

Governor's Commission on Supplier Diversity Meeting: Friday, February 26, 2021

The Indiana Department of Administration Division of Supplier Diversity ("DSD") requests the Commission renew the current policy on certification of the out-of-state Minority Business Enterprises ("MBEs"), Women's Business Enterprises ("WBEs") and Indiana Veteran Owned Businesses ("IVOSBs").

Certification Reciprocity Policy

In accordance with the applicable administrative regulations,¹ on January 12, 2009 the Governor's Commission on Supplier Diversity ("Commission") officially adopted a certification reciprocity policy, which states that the DSD office only considers applications from out-of-state companies based in states that recognize Indiana certifications.² Based on this policy, the DSD office may deny applications for certification from states that do not maintain a reciprocal certification program for Indiana certified minority, women, and veteran owned businesses.

DSD proposes that the Commission adopt a slightly revised reciprocity policy, that 1) permits DSD to grant a state reciprocity status after review of the state's program without obtaining prior Commission approval, 2) requires DSD to periodically check the status of the certification programs in the qualifying reciprocity states identified by DSD if any of these states make changes and/or modifications to the existing programs, and 3) if any of the states previously recognized by DSD subsequently changes or eliminates its certification program, or halts acceptance of Indiana certifications, the DSD has authority to eliminate the state as a qualifying reciprocity state without prior Commission approval.

Out-of-State Firm Minimum Requirements:³

1. Out-of-state businesses must be headquartered in a state that recognizes Indiana Certifications.
2. Applications from out-of-state enterprises must, at a minimum, meet State of Indiana requirements set forth in 25 IAC 5-3-2 & 25 IAC 5-3-7.
3. Out-of-state firms must have equivalent certification from its state government agency. Proof of state certification must be provided with the certification application packet. City, county, commission, and council certifications do not fulfill this requirement.
4. For new out-of-state applications, a copy of the official onsite that was conducted by its state certifying agency must be provided to the DSD. The onsite had to be conducted within three years of the date the application was submitted to the DSD.

The Division of Supplier Diversity does not require on-sites for out-of-state firms seeking recertification; however, DSD reserves the right to request a current on-site report at its discretion.

¹ 25 IAC 5-3-2(l); 25 IAC 5-3-7(a)(1)(A)(ii); 25 IAC 5-3-7(b)

² A current list of qualifying reciprocity states is attached as exhibit A.

³ Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed as limiting DSD ability to consider additional factors when determining a state or firm eligibility status pursuant to the Commission's reciprocity policy.

Exhibit A

As of February 26, 2021, the following states meet the requirements of the reciprocity policy enforced by the Indiana Department of Administration Division of Supplier Diversity:

1. Alabama
2. Delaware
3. Illinois
4. Kansas
5. Kentucky
6. Massachusetts
7. Missouri
8. New Jersey
9. New York
10. Oregon
11. Rhode Island
12. South Carolina
13. Tennessee
14. Virginia
15. Washington
16. Wisconsin