

## ***Construction Contracting***

If you are certified with the Port Authority as a M/W/S/DBE, you may participate in several unique programs designed to foster opportunities for you to compete for the Port Authority's construction contracts.

Companies seeking M/W/SBE certification under the Construction Program need to complete a Construction Reference Sheet for each specialty they perform. They are prequalified by the Engineering Department based on references submitted and are categorized by trade, size of contract (e.g. contracts with estimated total costs less than \$500,000, \$500,000 to \$1.5 million, and greater than \$1.5 million), and the state in which the firm's business is located. This information is used to determine who will be solicited for each contract.

If a company is already M/W/SBE certified and prequalified in a category and dollar range they may at any time submit a Construction Reference Sheet to the Office of Business and Job Opportunity to update the category(ies) or dollar range status.

### [Annual Construction Program](#)

Each year a forecast of construction contracts is published in a continuing effort to encourage participation in the Port Authority's procurement of construction services. This forecast identifies contracts to be publicly advertised, as well as set aside to M/W/SBEs. This guide is an invaluable resource in understanding Port Authority construction contract procedures.

## ***Construction Contracting Bidding Programs***

### **Set-Aside Program**

Most construction contracts valued at less than \$500,000 are considered for M/WBE solicitation under this program, and certain contracts valued at \$500,000 or more may be set aside for bidding by certified M/WBE and SBE contractors with experience on contracts in the same estimated dollar range. Certain contracts over \$1 million may also be set aside for bidding by select lists of pre-certified and pre-qualified M/W/SBEs.

This program enables vendors to compete with firms of similar size and expertise in a limited, yet competitive environment. Contract document fees are waived for all contracts included in this program.

***Note: Bid bonds and Performance and Payment bonds are not required for contracts under \$1,000,000 on set-aside or publicly advertised contracts.***

## **MBE/WBE and DBE Subcontracting Programs**

The Port Authority enters into contracts with "prime" contractors to ensure a single entity is responsible for its work. However, the Port Authority does set good faith M/WBE subcontracting goals on a contract-by-contract basis for most of its publicly bid contracts valued in excess of \$500,000. The Office of Business and Job Opportunity provides a listing of M/WBEs to all bidders on these contracts.

The Port Authority also administers a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program that promotes participation of such firms in federally funded projects and airport concessions.

### **Quick Bid Program**

The Quick Bid Program is another opportunity for M/WBE companies to compete for Port Authority construction contracts in a limited competitive environment. Quick Bid contracts are for small construction contracts that are estimated not to exceed \$500,000 in total cost. When a contract is identified for inclusion in this program, staff will solicit bids from a set-aside list of M/WBE or SBE contractors qualified to perform work in the category(ies) represented by the contracts. This program is designed to shorten the time it takes to award small contracts or a general work in nature. The Authority also provides interested bidders with free construction contract documents for use in preparing and submitting their bids.

***Payment Information***

Contracts prepared under the M/W/SBE Set-Aside Program may contain provisions to pay the contractor twice a month to further assist smaller firms in meeting their payrolls.

M/W/SBE Special Payment Programs are available to help small business maintain a cash flow.