

CORE SERVICES

CERTIFICATION

- Certifies small businesses owned by minorities, women, and socially and economically disadvantaged persons.
- Maintain a public directory of certified businesses so state agencies, prime contractors, and educational institutions can find businesses to work with
- Provide small business assistance to certified businesses
- Perform outreach to non-certified businesses

SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

- Report annual agency spending with certified businesses
- Meet with state agencies, higher educational institutions, and prime contractors on inclusion plans, best practices, and agency accountability
- Train contract specialists on using the Washington State Tools for Equity in Public Spending

LINKED DEPOSIT

- Affordable access to capital for state certified businesses
- \$175 million available from 13 participating lenders
- Over \$71 million is still available in the program as of January 2021
- Reduction of interest rates on business loans through participating banks

GOVERNOR'S SUBCABINET ON BUSINESS DIVERSITY

- Seeks statewide solutions to inequitable public spending that are long-term and sustainable
- Support and educate agencies and higher education institutions on how to improve contracting with certified businesses and how to tailor efforts to be inclusive



Washington State Office of
**MINORITY &
WOMEN'S**
Business Enterprises

Established in 1983, Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE) is an anti-racist organization committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in public contracting and procurement for businesses owned by minorities, women, and people facing systemic disadvantages.

OMWBE certifies small minority and women-owned businesses to facilitate their participation in public contracting and procurement. This is accomplished through a comprehensive certification process and education. The outcome—successful small businesses led by minorities, women, and veterans grow our economy, strengthen our families and community's resiliency, and improve the quality of life for all Washingtonians.