

DBE Program Objectives

The Commission established a DBE program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. As a recipient of DOT financial assistance, and as a condition of receiving such assistance, the Commission shall maintain compliance with the provisions of 49 CFR Part 26. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the Commission under DOT-funded agreements. The Commission will not use quotas or set asides in any way in the administration of its DBE program for DOT-assisted contracts.

The DBE program is intended to:

- Ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
- Create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
- Ensure that the DBE program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- Ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
- Help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts; and
- Assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE program.