

Partners Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) Compliance

MWBE Implementation Strategy

In order to receive the maximum points, the strategy should include innovative, creative, and proven approaches to providing MWBE participation in the contract to achieve the thirty percent (30%) participation goal. At a minimum, the bid should demonstrate that the MWBE strategy addresses the items listed below:

MWBE Firm OR MWBE Joint Venture

MWBE Firm

If you are MWBE firm, provide evidence of certification. Certification may be accepted from any bona fide certifying entity that includes but is not limited to: Urban League of Louisiana, Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development, Southern Region Minority Supplier Development Council and National Minority Supplier Development Council.

MWBE Joint Venture

If this is an MWBE Joint Venture, provide evidence of the MWBE certification; the written joint venture agreement that clearly defines the portion of the work to be performed; the management responsibilities; and evidence that the MWBE will perform at least thirty percent (30%) is contractually entitled to compensation proportionate to the work.

Past MWBE Participation

Please provide a narrative of past MWBE participation to include companies contracted with and level of participation. Also provide a list of proposed MWBEs you would consider contracting with on this project.

Outreach, Training & Education

Process used to notify MWBEs of contracting opportunities; training and education efforts for MWBEs as needed; i.e., 2nd Tier Strategy, workshops, seminars.

Management, Technical & Financial Assistance

Efforts to identify barriers of MWBEs and specific actions to develop recommendations to overcome those impediments to provide successful bid opportunities; i.e., tailored packages for MWBEs, insurance and bonding assistance.

See attached for additional MWBE information and examples of Good Faith Efforts.

PFP MWBE Commitment

Partners for Progress, Inc. (Partners) prohibits discrimination against any person or business on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, handicap, or veteran status. PFP will assure equal opportunity for those wishing to participate in the procurement activity; will encourage and require good faith efforts to achieve participation in contracts by minorities and women; and will require all its

contractors to consider in good faith, and to cause their subcontract bidders to consider in good faith, responsive bids or proposals from responsible minority and women business enterprises.

Definition of Minority and Women Business Enterprises (MWBE)

A minority and women business enterprise means a business concern

1. which is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by one or more women or minority individuals, and
2. whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the women or minority individuals who own it.

Minority individuals means those individuals who are citizens of the U.S. or legal residents and are members of the following groups:

1. African American (all persons having origins in any of the African racial groups)
2. Hispanic/Latino American (all persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin)
3. Asian American (all subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands)
4. Native American (all persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America and maintaining identifiable tribal affiliations through membership and participation or community identification)
5. Hasidic Jewish Americans

Examples of Good Faith Efforts

1. Contacted minority businesses that reasonably could have been expected to submit a quote and that were known to the contractor or available on State or local government maintained lists, at least 10 days before the bid date and notified them of the nature and scope of the work to be performed.
2. Made the construction plans, specifications and requirements available for review by prospective minority businesses, or providing these documents to them at least 10 days before the bids are due.
3. Broken down or combined elements of work into economically feasible units to facilitate minority participation.
4. Worked with minority trade, community, or contractor organizations identified by the Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses and included in the bid documents that provide assistance in recruitment of minority businesses.
5. Attended pre-bid meetings scheduled by the owner.
6. Provided assistance in getting required bonding or insurance or provided alternatives to bonding or insurance for subcontractors.
7. Negotiated in good faith with interested minority businesses and did not reject them as unqualified without sound reasons based on their capabilities. Any rejection of a minority business based on lack of qualification should have the reasons documented in writing.
8. Provided assistance to an otherwise qualified minority business in need of equipment, loan capital, lines of credit that is ordinarily required. Assisted minority businesses in obtaining the same unit pricing with the bidder's suppliers in order to help minority businesses in establishing credit.
9. Negotiated joint venture and partnership arrangements with minority businesses in order to increase opportunities for minority business participation on a public construction or repair project when possible.
10. Provided quick pay agreements and policies to enable minority contractors and suppliers to meet cash-flow demands.