



What is a DBE Certification?



A **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) certification** requires your business to be owned, controlled, and operated by government-recognized disadvantaged groups. If you own a small business enterprise and fall within such a group, you could be **missing out on Government Contracting opportunities**.

An 8(a) Certification at the Federal level is the most lucrative certification for disadvantaged entities. However, it is the most challenging Certification to qualify for. **The DBE Certification is a perfect stepping stone for businesses looking to increase their revenue.**

Most of all, a **DBE Certification gives your firm access to purchasing networks**. An average entity cannot sell to corporate or nationally known companies. Equipped with a DBE Certification, your company will have access to large companies looking to meet their set-aside goals.

Eligibility:

Thanks to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) being in control of the DBE Certification, **eligibility is almost identical in all states**. The following requirements are needed to qualify for the DBE Certification:

- **A for-profit business 51% owned and controlled by one or more U.S. Citizens**, or a legal resident (green card), who are socially and economically disadvantaged and fall into any of the following groups:
 - Asian-Pacific Americans
 - Hispanics (people of Spanish descent)
 - Subcontinent Asian Americans
 - African Americans
 - Native Americans
- Annual average income must not exceed \$26 million.
- The top executive officer, responsible for daily operations, is a disadvantaged individual with technical expertise.

Benefits:

The DBE Certification will give your business a leg up in State, Local, and Municipal spending. **These programs will give a percentage of their spending strictly to businesses like yours.** More benefits include:

- Training and educational programs exclusive to Disadvantaged businesses
- Networking opportunities
- Connections with buyers looking to meet subcontracting goals
- Access to purchasing agents
- Mentorship programs

What GSE Can Do for Your Business

Paperwork, complex language, and adhering to Government policies can be a nightmare when attempting to obtain a DBE Certification on your own.

GSE is a third-party Government Contracting service that will help your business become DBE Certified the right way. We have the know-how to help you accomplish your goals. Call or visit our website today to get the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise certification started.

