

Who Can Apply

Eligible businesses can apply to be certified as one of the following and, once registered, will receive contract solicitations with the Port Authority:

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) – Your business must be at least 51 percent owned by, or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock must be owned by citizens or permanent resident aliens, and the management and daily business operations must be controlled by one or more of such individuals who meet the following ethnic definitions: Black, Hispanic, Asian-Pacific, Asian-Indian, or Native American.

Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE) – If your business is at least 51 percent owned by citizens or permanent resident aliens who are women and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by women, your firm may qualify for this certification. In the case of a publicly owned business, the requirement is that at least 51 percent of the stock be women-owned.

Small Business Enterprise (SBE) – Businesses certified in this category must have a principal place of business in either New York or New Jersey; must have operated that specific type of business for at least three years, and cannot exceed certain average income limitations utilizing gross revenues for the last three fiscal years established by the United States Small Business Administration. The limitations are: construction -- \$14 million; architecture and engineering -- \$4.5 million; landscape architectural services -- \$7 million; marine engineering and naval architecture -- \$18.5 million; janitorial maintenance -- \$16.5 million; unarmed guard service -- \$18.5 million; financial services -- \$7 million and, commodity services -- \$7 million.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) – Firms that are at least 51 percent owned and controlled by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals; and whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of such individuals.

Socially and economically disadvantaged individuals are citizens or lawful, permanent residents of the United States and are ethnically defined as Black, Hispanic, Portuguese, Spanish, Asian-Pacific, Asian-Indian, Native American, or who are women – regardless of race or ethnicity – and members of other groups found to be economically and socially disadvantaged by the U.S. Department of Transportation or by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

[View DBE Policy Statement](#)