

APPENDIX D - Participation by Minority Group Members and Women With Respect to State Contracts: Requirements and Procedures

CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 15-A (PARTICIPATION BY MINORITY GROUP MEMBERS AND WOMEN WITH RESPECT TO STATE CONTRACTS)

I. General Provisions

- A. The Department is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 142-144 (“MWBE Regulations”) for all “State contracts” as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of \$25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of \$100,000 for real property renovations and construction.
- B. Contractor agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the Contract and at no additional cost to the New York State Department (the “Department”), to fully comply and cooperate with the Department in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women (“EEO”) and contracting opportunities for certified minority and women-owned business enterprises (“MWBEs”). Contractor’s demonstration of “good faith efforts” pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the “Human Rights Law”) or other applicable federal, state or local laws.
- C. Failure to comply with all of the requirements herein may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the withholding of funds or such other actions, liquidated damages pursuant to section VII of this Appendix or enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.

II. Contract Goals

- A. For purposes of the Contract, the Department established an overall goal of 20% for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (“MWBE”) participation as subcontractors and suppliers, as relates only to the administrative cost component of the overall cost of the Contract.
- B. For purposes of providing meaningful participation by MWBEs on the Contract and achieving the Contract Goals established in section II-A above, Contractor should reference the directory of New York State Certified MBWEs found at the following internet address:
<http://www.nylovesmwbe.ny.gov/cf/search.cfm>

Additionally, Contractor is encouraged to contact the Division of Minority and Woman Business Development ((518) 292-5250; (212) 803-2414; or (716) 846-8200) to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by MWBEs on this Contract.

- C. Where MWBE goals have been established herein, pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8, Contractor must document “good faith efforts” to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of the Contract. In accordance with section 316-a of Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR §142.13, the Contractor acknowledges that if Contractor is found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the MWBE participation goals set forth in the Contract, such a finding constitutes a breach of contract and the Contractor shall be liable to the Department for liquidated or other appropriate damages, as set forth herein.

III. Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)

- A. Contractor agrees to be bound by the provisions of Article 15-A and the MWBE Regulations promulgated by the Division of Minority and Women's Business Development of the Department of Economic Development (the "Division"). If any of these terms or provisions conflict with applicable law or regulations, such laws and regulations shall supersede these requirements.
- B. Contractor shall comply with the following provisions of Article 15-A:
1. Contractor and subcontractors shall undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status. For these purposes, EEO shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.
 2. The Contractor shall submit an EEO policy statement to the Department within seventy two (72) hours after the date of the notice by Department of proposed award of the Contract to the Contractor.
 3. If Contractor or subcontractor does not have an existing EEO policy statement, the Department may provide the Contractor or subcontractor a model statement (see Form EEO-102 entitled "Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises M/WBE - Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy Statement).
 4. The Contractor's EEO policy statement shall include the following language:
 - a. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force.
 - b. The Contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.
 - c. The Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the Contractor's obligations herein.
 - d. The Contractor will include the provisions of sections (a) through (c) of this subsection 4 and paragraph "E" of this section III, which provides for relevant provisions of the Human Rights Law, in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the Contract.
- C. Form EEO-100 – EEO Staffing Plan
To ensure compliance with this section III, the Contractor shall submit an EEO Staffing Plan to document the composition of the proposed workforce to be utilized in the performance of the Contract by the specified categories listed, including ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories. The Contractor shall complete the EEO Staffing Plan form and submit it as part of its Proposal or within a reasonable time, but no later than the time of proposed award of the Contract.
- D. Form EEO-101 - Workforce Utilization/Compliance Report ("Workforce Report")

1. Once proposed contract award has been made and during the term of Contract, Contractor is responsible for updating and providing notice to the Department of any changes to the previously submitted EEO Staffing Plan. This information is to be submitted on a quarterly basis during the term of the Contract to report the actual workforce utilized in the performance of the Contract by the specified categories listed including ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories. The Workforce Report must be submitted to report this information.
 2. Separate forms shall be completed by Contractor and any subcontractor performing work on the Contract.
 3. In limited instances, Contractor may not be able to separate out the workforce utilized in the performance of the Contract from Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce. When a separation can be made, Contractor shall submit the Workforce Report and indicate that the information provided related to the actual workforce utilized on the Contract. When the workforce to be utilized on the Contract cannot be separated out from Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce, Contractor shall submit the Workforce Report and indicate that the information provided is Contractor's total workforce during the subject time frame, not limited to work specifically under the Contract.
- E. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

IV. MWBE Utilization Plan Form (MWBE-100) and Certification of Good Faith Efforts (Form MWBE-104)

- A. The Contractor represents and warrants that Contractor has submitted an MWBE Utilization Plan (form MWBE-100) either prior to, or at the time of, the execution of the Contract for Department consideration and acceptance. The Contractor shall ensure that enterprises have been identified within the MWBE Utilization Plan, and the Contractor shall attempt, in good faith, to utilize such enterprise(s) at least to the extent indicated in the Contractor's MWBE Utilization Plan as accepted by the Department. The Contractor must document "good faith efforts" to provide meaningful participation by New York State Certified MWBE subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of the Contract. In support of such efforts, the Contractor will include with its MWBE Utilization Plan submission a Certification of Good Faith Efforts statement (Form MWBE-104).
- B. Contractor agrees to use such MWBE Utilization Plan, as accepted by the Department, for the performance of MWBEs on the Contract pursuant to the prescribed MWBE goals set forth in section III-A of this Appendix D.
- C. Contractor further agrees that a failure to submit and/or use such MWBE Utilization Plan shall constitute a material breach of the terms of the Contract. Upon the occurrence of such a material breach, Department shall be entitled to any remedy provided herein, including but not limited to, a finding of Contractor non-responsiveness.

V. Waiver Requests (MWBE-101)

- A. For Waiver Requests Contractor should use Form MWBE-101 – Request for Waiver Form.

- B. If the Contractor, after making good faith efforts, is unable to comply with MWBE goals, the Contractor may submit a Request for Waiver Form documenting good faith efforts by the Contractor to meet such goals. If the documentation included with the Waiver Request is complete, the Department shall evaluate the request and issue a written notice of acceptance or denial within twenty (20) days of receipt.
- C. If the Department, upon review of the MWBE Utilization Plan and updated Quarterly M/WBE Contractor Compliance Reports determines that Contractor is failing or refusing to comply with the Contract goals and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, the Department may issue a notice of deficiency to the Contractor. The Contractor must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of MWBE Contract Goals.

VI. Quarterly M/WBE Contractor Compliance Report (Form MWBE-103)

Contractor is required to submit a Quarterly M/WBE Contractor Compliance Report (Form MWBE-103) to the Department by the 10th day following each end of quarter over the term of the Contract documenting the progress made towards achievement of the MWBE goals of the Contract.

VII. Liquidated Damages - MWBE Participation

- A. Where Department determines that Contractor is not in compliance with the requirements of the Contract and Contractor refuses to comply with such requirements, or if Contractor is found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the MWBE participation goals, Contractor shall be obligated to pay to the Department liquidated damages.
- B. Such liquidated damages shall be calculated as an amount equaling the difference between:
 - 1. All sums identified for payment to MWBEs had the Contractor achieved the contractual MWBE goals; and
 - 2. All sums actually paid to MWBEs for work performed or materials supplied under the Contract.
- C. In the event a determination has been made which requires the payment of liquidated damages and such identified sums have not been withheld by the Department, Contractor shall pay such liquidated damages to the Department within sixty (60) days after they are assessed by the Department unless prior to the expiration of such sixtieth day, the Contractor has filed a complaint with the Director of the Division of Minority and Woman Business Development pursuant to subdivision 8 of section 313 of the Executive Law in which event the liquidated damages shall be payable if Director renders a decision in favor of the Department.

VII. Further Information:

General questions concerning New York's MWBE program should be directed to:

New York State Department of Economic Development
633 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017
Telephone: (212) 803-2414

New York State Department of Economic Development
Division of Minority and Women's Business Development
30 South Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12245
Telephone: (518) 292-5150

All of the EEO and M/WBE forms referenced herein this Appendix D are available for download at the Department's website at: <http://www.cs.ny.gov/pio/mwbe-eeo-forms.cfm>). These forms are to be submitted without change to the goals specified by Department in the Contract.