

## WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

IDOT strives to assist prime and subcontractors in gaining access to the most up to date information, policy changes, and building relationships that will benefit all stakeholders, both efficiently and economically. We do this by hosting a wide array of workshops, webinars, networking events, and an annual statewide conference called Today's Challenge, Tomorrow's Reward (TCTR). IDOT strives to be an Agency that is presenting national best practices, setting industry standards, and raising the bar for excellence in service. IDOT's Events Page provides the most recent information on ways to get involved!

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (BDP)

Foundation for Growth is designed to evaluate and provide a structured process for DBEs to receive firm-specific training and guidance to assist in their growth and competitiveness within the transportation industry. The program will provide each DBE firm with a full business analysis; tailored targeted training that may be eligible for reimbursement, and a host of other opportunities to increase the competitiveness of the participants. Applications are available online under the BDP tab and enrollment is open one time per year. A total of 15 firms are accepted annually.

## OFFICE OF BUSINESS & WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

Bureau of Small Business Enterprises



## OUR MISSION

*To effectively administer the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program by stimulating growth and opportunities within the transportation industry to enhance DBE participation on state and federally funded projects while providing best practices of support and programmatic implementation.*



Illinois Department  
of Transportation

### Bureau of Small Business Enterprises

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State of Illinois  
Illinois Department of Transportation

# DBE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES



**Policy & Supportive Services Unit**  
Bureau of Small Business Enterprises  
217-782-5490 [Dana.goodrum@illinois.gov](mailto:Dana.goodrum@illinois.gov)



## CERTIFICATION ASSISTANCE

Firms who are interested in becoming certified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) with IDOT and need assistance with the application process can contact 217-782-5490 for free certification assistance.

## DBE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

IDOT has developed various programs for firms already certified designed to support the requirements set forth in Title 23 Part 230 Subpart B of the Code of Federal Regulations, where DBE Supportive Services are defined as, those services and activities which are designed to increase the total number of DBEs active in the highway program and contribute to the growth and eventual self-sufficiency of individual DBEs so that such businesses may achieve proficiency to compete, on an equal basis, for contracts and subcontracts.

IDOT has various race neutral initiatives and programs that are administered by the Policy & Supportive Services Unit that are available to firms depending on their certification status.

Information can be found on the IDOT website under Doing Business > Certifications > DBE > Supportive Services.

For more information on any of these programs, requirements, or services offered, please contact the Bureau of Small Business Enterprises at 217-782-5490.

## DBE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

IDOT offers 50% reimbursement (while funds are available) for purchases already made in the following categories:

- Association/Organization Membership Costs
- Training or Certification Class
- Website, Capability Statement, Logo
- Audited Financial Statement
- Estimating Software (Every 2 yrs)

There is limited funding for this program, **purchases should not be made assuming a reimbursement is guaranteed.** Each DBE is allotted one reimbursement per quarter. DBEs are capped at a total of \$1500.00 dollars per year and funding is not guaranteed.

## ONE-ON-ONE ASSISTANCE

IDOT offers one-on-one assistance for the following areas:

- Management (business planning, QuickBooks, accounting systems, credit restoration, etc.)
- Technical (estimating/bidding, site inspection, prequalification, equipment rates)

Firms must complete an intake interview with IDOT SBE Staff before being approved for one-on-one assistance. Firms must be certified with IDOT to receive one-on-one assistance.

## MENTOR PROTÉGÉ

IDOT offers a Mentor Protégé program for on construction and consultant contracts. The primary purpose of the Program is to enhance the capabilities of DBEs. The Program centers on business collaborations between Mentor firms and Protégé firms (DBEs) to provide developmental assistance to enhance the Protégé's business and technical capabilities to do more complex work. Projects applicable to Mentor Protégé are determined by the Department, and participation in the Mentor Protégé is completely voluntary. More information, the application, and agreement can be found online on the IDOT website under Doing Business.

## HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION CAREERS TRAINING PROGRAM (HCCTP)

IDOT established the HCCTP through an IGA with the Illinois Community College Board to increase the total number of historically underutilized individuals working on IDOT highway construction projects. IDOT's college partnerships help provide highway construction industry trade and life skills training to minorities, women, and disadvantaged individuals. In addition, the program assists with the placement of trained graduates into Illinois highway construction trade unions, apprenticeship programs, and with IDOT construction contractors.