

Statewide Civil Legal Services Program

Request for Applications (RFA) #36-21

Pre-Application Conference

December 13, 2022

- Brandi Clemons – Office of Policy Development
- Karen Kern – Bureau of Procurement & Contract Management, Issuing Officer
- Audrey Smith - DGS Bureau of Diversity, Inclusion and Small Business Opportunities
- Krista Schubert – DHS Bureau of Employment Programs, Contractor Partnership Program

Agenda



- Ground Rules
- Critical Points
- Project Overview
- Small Diverse Business/Veteran Business Enterprise Overview and requirements
- Contractor Partnership Program Overview and requirements
- Timeline
- Adjourn

- All questions may be submitted via email to the resource account (RA-pwrfaquestions@pa.gov) by December 13, 2022, 5:00 PM EST.
- Answers to Potential Applicant questions will be posted on the DGS website (<http://www.emarketplace.state.pa.us/>) by December 22, 2022.
- Any changes to the RFA will be issued as a formal written addendum in accordance with Part I, Section I-10 of the RFA.
- All communication concerning this RFA shall be made through the RFA Issuing Officer.

- To minimize delays in Application evaluation and to avoid rejection of your Application, read the RFA carefully and submit a complete Application, including signature. Evaluations will be based on what is submitted. Follow the Application format as detailed in Part I of the RFA. Include the appropriate heading descriptions, respond to all requirements and provide any other relevant information as an appendix.
- An oral or written presentation with each Applicant may be requested by the Department.
- Each Application must have five separate submittals: Technical, Cost, Small Diverse Business (SDB) Participation, Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE) Participation and Contractor Partnership Program (CPP).
 - Copies of the completed Corporate and Key Personnel Reference Questionnaires must be submitted electronically to RA-PWRFAQUESTIONS@PA.GOV.

Critical Points (cont.)



- Do not include any cost data in the Technical or the Small Diverse Business or the Veteran Business Enterprise portion of your Application.
- Applications and the electronic copies of the completed Corporate and Key Personnel Reference Questionnaires must be received by 12:00 PM on January 30, 2023.
- The resulting agreement will be for a term of three years with two additional one-year renewal options.

Critical Points (cont.)



- The RFA will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
 - Technical – 65% (Applicant’s Application must be greater than or equal to 75% of the available technical points)
 - Cost – 35%

- The technical evaluation will be based upon the following criteria:
 - Soundness of Approach;
 - Applicant Qualifications;
 - Personnel Qualifications; and
 - Understanding the Project.

Project Overview



- As detailed in RFA #36-21, the Department is seeking to partner with a legal services organization to provide legal services across the 67 counties in Pennsylvania. The selected Applicant shall utilize lawyers and paralegals under attorney supervision to resolve or prevent the civil legal problems of an eligible individual or eligible individuals sharing the same legal problem or circumstances.
- The selected Applicant shall provide individualized civil legal services to an estimated minimum of 16,500 individuals per State Fiscal Year (“SFY”). Individuals in need of these services may request the services from the selected Applicant or may be referred to receive services from the selected Applicant.

- Individuals must also meet one of the two categories of need: (1) emergency situations, and (2) termination of employment and unemployment compensation; custody and other family law matters; health care or health insurance; income and income supports; discrimination due to age, race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, or disability; wage and pension claims; housing; wills and estates; social security benefit; disability; and debtor-creditor issues.

Project Overview (cont.)



Applicants must respond to all areas of the technical submittal and propose how the Applicant will satisfy each of the following Requirements.

- Have an established physical presence or an ability to establish a physical presence in all 67 counties in Pennsylvania;
- Establish and maintain all files in an accurate, secure, and confidential manner and for the required period of time, as mandated by applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations;
- Do not engage in any outside practice of law except as permitted by 45 CFR Part 1604 or specifically approved by the Executive Director of the Legal Services Provider that employs the attorney;
- Meet the service needs of clients with limited English proficiency;
- Have an emergency plan to support business continuity during an emergency, including a pandemic.

This is a broad list of requirements. Please pay close attention to the details describing each in Part III of the RFA.

Project Overview (cont.)



Applicants must respond to all areas of the technical submittal and propose how the Applicant will satisfy each of the following Tasks. Please reference the RFA for more information.

- Develop a screening process and application based on the eligibility requirements provided in Part I, Section I-3 and detailed in Title XX Regulations for all individuals seeking services;
- Determine an individual's eligibility for services within 30 days of receiving an application;
- Provide training and technical assistance throughout each SFY;
- Develop resources, training, and outreach strategies aimed at bolstering community awareness of civil legal aid and the importance of civil legal aid; and
- Meet all monitoring and reporting requirements provided in Part III, Section III-7.

This is a broad list of tasks. Please pay close attention to the details describing each in Part III of the RFA.

Goal Setting Information Session

RFA 36-21 Statewide Civil Legal Services Program

Issuing Officer –
Karen Kern
RA-
PWRFAQUESTIONS@PA.
GOV

December 13, 2022 2:00 PM



What's the Point?



	Equality is everyone getting a pair of shoes.
	Diversity is everyone getting a different type of shoe.
	Equity is everyone getting a pair of shoes that fits.
	Acceptance is understanding we all wear different kinds of shoes.
	Belonging is wearing the shoes you want without fear of judgment.

Engaging Vendors that are representative of the communities served



Small Diverse Business Enterprise (SDB) and Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE) Jaggaer References:

Part I - General Information

- I-11. Small Diverse Business (“SDB”) and Veteran Business Enterprise (“VBE”) Participation.
- I-13 Application Requirements

Part II - Criteria for Selection

- II-1 Mandatory Responsive Requirements
- II-3. Evaluation

Part V - Small Diverse Business Participation & Veteran Business Enterprise Participation Submittal Information

Appendices

- Appendix G– Small Diverse Business Participation
- Appendix H– Veteran Business Enterprise Participation

An Applicant’s failure to meet the SDB participation goal in full and the VBE participation goal in full, or their failure to receive an approved Good Faith Efforts waiver for any unmet portion of either the SDB or VBE participation goal will result in the rejection of the Application as nonresponsive.



Solicitation Specific Goals



RFA 36-21	SDB	VBE
	10%	3%

- Available subcontracting opportunities across the entire state for the applicable services,
- Availability of DGS-verified SDB/VBEs to perform commercially useful functions, and
- Historical analysis of similar projects within the last 3 years.



Primes are welcome to exceed the goal!



SDB and VBE Classification

Vendors must self-certify as a Small Business (SB) prior to SDB/VBE validation.

SB Eligibility Requirements

- The business must be a for-profit, United States business.
- The business must be independently owned.
- The business may not be dominant in its field of operation.
- The business may not employ more than 100 full-time equivalent employees.
- The business may not exceed three-year average gross revenues of \$38.5 Million, regardless of business type (effective 11/1/2018).

Small Diverse Business (SDB)

Goal oriented

- Woman Business Enterprise (WBE)
- Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (SDVBE)
- Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)
- LGBT Business Enterprise (LGBTBE)
- Disability-Owned Business Enterprise (DOBE)

Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE)

Goal oriented

- Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE)
- Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (SDVBE)

SDBs and VBEs must be certified/valid as of bid close due date and time.



Finding SDBs and VBEs

Utilization Compliance will be closely monitored and enforced

The screenshot shows the 'Supplier Search' page of the Pennsylvania Department of General Services. At the top left is the logo for Pennsylvania Department of General Services. The page title is 'Supplier Search'. Below the title is a navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'PA eMarketplace', and 'Search Contracts'. A note explains that the search will find suppliers qualified for ITQ contracts and registered with the Bureau of Diversity, Inclusion and Small Business Opportunities (BDISBO). There are two search sections: 'Quick Search' with a text input for 'Supplier Name or SAP Number' and buttons for 'Search' and 'Reset'; and 'Advanced Search'. Below the search sections, there is a 'Show 10 entries' dropdown and buttons for 'Export to Excel' and 'Reset Search Criteria'. At the bottom, a table header is visible with columns for 'Supplier (click on name to display full record)', 'Contact', 'Address', 'SB Exp Date', 'SDB', and 'COSTARS'.

<http://www.dgs.internet.state.pa.us/suppliersearch>



Finding SDB/VBE vendors

- <http://www.dgs.internet.state.pa.us/suppliersearch>
- Access Search Guide - <https://www.dgs.pa.gov/Small%20Diverse%20Business%20Program/Documents/Finding%20SBs%20and%20SDBs.pdf>
- Supplier Search assistance available from Issuing Officer or Bureau of Diversity Procurement Liaison



Advanced Search

Hierarchy	Category Number
Segment	44000000
Family	44120000
Class	44121700
Commodity	44121706

Supplier Classifications

- Minority Business Enterprise
- Woman Business Enterprise
- LGBT Business Enterprise
- Disabled-Owned Business Enterprise
- Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise
- Veteran Business Enterprise
- Small Business
- Stocking Supplier
- Non-Stocking Supplier
- Select all Classifications
- Select all Small Diverse Business Classifications

Find only vendors that have all selected classifications
 Find only vendors that have at least one selected classification

Select one or more classifications. To pull only SDBs, check "Select all Small Diverse Business Classifications" below. To include SBs, check "Small Business".

UNSPSC Description

Enter a brief code description (e.g. Door) ←

When searching by UNSPSC code, only enter the first 6 digits (UNSPSC Class Level) as the last 2 digits (Commodity Level) are not tracked in this database. Or, type in any part of a UNSPSC code description to find vendors who have a code that matches. ex: Searching for "landscaping" will find vendors who have selected any code that has "landscaping" anywhere in the description. For more information visit UNSPSC > Home



OR
↓

UNSPSC Code

- 10000000 - Live Plant and Animal Material and Accessories and Supplies
- 11000000 - Mineral and Textile and Inedible Plant and Animal Materials
- 12000000 - Chemicals including Bio Chemicals and Gas Materials
- 13000000 - Resin and Rosin and Rubber and Foam and Film and Elastomeric Materials
- 14000000 - Paper Materials and Products
- 15000000 - Fuels and Fuel Additives and Lubricants and Anti corrosive Materials
- 20000000 - Mining and Well Drilling Machinery and Accessories
- 21000000 - Farming and Fishing and Forestry and Wildlife Machinery and Accessories
- 22000000 - Building and Construction Machinery and Accessories
- 23000000 - Industrial Manufacturing and Processing Machinery and Accessories
- 24000000 - Material Handling and Conditioning and Storage Machinery and their Accessories and
- 25000000 - Commercial and Military and Private Vehicles and their Accessories and Components


Find only vendors that have all selected UNSPSC codes
 Find only vendors that have at least one selected UNSPSC code

Click arrow to expand Segment for additional codes

Browse and select one or more codes. Don't know the codes you want? Search for codes at www.UNSPSC.org.



Quick Search

**pennsylvania**
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

Supplier Search

[Home](#) [PA eMarketplace](#) [Search Contracts](#)

Note: The below searches (Quick Search and Advanced Search) will search suppliers who are qualified for one or more Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) Contracts AND suppliers registered with the Bureau of Diversity, Inclusion and Small Business Opportunities (BDISBO) as a small business or small diverse business. Use the Quick Search to search by Vendor Name or Vendor Number. Use the Advanced Search to search by Small, Small Diverse, ITQ Contracts, COSTARS and UNSPC codes.

Quick Search

Supplier Name or SAP Number

IMPORTANT: Always click **Reset prior to a new search to clear parameters from previous searches**

Advanced Search

To search or browse ALL Small and Small Diverse Businesses by Name OR 6-digit SAP Number (option also available through Advanced Search)



UNSPSC Commodity Code Search



Find A Partner

Menu

UNv24.0301 of the UNSPSC Codeset is now available. [Access codesets.](#)

Search the Code

Version 24.0301
Code Number: (2-8
digits)

Code Name:

Welcome

The **United Nations Standard Products and Services Code® (UNSPSC®)**, managed by GS1 US® for the UN Development Programme (UNDP), is an open, global, multi-sector standard for efficient, accurate classification of products and services.

The UNSPSC offers a single global classification system that can be used for:

- Company-wide visibility of spend analysis
- Cost-effective procurement optimization
- Full exploitation of electronic commerce capabilities



UNSPSC Commodity Code Search



Write down
your code
selections

[HOME](#) [FAQS](#) [SUBSCRIBE](#) [LIBRARY](#) [CODESET-DOWNLOADS](#) [INITIATIVES](#) [EDUCATION](#) [FIND A PARTNER](#)

Version 24.0301

Search Code

Search Title

Code	Title
31211900	Paint applicators and painting accessories
60121001	Paintings
60121225	Watercolor painting mediums
60124101	Multicultural painting products
72151300	Painting and paper hanging services
72151301	Residential painting service
72151302	Commercial painting service
72151303	Industrial painting service
72151304	Aircraft painting service
72151305	Bridge painting service
72151307	Ship painting service
73181104	Painting services
78181501	Vehicle body repair or painting service
78181836	Aircraft fixed wing coating and painting service
86131500	Painting



Advanced Search

Use multiple filters to restrict your search results to exactly what and where you need.

The screenshot displays the Advanced Search interface with the following filters:

- PA Counties:**
 - Clarion County
 - Clearfield County
 - Clinton County
 - Columbia County
 - Crawford County
 - Cumberland County
 - Dauphin County
 - Delaware County
 - Elk County
 - Erie County
 - Select all Counties
- Supplier Classifications:**
 - Minority Business Enterprise
 - Woman Business Enterprise
 - LGBT Business Enterprise
 - Disabled-Owned Business Enterprise
 - Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise
 - Veteran Business Enterprise
 - Small Business
 - Stocking Supplier
 - Non-Stocking Supplier
- UNSPSC Codes:**
 - 30100000 - Structural components and basic shapes
 - 30110000 - Concrete and cement and plaster
 - 30120000 - Roads and landscape
 - 30130000 - Structural building products
 - 30140000 - Insulation
 - 30150000 - Exterior finishing materials
 - 30151500 - Roofing materials
 - 30151600 - Roofing accessories
 - 30151700 - Rain gutters and accessories
 - 30151800 - Siding and exterior wall materials
 - 30151900 - Finishing materials and products
 - 30152000 - Fencing

Search options:

- Find only vendors that have all selected UNSPSC codes
- Find only vendors that have at least one selected UNSPSC code

Buttons: Search, Reset



Search Results

Advanced Search

show 25 entries

Export to Excel Filter Search Criteria

Supplier (click on name to display full record)	Contact	Address	SB Validity Dates	SDB Validity Dates	VBE Validity Dates	COSTARS
ADVANCED AUDIO VISUAL SALES INC	JOHN GREENE DIRECTOR OF SALES John.Greene@advancedav.com (Phone) 610-719-6194 (Fax) 610-692-8421	208 CARTER DRIVE SUITE 7 WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19382 (Phone) 610-719-6194				No
ADVANCED BUILDING CONTROLS LLC (DBA ADVANCED BUILDING CONTROLS LLC)	Craig Connelly CCONNELLY@ADVANCEDBLDGCNTOLS.COM (Phone) 215-520-9964	PO BOX 303 HOLICONG, PENNSYLVANIA 18928 (Phone) 215-520-9964	2/11/2019-2/28/2021			No
ADVANCED BUILDING PERFORMANCE INC ()	Pei Pei Cavalier PEIPEI@ABPCX.COM (Phone) 301-760-9989	11225 HURDLE HILL DR POTOMAC, MARYLAND 20854 (Phone) 301-760-9989 abpcx.com	12/20/2019-12/20/2021	12/20/2019-12/20/2021		No
ADVANCED CLEANING SOLUTIONS LLC (ADVANCED CLEANING SOLUTIONS LLC)	Nicholas Ward cleanteam@advancedsolutionsPA.com (Phone) 610-597-0012	PO BOX 3223 ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18103	2/27/2018-3/31/2020	2/27/2018-3/31/2020	2/27/2018-3/31/2020	No

Certified Small Businesses

- Advanced Building Controls LLC
- Advanced Building Performance Inc
- Advanced Cleaning Solutions LLC

Small Diverse Businesses

- Advanced Building Performance Inc
- Advanced Cleaning Solutions LLC

Veteran Business Enterprise

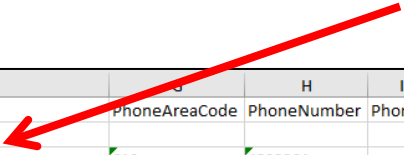
- Advanced Cleaning Solutions LLC



Excel Export Results – Supplier Contacts

Excel Export Results includes Vendor ID, Supplier Name, Contact Name, Email, Phone, Fax

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	SAP Number	Supplier Name	Contact Name	Name	Title	Email	PhoneAreaCode	PhoneNumber	PhoneEx	FaxAreaCo	FaxNumber
2	104279	CA WEISS SALES LLC	CORPORATE			caweiss@comcast.net					
3	104279	CA WEISS SALES LLC	SB MAIN	KRISTY ZARICHNIAK		kristyz@comcast.net	610	4588864		610	4588875
4	119565	DUFF SUPPLY COMPANY	CORPORATE	ALEX DUFFINE	VP	DFRANK@DUFFCOMPANY.COM	610	2754453	147	610	2796299
5	119565	DUFF SUPPLY COMPANY	REMITTO	BARB COHEN		bcohen@duffco.com	610	2754453	149	610	2756761
6	119565	DUFF SUPPLY COMPANY	SB MAIN	ALEX DUFFINE		aduffine@duffco.com	610	2754453			
7	119565	DUFF SUPPLY COMPANY	SB SECONDARY			info@duffco.com					
8	122594	HOUCK SERVICES INC	CORPORATE			jherrold@houcks.com					
9	122594	HOUCK SERVICES INC	SB MAIN	JARROD HERROLD		jherrold@houcks.com	717	6573302		717	6579805
10	122594	HOUCK SERVICES INC	SB SECONDARY			kgussler@houcks.com					
11	134717	PENN STATE ELECTRIC MECHANICAL	CORPORATE			razmataz33@aol.com					
12	134717	PENN STATE ELECTRIC MECHANICAL	SB MAIN	RAZ SUGARWALA		razmataz33@aol.com	717	2992090		717	2992297
13	134717	PENN STATE ELECTRIC MECHANICAL	SB SECONDARY			ksing6027@yahoo.com					
14	135270	BARBARA J SALES ASSOC INC	CORPORATE			barb@barbarajsles.com					
15	135270	BARBARA J SALES ASSOC INC	SB MAIN	BARBARA SMITH		barb@barbarajsales.com	412	5233398		800	8137122
16	135270	BARBARA J SALES ASSOC INC	SB SECONDARY			willsmith@willjsservices.com					
17	137893	IDA YEAGER SALES INC	CORPORATE			idayeagersales@zoominternet.net					
18	137893	IDA YEAGER SALES INC	SB MAIN	IDA LAQUATRAYEAGER		idayeagersales@zoominternet.net	724	4525260		724	4521072
19	144061	CONSTRUCTION TOOL SERVICE INC	CORPORATE			ehuss@constructiontoolservice.com					
20	144061	CONSTRUCTION TOOL SERVICE INC	SB MAIN	BETTY CONNELLY		bconnelly@constructiontoolservice.com	412	6816673		412	6819185
21	144061	CONSTRUCTION TOOL SERVICE INC	SB SECONDARY			bcgoodwork@aol.com					
22	145576	BURKE & MICHAEL INC	CORPORATE			MARYFRANCES@BURKEANDMICHAEL.COM					
23	145576	BURKE & MICHAEL INC	SB MAIN	MARY FRANCES HOGAN		maryfrances@burkeandmichael.com	412	3212301		412	3214582
24	153927	COOPER TRADING INC	CORPORATE			cti@ctipa.com					
25	153927	COOPER TRADING INC	SB MAIN	PETER COOPER		pete@ctipa.com	724	8618830		724	8618832
26	153927	COOPER TRADING INC	SB SECONDARY			debbie@ctipa.com					
27	157009	CONTRACT HARDWARE AND SUPPLY	CORPORATE			cristil@chsupplyinc.com					
28	157009	CONTRACT HARDWARE AND SUPPLY	SB MAIN	BRAD BOTTEICHER		bradb@chsupplyinc.com	814	9412340		814	9412342



Suppliers	Supplier Addresses	Supplier Contacts	Counties	Supplier Classifications	ITQs	ITQ Contracts	UNSPSC Codes
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Upcoming Supplier Search Training

The training will focus on the basics of the supplier search process including recognizing the UNSPSC Codes Structure, accessing the DGS Supplier Search Database and Searching for Small, Small Diverse and Small Veteran Owned Businesses to gain a better understanding of supplier search results.

The 30-minute sessions will be offered via Teams on-line presentations on the following dates in 2022: **(No RSVP Required)**

Targeted Audience (External): Potential prime contractors that conduct business with the commonwealth who want to learn the basics of finding DGS certified small diverse and veteran owned businesses.

- Thursday, December 1st, 10:00 am - 10:30am
- Thursday, December 8th, 10:00 am - 10:30am

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 293 754 842 172

Passcode: Uhqm2D

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 267-332-8737,,690952530#](#) United States, Philadelphia

Phone Conference ID: 690 952 530#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

Recording or transcription of this meeting may not occur without consent of all participants, as required by law, and must adhere to Commonwealth policies. For more information click the legal link.

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#) | [Legal](#)

<https://www.dgs.pa.gov/Small%20Diverse%20Business%20Program/Pages/News-Media.aspx>



New Forms and Processes

Attachment A

- SDB/VBE Instructions – *SDB-1/VBE-1 READ*
- SDB/VBE Participation Submittal – *SDB-2/VBE-2*
- SDB/VBE Utilization Schedule – *SDB-3/VBE-3*
- Letter of Commitment – *SDB 3.1/VBE-3.1*
- Guidance for Good Faith Effort (GFE) Waiver – *SDB-4/VBE-4 READ*
- GFE Waiver – *SDB-5/VBE-5*



SDB Submittal Instructions – SDB-1

SDB-1 INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE SMALL DIVERSE BUSINESS (SDB) PARTICIPATION SUBMITTAL AND SDB UTILIZATION SCHEDULE.

PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING THESE DOCUMENTS
Bidders/Offerors do not need to return SDB-1 with their SDB Participation Submittal

The following instructions include details for completing the SDB Participation Submittal (SDB-2) which Bidders or Offerors must submit in order to be considered responsive.

The following instructions also include details for completing the SDB Utilization Schedule (SDB-3), which Bidders or Offerors must submit for any portion of the SDB participation goal the Bidder or Offeror commits to meeting.

A Bidder/Offeror's failure to meet the SDB participation goal in full or their failure to receive an approved Good Faith Efforts waiver for any unmet portion of the SDB participation goal will result in the rejection of the Bid or Proposal as nonresponsive.

- I. **SDB Participation Goal:** The SDB participation goal is set forth in the eMarketplace advertisement and also in the Notice to Bidders. The Bidder/Offeror is encouraged to use a diverse group of subcontractors and suppliers from the SDB classifications to meet the SDB participation goal.
- II. **SDB Eligibility:**
 1. **Finding SDB firms:** Offerors can access the directory of **DGS-verified** SDB firms from the DGS Supplier Search directory at: <http://www.dgs.internet.state.pa.us/suppliersearch>.
 2. **Only SDBs verified by DGS** and as defined herein may be counted for purposes of achieving the SDB participation goal. In order to be counted for purposes of achieving the SDB participation goal, the SDB firm, including an SDB prime, **must be DGS-verified for the services, materials or supplies that it has committed to perform on the SDB Utilization Schedule (SDB-3).** A firm whose SDB verification is pending or



SDB Submittal – SDB-2

SDB-2 SDB PARTICIPATION SUBMITTAL

CRITICAL
✓ Check One, and Only One, Box

CLICK ONE, AND ONLY ONE, BOX. FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR BID/PROPOSAL.
Click on bold titles to navigate to that specific page.

<input type="checkbox"/> I agree to meet the SDB participation goal in full. I have completed and am submitting with my bid or proposal an SDB Utilization Schedule (SDB-3), which is required in order to be considered for award.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am requesting a partial waiver of the SDB participation goal. After making good faith outreach efforts as more fully described in the Guidance for Documenting Good Faith Efforts to Meet the SDB Participation Goal , I am unable to achieve the total SDB participation goal for this solicitation and am requesting a partial waiver of the SDB participation goal. I have completed and am submitting with my bid or proposal both of the following, which are required in order to be considered for award: 1. an SDB Utilization Schedule	<input type="checkbox"/> I am requesting a full waiver of the SDB participation goal. After making good faith outreach efforts as more fully described in the Guidance for Documenting Good Faith Efforts to Meet the SDB Participation Goal , I am unable to achieve any part of the SDB participation goal for this solicitation and am requesting a full waiver of the SDB participation goal. I have completed and am submitting with my bid or proposal a Good Faith Efforts Waiver Request for the SDB
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SDB Utilization Schedule – SDB-3

CRITICAL
 ✓ Verify SDB/VBE
 validity

SDB-3 SDB UTILIZATION SCHEDULE

Identify all SDBs (including where applicable a prime bidder or offeror is self-performing a portion of the work) that will meet the SDB participation goal (add additional pages if necessary). Submit a **Letter of Commitment (SDB-3-1)** for each SDB subcontractor, supplier, or manufacturer (add additional Letters of Commitment as necessary).

SDB Name SAP Vendor Number (6-digit number provided by SDB) SDB Verification Number (located on DG5 SDB verification)	Type of SDB (check all that apply)	Description of Work to be Performed (Statement of Work/Specification reference)	% Commitment (or % of work to be self-performed by SDB bidder/offeror)	Dollar Value of Commitment (after applying any calculation per SDB-1, Section IV, Calculating SDB participation)
Name: <u>ABC IT Solutions</u> SAP Vendor Number: <u>123456</u> SDB Verification Number: <u>123456-2016-09-SB-M</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MBE	IT staffing resources	%	\$
Name: _____ SAP Vendor Number: _____ SDB Verification Number: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTBE <input type="checkbox"/> DOBE <input type="checkbox"/> SDVBE		%	
Name: _____ SAP Vendor Number: _____ SDB Verification Number: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTBE <input type="checkbox"/> DOBE <input type="checkbox"/> SDVBE		%	
Name: _____ SAP Vendor Number: _____ SDB Verification Number: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTBE <input type="checkbox"/> DOBE <input type="checkbox"/> SDVBE		%	
Name: _____ SAP Vendor Number: _____ SDB Verification Number: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTBE <input type="checkbox"/> DOBE <input type="checkbox"/> SDVBE		%	
Attach additional sheets if necessary			Total % SDB commitment: <u>0</u>	Total \$ amount: <u>\$ 0</u>



Letter of Commitment SDB-3.1

CRITICAL
 ✓ Complete all shaded areas.

**SDB-3-1
 LETTER OF COMMITMENT**

as confirmation of the commitment by the prime Bidder or Offeror (SDB) on the below-referenced Solicitation/Project.

Company Name: _____

	Bidder/Offeror Information	SDB Information
Address		
Point of Contact		
Telephone number		
Email address		

Services/Supplies and Time Frame If Bidder/Offeror is the successful vendor, the SDB shall perform or provide the following services or supplies during the term of the prime contract, as more specifically set forth below:

Services or supplies the VBE will provide:	
Specific Time Frame the VBE will provide the services or supplies:	

Dollar Value of Commitment These services or supplies represent \$ _____ for the term of the contract.

SDB verified By signing below, the SDB represents that it meets the SDB requirements set forth in the Solicitation and all required documentation has been provided to the Bidder/Offeror for its SDB submission.

Sincerely,	Acknowledged
_____	_____
Printed name	Printed name

SDB to expect a letter and SIGN it!



Guidance to Document GFE SDB-4

READ, READ, READ

- The ability or desire of a prime contractor to perform the work of a contract with its own organization does not relieve the Applicant of the responsibility to make Good Faith Efforts to meet the SDB participation goal.
- Prime must complete all components of the GFE paperwork. Details/Evidence are important, proof is required.
- Carefully review SDB and VBE submittal Instructions, specifically Section VI of SDB/VBE-1 which lists pertinent items as Fatal errors.



Good Faith Efforts Packet SDB-5

Good Faith Efforts (GFE) Partial or Full Waiver

- Identified Items of Work Applicant Made Available to SDBs (Part 1)
- Identified SDBs and Record of Solicitations (Part 2)
- SDB Outreach Compliance Statement (Part 3)
- Additional Information Regarding Rejected SDB Quotes (Part 4)
- SDB Subcontractor Unavailability Certificate (Part 5)



SDB GFE Documentation – SDB-5

SDB-5

GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST OF SDB PARTICIPATION GOAL

Project Description:	
Commonwealth Agency Name:	
Solicitation #:	
Solicitation Due Date and Time:	
Bidder/Offeror Company Name:	
Bidder/Offeror Contact Name:	
Bidder/Offeror Contact Email:	
Bidder/Offeror Contact Phone Number:	

Complete all five parts

Part 1 – Identified Items of Work Offeror Made Available to SDBs

Identify those items of work that the Offeror made available to SDBs. This includes, where appropriate, those items the Offeror identified and subdivided into economically feasible units to facilitate the SDB participation. For each item listed, show the anticipated percentage of the total contract amount. It is the Offeror's responsibility to demonstrate that enough work to meet the SDB participation goal was made available to SDBs, and the total percentage of the items of work identified for SDB participation met or exceeded the SDB participation goal set for the procurement.

Identified Items of Work	Was this work listed in the solicitation?	Does Offeror normally self-perform this work?	Was this work made available to SDB Firms? If not, explain why.
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no



GFE Waiver – Part 1

Identify Items of Work Offeror Made Available to SDBs

CRITICAL
 ✓ List all components of work offered for contract.

Identify the items of work that the Offeror made available to SDBs. This includes, where appropriate, those items the Offeror identified as possible units to facilitate the SDB participation. For each item listed, show the anticipated percentage of the total work that enough work to meet the SDB participation goal was made available to SDBs, and the total percentage of SDB participation met or exceeded the SDB participation goal set for the procurement.

Item of Work	Was this work listed in the solicitation?	Does Offeror normally self-perform this work?	Was this work made available to SDB Firms? If not, explain why.
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no

Attach additional sheets if necessary.



GFE Waiver – Part 2

Identified SDBs and Record of Solicitations

CRITICAL
 ✓ Specifics and
 Details are
 important

Offeror must provide quotes for the Identified Items of Work made available for SDB participation. Include the name of the SDB for which quotes were solicited, date and manner of initial and follow-up solicitations, whether the SDB provided a quote, and whether the SDB is being used toward meeting the SDB participation goal. SDBs used to meet the SDB participation goal must be listed on the Solicitation Schedule (SDB-2).

Copies of all written solicitations and documentation of follow-up calls to SDBs must be attached to this form. For each Identified SDB listed below, Offeror should submit an SDB Subcontractor Unavailability Certificate signed by the SDB or a statement from the Offeror that the SDB refused to sign the SDB Subcontractor Unavailability Certificate.

Name of Identified SDB and Classification	Describe Item of Work Solicited	Initial Solicitation Date & Method	Follow-up Solicitation Date & Method	Details for Follow-up Calls	Quote Received?	Quote Used?	Reason Quote Rejected
SDB Name: <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTBE <input type="checkbox"/> DOBE <input type="checkbox"/> SDVBE		Date: <input type="checkbox"/> mail <input type="checkbox"/> email <input type="checkbox"/> fax	Date: <input type="checkbox"/> mail <input type="checkbox"/> email <input type="checkbox"/> fax	Date and Time of Call: Spoke with: Left Message:	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> Used other SDB <input type="checkbox"/> Used non-SDB <input type="checkbox"/> Self performing
SDB Name: <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTBE <input type="checkbox"/> DOBE <input type="checkbox"/> SDVBE		Date: <input type="checkbox"/> mail <input type="checkbox"/> email <input type="checkbox"/> fax	Date: <input type="checkbox"/> mail <input type="checkbox"/> email <input type="checkbox"/> fax	Date and Time of Call: Spoke with: Left Message:	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> Used other SDB <input type="checkbox"/> Used non-SDB <input type="checkbox"/> Self performing

Attach additional sheets as necessary.



GFE Waiver – Part 3

SDB Outreach Compliance Statement

CRITICAL
✓ Documentation for
Part 1

1. List the Identified Items of Work for subcontracting opportunities for the solicitation along with specific work categories:

2. Attach to this form copies of written solicitations (with Bid or Proposal instructions) used to solicit Identified SDBs for these subcontract opportunities.

3. Offeror made the following attempts to contact the Identified SDBs:

4. Bonding Requirements (Please Check One):

This project does not involve bonding requirements.

Offeror assisted Identified SDBs to fulfill or seek waiver of bonding requirements.
(DESCRIBE EFFORTS):

5. Pre-Bid/Proposal Conference or Supplier Forum (Please Check One):



GFE Waiver – Part 4

Additional Information Regarding Rejected SDB Quotes

CRITICAL
 ✓ Documentation for Part 2

Part 2 indicates that an SDB quote was rejected because the Offeror is using a non-SDB or is self-performing the work. For the Identified Items of Work, state whether the work will be self-performed or performed by a non-SDB, and if performed by a non-SDB, provide the name of the non-SDB firm. Also include the names of all SDBs and non-SDB firms that provided a quote and the amount of

Describe Identified Items of Work not being performed by SDBs (include specific section from bid or proposal)	Self-performing or using non-SDB (provide name of non-SDB if applicable)	Amount of non-SDB quote \$	Name of other firms that provided quotes and whether they are SDB	Amount quoted \$	Reason why SDB quote was rejected along with brief explanation
	<input type="checkbox"/> self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> using Non-SDB Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> SDB <input type="checkbox"/> Non-SDB Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> price <input type="checkbox"/> capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> other
	<input type="checkbox"/> self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> using Non-SDB Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> SDB <input type="checkbox"/> Non-SDB Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> price <input type="checkbox"/> capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> other
	<input type="checkbox"/> self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> using Non-SDB Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> SDB <input type="checkbox"/> Non-SDB Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> price <input type="checkbox"/> capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> other
	<input type="checkbox"/> self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> using Non-SDB Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> SDB <input type="checkbox"/> Non-SDB Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> price <input type="checkbox"/> capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> other



GFE Waiver – Part 5

Subcontractor Unavailability Certificate

CRITICAL
✓ Required for each vendor listed in Part 1

I am hereby certified that the firm of _____
(Name of SDB)

located at _____
(Number) (Street)

_____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

was offered an opportunity to bid on Solicitation No. _____

by _____
(Name of Prime Contractor's Firm)

2. _____ (SDB), is either unavailable for the work/service or unable to prepare a Proposal for this project for the following reason(s):

_____ (Signature of SDB's Representative) _____ (Title) _____ (Date)



Best Practices

Do's

- Read the solicitation and all instructions completely.
- Submit SEPARATE SDB and VBE submittal forms.
- Validate subcontractor SDB/VBE status in DGS Supplier Database.
- Ensure that all appropriate forms are completed and signed correctly.
- Submit questions early per the solicitation requirements.

Don'ts

- Make any assumptions.
- Copy SDB submittal paperwork. Download and complete the VBE submittal separately, titles and accuracy matter.
- Skip any portion of the GFE request documentation.
- Forget to verify subcontractor status as current SDB/VBE in DGS Supplier Database.



Notes

- READ, READ, READ, solicitation instructions completely.
- Subcontractors identified in SDB-3, Utilization Schedule must be validated as of bid due date and time.
- Appendix – I - Model Form SDB/VBE Subcontractor Agreement is provided for informational purposes only. To be completed by award winning vendor only.



REMINDER

Failure to submit fully completed SDB and VBE submittal packets or GFE waiver request documentation will result in removal of your bid for award consideration



Questions?



BDISBO Contact Info

Bureau of Diversity, Inclusion and Small Business Opportunities

North Office Building
401 North Street, Room 611
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0500
717.783.3119

GS-BDISBO@pa.gov



Contractor Partnership Program

Bureau of Employment Programs
Hoa Pham, Bureau Director

12/14/2022

What is the Contractor Partnership Program (CPP)?

The CPP is a collaboration between the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) and its contractors to increase the employment rate of TANF beneficiaries.

Contractors who hold agreements meeting certain criteria with DHS are required to establish a TANF hiring goal and implementation plan that supports TANF beneficiaries in obtaining employment with the contractor, grantee, or their subcontractors.

What are the benefits for Applicants and Subgrantees?

- Fulfills workforce needs by connecting entities to a pool of job candidates.
- Connects entities to PA's Employment & Training network who can assist in developing workforce training, hiring and retention at no cost.
- Entities may be eligible for tax credits for hiring individuals receiving TANF such as the Work Opportunity Tax Credit

[WOTC](#)

- Establishes entities as part of a collective solution to lifting people out of poverty.

RFA Requirements

- The RFA contains an overview of CPP in Part VI.
- Applicants should submit the information being requested in Part VI, Section VI-3. as their CPP Submittal.
- This submittal will NOT be part of the scoring criteria, but it must be completed. After selection for negotiations, DHS will review the selected Applicant's CPP Submittal and may approve or request changes as part of negotiations.

Implementing a Hiring Plan

- As part of its CPP submittal, each Applicant should submit a hiring target.
- Applicants should review the positions the organization currently offers and anticipate their needs not only as a result of being awarded an agreement but generally throughout the organization for:
 - Both degree and non-degree positions
 - Subcontractor positions should be considered
 - CPP hires are not specific to the work outlined in the contract

How is the hiring target determined?

As part of their CPP submittal, Applicants will report their number of Pennsylvania hires annually for the past three years and calculate their average number of hires per year; the target will be 10% of the average.

Total workforce hires in Pennsylvania

Contractor Partnership Program

Hiring Target Example:

*Company X hired **50** people in 2018, **47** in 2017 and **35** in 2016 in Pennsylvania.*

$$(50 + 47 + 35)/3 = 44 \text{ hires on average per year}$$

$$10\% \text{ of } 44 = 4.5$$

4-5 CPP hires is the target for each year of the agreement

Program Requirements

- Submit a hiring goal. The hiring goal should be 10% of the average of annual PA hires over the past 3 years. (Example)
- *Beginning October 2019, submit a hiring implementation plan as part of the RFA/RFP application.*
- Establish a Business Folder in CWDS and ensure contact information is current.
- Implement the hiring plan (post jobs, connect with programs, interview, etc.)
- Complete quarterly employment forms via the Commonwealth Workforce Development System (even if no hires were made during that quarter).

Q1-October 15	Q3-April 15
Q2-January 15	Q4-July 15
- Maintain communication with program office contract monitors or CPP staff on progress and challenges.



Contractor Requirements-Additional Notes

- **Contract Specific:** The CPP requirement is contract specific, meaning each contract held with the Department may require a hiring goal. If a contractor has multiple contracts with DHS, they may have multiple goals.

- **Subcontractors:** Hires made by subcontractors can also count towards the CPP hiring goal. Subcontractors may also be designated to complete the quarterly reports in CWDS.

- **Eligible positions:** Hires can be for any position; the position does not have to be related to the specific contract project(s). TANF beneficiaries possess a wide range of skill sets and can fulfill a variety of positions, depending on the individual's background and experience. Common industry-specific certifications include areas such as:
 - Food Prep and Safety
 - Hospitality
 - Health Care
 - Administrative Services

How can DHS connect the selected Applicant with TANF beneficiaries?

- The selected Applicant can post available positions via PA CareerLink® online: pacareerlink.pa.gov
- DHS can connect entities with local employment and training programs including the Employment Advancement and Retention Network (EARN), Work Ready, and Keystone Education Yields Success (KEYS) providers who work directly with TANF beneficiaries.

EARN and Work Ready

Providers	Participant Services
22 Local Workforce Development Boards	With a major redesign beginning July 2020, EARN and Work Ready now provide the following services to participants:
11 Community Action Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individualized coaching or case management• Support to address employment barriers• Employability skills development• Counseling services• Access to training programs leading to credentials• Job placement and job search assistance• Support services such as child care and transportation• A minimum of one year of retention services to help navigate the transition into the workforce

Keystone Education Yields Success (KEYS)

Providers	Services
14 Community Colleges	<p>The KEYS Program supports participants who are attending an approved program primarily at Pennsylvania’s community colleges. Services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On-site support to pursue certificates and degrees• Help with navigating college requirements• Assistance with financial aid and scholarship applications• Support services such as child care, transportation, books, and supplies• Connections to other college services such as academic advising, tutoring, student activities, and career services

What are the responsibilities of oversight staff?

The Bureau of Employment Programs (BEP) and Project Monitors will work together to:

- Provide support to selected Applicant;
- Ensure that the selected Applicant designate and maintain a point of contact for CPP purposes;
- Support selected Applicant in making connections to job candidates and provide technical assistance as needed;
- Conduct outreach when the selected Applicant fails to respond to program requests;
- Review CPP targets during annual monitoring and targeted technical assistance visits; and
- Share quarterly updates, and hold further discussions, if needed.

Contact Information

Contractor Partnership Program

Email: RA-BETPCPP@pa.gov

PA CareerLink® online:

pacareerlink.pa.gov

- The Project Timeline includes:
 - November 30, 2022 – RFA #36-21 is Issued
 - December 13, 2022 – Pre-Application Conference
 - December 13, 2022 by 5:00 PM EST – Deadline to submit questions
 - December 22, 2022 – Answers to Potential Applicants' questions will be posted to the Department of General Services (DGS) website
 - January 30, 2023 by 12:00 PM EST – Due date for Applications

Conclusion



- This concludes the Pre-Application conference.
- Answers to all questions posed will be posted to the DGS website at <http://www.emarketplace.state.pa.us/Search.aspx> by close of business on December 22, 2022.



Karen Kern
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Bureau of Procurement & Contract Management
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Any contact with the Department concerning this RFA
must be through the RFA Issuing Officer.