Office Building
542 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 350-4309 | mwdbe@allegchenycounty.us
www.allegchenycounty.us/mwdbe

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA – OFFICE OF BUSINESS DIVERSITY

Philadelphia International Airport
Executive Offices | Terminals D & E | 3rd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19153
(215) 937-1801 | kathleen.padilla@phl.org
www.phl.org

PA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (PENNDOT) BUREAU OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

P.O. Box 3251
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3251
(717) 787-5891/(800) 468-4201 | penndotucpinfo@pa.gov
www.penndot.gov/about-us/EqualEmployment/Pages/Disadvan-
taged-Business-Enterprise

PORT AUTHORITY OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY DIVERSE AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

Heinz 57 Building – 3rd Floor
345 Sixth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2527
(412) 566-5257 | cwilliams@portauthority.org
[http://www.portauthority.org/paac/CompanyInfoProjects/DoingBusi-
ness/Procurement/DBEInformation.aspx](http://www.portauthority.org/paac/CompanyInfoProjects/DoingBusiness/Procurement/DBEInformation.aspx)

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (SEPTA) DBE PROGRAM OFFICE

1234 Market Street, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3780
(215) 580-7278 | DBEProgram@septa.org
www.septa.org/business/dbe

For more information: www.paucp.com
PENNSYLVANIA UNIFIED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



The PENNSYLVANIA UNIFIED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

provides “one-stop shopping” for firms seeking
DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE)
and
AIRPORT CONCESSION DBE (ACDBE)
Certification.

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program is designed to ensure there is an equal opportunity for **socially and economically disadvantaged** firms to compete for Department of Transportation (DOT) contracts.

The DBE program provides a vehicle for increasing participation by DBE/ACDBE certified small businesses owned, controlled and managed **by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals**.



Frequently ASKED QUESTIONS

WHY DOES THE PENNSYLVANIA UNIFIED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (PA UCP) EXIST?

In March of 1999, the DBE regulation (49 CFR Part 26) required states to establish a Unified Certification Program (UCP) to provide “one-stop shopping” for firms seeking DBE/ACDBE certification.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE PA UCP?

Since the PA UCP provides one-stop shopping for certification as a DBE/ACDBE, the PA UCP makes all certification decisions on behalf of all agencies/organizations in the Commonwealth with respect to participation in the DBE Program. Therefore, firms certified as DBE/ADBE with the PA UCP are eligible to participate on any FAA, FHWA and FTA-funded contract as a DBE/ACDBE.

IS THERE A COST TO BECOME CERTIFIED?

FREE

No, certification is FREE! There is no charge to the DBE/ACDBE applicant.

CERTIFIED

ONCE CERTIFIED, WHAT DO I DO TO MAINTAIN MY DBE CERTIFICATION?

First and foremost, continue to adhere to the ownership, management and control requirements of the DBE regulations. If there is any change in the firm that may affect your DBE/ACDBE eligibility, immediately notify the appropriate certifying participant via a Notice of Change Affidavit. Otherwise, be sure to comply with the Annual Affidavit process and any/all requests for information.

DO I QUALIFY AS A DBE?

In order to be certified as a DBE, an applicant firm must meet the following criteria, found in detail in 49 CFR Part 26, specifically §26.67:

◆ SOCIAL DISADVANTAGE

DBEs must be owned by socially disadvantaged individuals. Members of the following groups are presumed to be socially disadvantaged:

- Women
- Black Americans
- Hispanic Americans
- Native Americans
- Asian-Pacific Americans
- Subcontinent Asian Americans
- Other groups deemed Disadvantaged by the Small Business Administration

◆ ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE

Socially disadvantaged owners must have a personal net worth not greater than \$1.32 million (excluding primary residence & ownership interest in the DBE applicant firm).

◆ BUSINESS SIZE

The DBE applicant firm, including any affiliates, must be an existing, for-profit small business as defined by the Small Business Administration (SBA) size standards found in 13 CFR Part 121, and must not have average gross receipts, over the firm’s previous three fiscal years, of more than \$23.98 million.

◆ OWNERSHIP

The socially and economically disadvantaged individuals must own at least 51% or more of the firm.

◆ MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

The management and daily business operations must clearly be controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged owners.

IF MY FIRM IS DBE/ACDBE CERTIFIED IN ANOTHER STATE, DO I AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFY AS A DBE IN PA?

A firm must be certified as a DBE/ACDBE in their home state before applying to the PA UCP. They can submit an identical copy of their home-state DBE/ACDBE application, along with the all supporting documents, for PA UCP DBE/ACDBE certification consideration. Please see the Interstate Certification Affidavit (found on our website) for more information.

WHAT ABOUT AIRPORT CONCESSION DBES (ACDBE)?

An ACDBE is an Airport Concession that meets the same requirements as those stated for DBEs, and they also meet one or more of the following descriptions:



- A business located on airport property subject to 49 CFR Part 23, that is engaged in the sale of consumer goods or services to the public under an agreement with the recipient of FAA funds, another concessionaire, or the owner or lessee of a terminal, of other than the recipient.
- A business conducting one or more covered activities, even if they don’t maintain an office, store, or other business location on airport property subject to 49 CFR Part 23, as long as the activities take place on airport property. These activities include: management contracts and sub-contracts; web-based or other electronic businesses in a terminal or which passengers can access at the terminal; and advertising businesses that provide advertising displays or messages to the public on airport property.

