



# 8A CERTIFICATIONS

## LESSON TOPICS

### 1. Contracting Goals

The government has small business contracting goals for all agencies.

- 23% for small business
- 5% woman owned businesses
- 5% small disadvantaged businesses
- 3% for service disabled veteran owned businesses
- 3% HUBzone businesses

### 2. Eligibility for 8A Certifications

- Must be a small business and not have been part of an 8A certification before
- Business must be at least 51% owned and controlled by U.S. citizens who are socially and economically disadvantaged
- Personal net worth needs to be \$750,000 or less
- Business needs to show potential for success

### 3. How to get Certified

Online application process through the U.S. Small Business Administration  
Upload supporting documentation  
Annual recertification to make sure all requirements are still being met

The 8A Certification has a 9 year lifespan which can be broken down into a 4 year development stage and a 5 year transition stage.

### 4. Set Asides

To assist agencies in meeting their small business contracting goals; contracts can be set aside for categories. Contracts that are less than \$150,000 are automatically set aside for small businesses. Only 8A firms will be able to bid on these set asides, and there are also sold source 8A contracts for speciality product/service or few offerers