About the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development (“DMWBD”)

DMWBD’s mission is to promote equality of economic opportunities for minority and women-owned business enterprises (“MWBEs”) and to eliminate barriers to their participation in state contracting. We supplement New York State’s economic leadership with information and resources that increase access to information and opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses throughout the state. We provide customers with exceptional service, integrity, and accountability using both proven and innovative methods.

What is the MWBE Certification Assessment Tool?

DMWBD is here to support MWBEs. The MWBE Certification Assessment Tool (“self-assessment tool”) helps MWBE applicants better understand the criteria for NYS MWBE certification and aims to improve our customer service. The purpose of the self-assessment tool is to assist MWBEs in the preliminary steps toward certification. It is created for informational and educational purposes only and does not offer legal advice or guarantee certification.

NYS MWBE Certification Eligibility Criteria

To be NYS MWBE certified, a firm must demonstrate that it is a for-profit business enterprise that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned, operated, and controlled, independently of any other business, by one or more minority or women-owners, in accordance with Article 15-A of the Executive Law and the MWBE Regulations.

Accessing the MWBE Certification Assessment Tool

The self-assessment tool is located on DMWBD’s website: www.esd.ny.gov/mwbe.html and specifically under the “How do I become MWBE certified?” section. It can also be accessed directly by visiting: https://esd.ny.gov/doing-business-ny/mwbe/mwbe-certification-assessment
Completion of the MWBE Certification Assessment Tool

Once the self-assessment tool has been completed, based on the responses, MWBEs will receive a response and suggestions about next steps in the certification process. While utilizing this tool does not offer legal advice or guarantee certification, it allows prospective businesses to assess if they meet the NYS MWBE certification eligibility criteria.

As always, we look forward to continuing to welcome MWBEs as a New York State certified business!