Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Federal certification
Certified by the Office of Minority Business Enterprise (OMBE)

SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CERTIFICATION

SBE
FEDERAL CERTIFICATION

Work, Wages and Wealth!

The **Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program** is a race-and gender-neutral program that provides contracting opportunities to small businesses on federally assisted projects with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) State Highway Administration, Maryland Transit Administration, and Maryland Aviation Administration. DoSEM's Office of Minority Business Enterprise (OMBE) certifies SBE firms.

Why get certified?

Transportation contracts
Compete for SBE opportunities on federally assisted projects with MDOT's highway, transit, and aviation administrations.

Certified firm directory
Your firm is listed in Maryland's directory of certified firms, which Contract Entities and prime contractors search to find partners.

Based on size, not race or sex
Eligibility depends on your business size and your owners' personal net worth.

No cost
There is no cost to apply for SBE certification.

$32.82M
three-year average gross receipts limit

$2.047M
personal net worth limit for each qualifying owner

$0
cost to apply for SBE certification

Program details and application help

Eligibility and how to apply are on the other side.

EconomicMobility.Maryland.gov

410-697-9600 | economic.mobility@maryland.gov | 100 Community Place, 4th Floor, Crownsville, MD 21032

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WHO QUALIFIES AND HOW TO APPLY

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SBE

Am I eligible?

- **Small business.** Meet the SBA size standard for the work you want to perform on U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) funded contracts. Average annual gross receipts over the previous three fiscal years cannot exceed $32.82 million (USDOT limit as of April 1, 2026).
- **Citizenship.** The owners holding at least 51% must be U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.
- **Personal net worth.** Each owner counted toward the 51% must have a personal net worth of $2,047,000 or less, not counting the business, home equity, or qualified retirement assets (still reported).
- **For profit.** Only businesses organized for profit can be certified.

What happens next

Investigation and decision

An investigator reviews your documents, visits your office or job site, and writes a report. You then receive a written determination.

Staying certified

Every year, submit an affidavit confirming your firm is still eligible. OMBE emails instructions 60 days before your anniversary date.

Need help applying?

Attend a free monthly application assistance workshop or book a 30-minute one-on-one cursory review of your application. Find both under **Certification Application Assistance** at EconomicMobility.Maryland.gov. Your application must be at least 80% completed prior to your scheduled review.

How to apply

1

Check your registration

Your business must be in good standing with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT).

2

Gather your documents

Collect every required document before you start and submit each as an unredacted PDF. An incomplete application delays your review.

3

Apply online

Complete every section of the SBE application at marylandmdbe.gob2g.com, writing N/A where a question does not apply, and track its status there.

Ready to get started?

Required documents and program details

Ready to apply? Go to the certification portal

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