



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES



The Bureau of Small Business Enterprises administers the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program.

The goal of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Supportive Services program is to provide assistance that fosters opportunities for DBE firms to participate in the state's transportation-related contracts.

IDOT contracts with consultants throughout the state to provide its DBE firms with management and technical supportive services assistance. This assistance is provided at no cost to IDOT's DBE firms (management and technical) or to firms certified in the Illinois Unified

Certification Program that are bidding on IDOT contracts. **See back of page for contact information.**

IDOT provides free assistance to firms seeking IDOT DBE certification.

- ◆ **Management Assistance:** Business plans, Quick Books, certified payroll and accounting system assistance, bonding and financing, and credit restoration.
- ◆ **Technical Assistance:** Estimating and bidding assistance, IDOT project site inspections, prequalification assistance, equipment and resource assistance, and IDOT project and labor schedules.
- ◆ **Reimbursement Program:** SBE offers a robust reimbursement program for IDOT-certified DBEs, offsetting many costs of doing business with the state.
- ◆ **Resource Centers:** IDOT provides nine resource centers, one in each IDOT district, to DBE firms and small businesses that offer computer access, internet, printing and scanning capabilities at no charge.
- ◆ **District Workshops:** Presentations are held in each district that are free and open to the public, presented by experts on a variety of transportation, business management and heavy-highway related topics.
- ◆ **Regional Networking Events:** SBE hosts regional networking events in each of IDOT's five regions to create opportunities for primes and subcontractors to build relationships and exchange information.
- ◆ **Online Webinars:** SBE hosts online webinars throughout the year to provide information on supportive services programs, upcoming opportunities and initiatives for DBE firms throughout the state.
- ◆ **Annual Statewide Conference:** IDOT hosts the annual Today's Challenge, Tomorrow's Reward statewide conference. This two-day event is packed with informational sessions, an exhibitor fair, networking opportunities, awards banquet and a host of highlights that attract hundreds of participants from across the state of Illinois.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the supportive services assistance that IDOT offers, please contact the Bureau of Small Business Enterprises at **217-782-5490**.

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