



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?

- Visit the GoDBE website, <https://www.tn.gov/generalservices/procurement/central-procurement-office--cpo-/go-dbe.html>.
- Contact UT's Small Business Liaison, Karen Binkley, kbinkley@tennessee.edu.