



# Getting Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Certified, and Why?

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# Purpose and Function of Office of Diversity and Federal Compliance

The Office of Diversity and Federal Compliance (ODFC) is responsible for developing and implementing policies and procedures necessary to ensure that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and Small Business Enterprises (SBE) have the maximum opportunity to bid on all contracts. All firms are encouraged to bid on all contracts regardless of certification.

# Funding Source: DBE and SBE Comparison

The Office of Diversity & Federal Compliance will assign a contract specific goal based on the funding source.

## **DBE Goal**

- USDOT-Assisted Contracts
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

## **SBE Goal**

- Local funds
- State funds
- Operational funds

**VIA Metropolitan Transit**  
**Office of Diversity & Federal Compliance**  
VIA only accepts DBE and SBE certifications

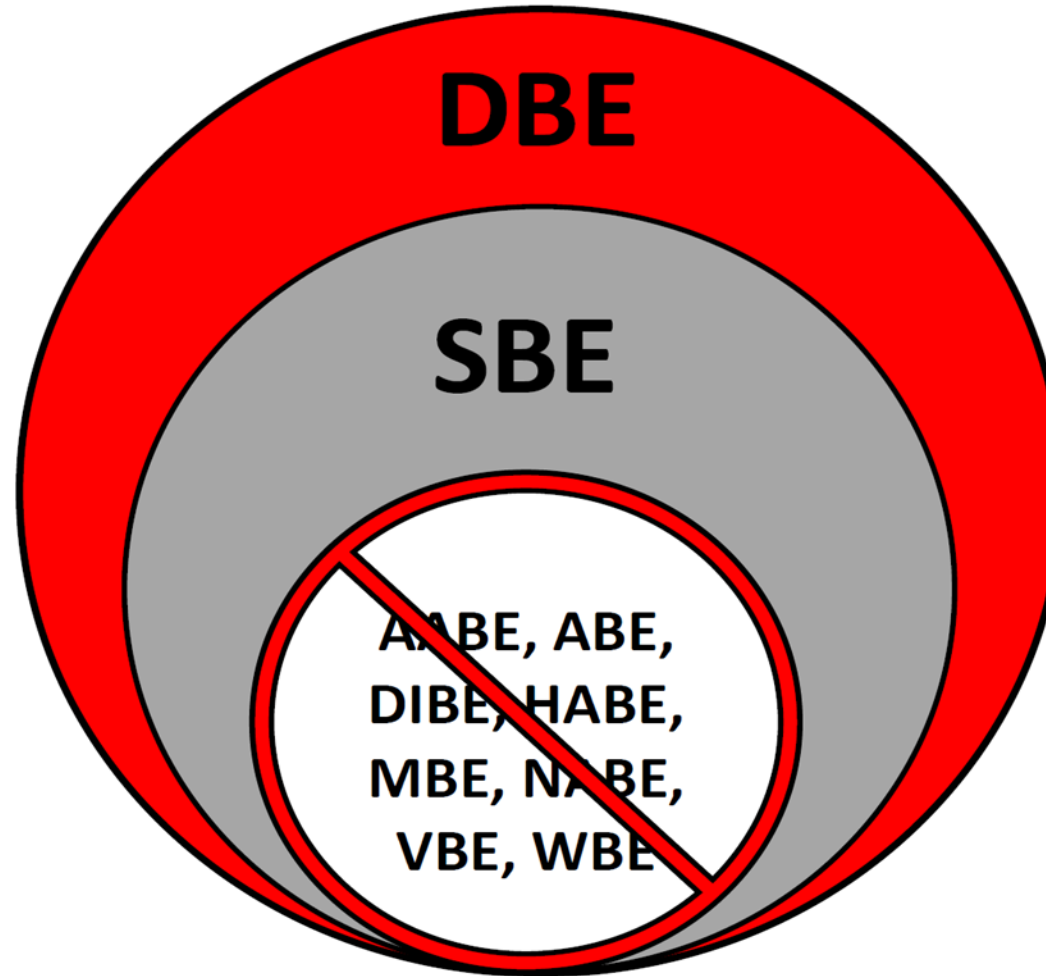
**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE):**

A business structure for – profit small business concerns where socially and economically disadvantaged individuals own at least 51% interest and also control management and daily business operations.

African Americans, Asian – Pacific and Subcontinent Asian Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and women are presumed to be socially and economically disadvantaged. Other individuals can also qualify as socially and economically disadvantaged on a case – by – case basis.

**Small Business Enterprise (SBE):**

A business structure that is formed with the purpose of making profit, which is independently owned and operated, and which meets the United States Small Business Administration (SBA) size standard for a small business.



**VIA does NOT accept any of the following certifications:**

African American Business Enterprise (AABE), Asian American Business Enterprise (ABE), Disabled Individual Business Enterprise (DIBE), Emerging Small Business Enterprise (ESBE), Hispanic American Business Enterprise (HABE), Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Native American Business Enterprise (NABE), Veteran – Owned Business Enterprise (VBE), Women – Owned Business Enterprise (WBE)

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# What are the benefits of DBE certification?

- Contract specific DBE goals are established for all federally funded projects
- 30% minimum as a prime contractor for DBE firms
- Competitive advantage
- Unbundled contracts
- All SMWVBE firms are encouraged to apply for DBE certification

# Where can I receive DBE technical assistance?

- ODFC aids in the preparation of DBE certification application
- Information about upcoming contract opportunities
- Technical Assistance from VIA's Supportive Service Consultant upon request at no cost to the firm

# DBE/SBE Contract Opportunity Model



# Categories of Bid Opportunities

- Architecture
- Engineering
- Construction
- Facilities & Maintenance
- Public Engagement/Marketing
- Government/Communications
- Information Technology
- Services



# What NAICS Code to Choose?

- Select the NAICS code which best describes the Principal Purpose of the product or service being acquired.
- Usually, Component/Service Representing the Greatest Value

NORTH  
AMERICAN  
INDUSTRY  
CLASSIFICATION  
SYSTEM



**Upcoming Contract Opportunities**  
**<https://via.diversitycompliance.com>**

# Diversity Compliance Reporting System

Log In

## Vendor Registration

Search and/or join our database of registered vendors

Vendor Registration

VIA's Vendor Directory

## Upcoming Events

View our upcoming events

Events List

## About the System

Learn more about this system and how it works today

Information for Vendors

## Outreach & Proposals

Opportunities for Vendor Involvement

View Outreach Postings

View Procurement Opportunities

## Account Access

Lookup Vendor accounts or reset user passwords

Account Lookup

Forgot Password

## System Training

Learn how to fully utilize our system with a live trainer

Training List