

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS

From the Local Government Projects Office



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## Check contractor's debarment status

Contractors are not allowed to participate in state or federally funded projects if they are suspended or debarred. The contractor is required to certify its current eligibility status. Certification is also required of all prospective participants in lower-tier transactions. This includes subcontractors, material suppliers, vendors, etc. For projects with federal funds, certification language is included in FHWA-1273 (<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/programadmin/contracts/1273/1273.pdf>) and is one of the reasons why FHWA-1273 must be included in the contract between the local government (LG) and the contractor, and all subcontracts related to the project.

In addition to the certification in FHWA-1273, the LG must also check and determine that contractors, subcontractors and/or suppliers are not excluded from contracting by suspension or debarment. The LG must check the current list of debarred contractors and suppliers at both the federal System for Award Management (<https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>) and the state Vendor Performance Tracking System (<https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/programs/vendor-performance-tracking/>) websites before awarding any contracts or approving subcontracts for the project.

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