



SMALL BUSINESS  
KNOWLEDGE AND  
TRAINING PORTAL

TSBDC.org



# OPTIONAL CERTIFICATIONS FOR CONTRACTING

## LESSON TOPICS

### 1. Government Small Business Contracting Goals

The government has small business contracting goals for all agencies.

- 23% for small businesses
- 5% for women owned businesses
- 5% for small, disadvantaged businesses
- 3% for service disabled veteran-owned businesses
- 3% for HUBZone businesses

### 2. Go-DBE

Tennessee offers various certifications for small, minority-owned, women-owned, service disabled veteran-owned, and person with disabilities owned businesses. These certifications are done through the Governor's Office of Diversity Business Enterprise (Go-DBE). There are also self certifications and specialty certifications at the federal level.

### 3. Federal Contracts

To figure out your eligibility for federal contracts, you can register in the system for award management (SAM). In order to be eligible, you must self-certify that you are a small business or a small disadvantaged business (SDB). An SDB must show social and economic disadvantage. Some certifications that can be applied for with the US Small Business Administration are for:

- WOSB (Women Owned Small Business)
- EDWOSB (Economically Disadvantaged Women Owned Small Business)
- Service Disabled Veterans
- 8A (Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Businesses)
- HUBZone (Historically Underutilized Business Zones)