

Texas Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Policy Statement

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with the regulations of U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 26.

It is TxDOT's policy to ensure that DBEs, as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also our policy:

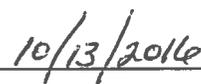
- To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts in TxDOT's highway, transit, and airport financial assistance programs;
- To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
- To ensure that TxDOT's DBE program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- To ensure only firms that fully meet this part's eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
- To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts;
- To promote the use of DBEs in all types of federally-assisted contracts and procurement activities conducted by recipients;
- To assist in the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE program; and
- To provide appropriate flexibility to recipients of federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

The Director of the Civil Rights Division (CIV) has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the CIV Director is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by TxDOT in its financial assistance agreements with DOT.

TxDOT has disseminated this policy statement throughout the organization and distributed it to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for TxDOT on DOT-assisted contracts.



James M. Bass
Executive Director



Date