The City of San Antonio is committed to the development of local small, minority, and women-owned businesses (S/M/WBEs), which represent nearly a third of the private sector jobs in our community. Since 1989, the Small Business Economic Development Advocacy (SBEDA) Program has utilized the City’s purchasing power to provide equal opportunity for local S/M/WBEs to participate on City contracts.

Learn More About SBEDA & How To Do Business with the City at Vendor Orientation

The City of San Antonio continues its efforts to build the capacity of the local S/M/WBEs through the Mentor Protégé and Bonding Assistance Programs, collectively referred to as the Business Empowerment Plan. Administered in partnership with Alamo Colleges, both Programs provide S/M/WBEs a set curriculum called the Small Business Boot Camp. Depending on the program, the curriculum could include How to Write a Business Plan, Managing Your Financials, Access to Credit and Marketing. Once completed, the businesses are either paired with a mentor for two years or become eligible for a letter of credit to enhance their bonding capacity.
Learn More About SBEDA & How To Do Business with the City at Vendor Orientation

The Small Business Office hosts Vendor Orientation sessions to help vendors registered in the Central Vendor Registry (CVR) learn valuable information to maximize their bidding opportunities on City contracts.

Representatives from a variety of City departments, including Aviation, Economic Development, Finance and Transportation and Capital Improvements, cover topics such as proposal development, managing your San Antonio Electronic Procurement System Profile (SAePS), and SBEDA Program requirements. In addition, City department representatives are available for one-on-one assistance or questions.

Gain Free Business Knowledge with Alamo Colleges

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WHAT IS SBEDA?

The City of San Antonio is committed to the development of local small, minority, and women-owned businesses (S/M/WBEs), which represent nearly a third of the private sector jobs in our community. Since 1989, the Small Business Economic Development Advocacy (SBEDA) Program has utilized the City's purchasing power to provide equal opportunity for local S/M/WBEs to participate on City contracts.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

Businesses must be certified through the South Central Texas Regional Certification Agency (SCTRCA) as a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) to receive any SBE SBEDA Program benefits.

Businesses must be certified through the SCTRCA as SBE and African American (AABE), Asian American (ABE), Hispanic American (HABE), Native American (NABE), or Women Business Enterprise (WBE) to receive any Minority and/or Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) SBEDA Program benefits.

Businesses must be headquartered or demonstrate “significant business presence” within the San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area (SAMSA), which includes Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina and Wilson counties. Businesses demonstrate significant business presence by maintaining an office within the SAMSA for at least one year from which 20% of its total employees are regularly based. Post office boxes, mail drops, telephone messaging centers or any combination of these will not satisfy the definition of significant business presence.

Businesses ready, willing and able to perform on City contracts must register in the San Antonio Electronic Procurement System (SAePS), which serves as the City's Central Vendor Registry (CVR). The CVR is used to notify firms of current and upcoming City contract opportunities and important City information, as well as provide firms access to fast and easy electronic bidding.

IF YOU ARE READY TO BE CERTIFIED, contact the SCTRCA at 210.227.4722 or visit SCTRCA.org and begin the application process. Obtaining certification can provide your company with valuable business opportunities.

IF YOU ARE READY TO BE REGISTERED in SAePS, contact the City of San Antonio Finance Department at 210.207.0118 or visit SanAntonio.Gov/Purchasing/SAePS.aspx.
TO FOSTER ECONOMIC GROWTH, THROUGH COLLABORATION & INNOVATION, FOR THE CONTINUED PROSPERITY OF OUR COMMUNITY.