



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Ownership and Control

An individual must own 51% or more of a "small business" and establish that they are socially and economically disadvantaged. A disadvantaged owner seeking certification must possess the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the firm. The owner must also have an overall understanding of managerial and technical competency and experience directly related to the type of business in which the firm is engaged.

Social and Economic Disadvantage

Certain groups are presumed socially disadvantaged by the U.S. Small Business Administration including women, Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Subcontinent Asian-Pacific Americans.

The Department sets financial limitations to an individual's personal net worth (PNW), and a firm's annual gross receipts to meet an economic disadvantage status. For the most recent limitations on eligibility, visit the NDDOT DBE page by visiting: <https://www.dot.nd.gov/aboutnnddot/civil-rights/>.

The Competitive Edge

NDDOT determines DBE goals on federally-aided highway construction projects. This then drives prime contractors to solicit DBEs directly for quote submissions and to participate in the prime contractor's proposal to the state. The more DBEs used on a project, the more competitive the proposal.

Being certified as a DBE creates new opportunities and give your company a competitive edge in government contracting.