UT Procurement Services invites you to seek certification with the Tennessee Governor’s Office of Diversity Business Enterprise (GoDBE)

Who is eligible for certification?
Companies that are continuing, independent, for-profit entities with residence in the state of Tennessee and that meet one of the following criteria qualify for certification.
• Small business (SBE): 99 or fewer employees OR gross receipts less than $10,000,000 averaged over three years. Please note that companies only need to meet one of the small business criteria to be eligible.
• Minority-owned business (MBE): 51% owned and controlled by persons of the following minority groups: African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, or Native American.
• Service-disabled veteran-owned (SDVBE): 51% owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.
• Women-owned business (WBE): 51% owned and controlled by women.
• Business owned by persons with disabilities (DSBE): 51% owned and controlled by persons with disabilities.

What are the benefits of GoDBE certification? GoDBE offers many benefits to certified businesses.
• Listing in the TN Diversity Business Directory, increasing your exposure among Tennessee governments.
• Communication about events and opportunities throughout the state.
• “In the Know” workshops and technical assistance.
• Annual “Forecast of Acquisitions” which provides a glimpse of upcoming opportunities with state agencies.

How does UT acknowledge certifications?
• UT flags certified suppliers’ records with the TN DBE designation.
• If a supplier has a UT purchasing agreement, UT flags the agreement with the TN DBE designation.
• UT promotes certified suppliers through workshops, newsletters, and online tools for UT employees.

How does certification help UT?
• Certification helps UT identify small and diverse suppliers for outreach efforts and upcoming solicitations.
• UT is allowed to include transactions with GoDBE-certified companies in its state diversity reporting.

Are out-of-state suppliers eligible for GoDBE certification?
GoDBE recognizes certain certifications for reciprocity. Visit GoDBE’s website to learn more.

How can I learn more?
• Contact UT’s Small Business Liaison, Karen Binkley, kbinkley@tennessee.edu.

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