



Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program Frequently Asked Questions

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What is the Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program?

The SBE Program is a certification initiative designed to support small businesses by increasing their access to Orange County contracting opportunities. It aims to promote business growth and ensure a competitive procurement environment.

Why is the County implementing the SBE Program?

The SBE Program was approved to support small businesses in a manner consistent with current legal and regulatory guidance. It provides a race- and gender-neutral approach to expanding economic opportunities.

Who is eligible to apply for SBE certification?

Small businesses that meet the program's size standards and eligibility criteria, as outlined in the SBE Ordinance, are encouraged to apply. Eligibility is based on factors such as business size, business gross receipts, and operational requirements.

When can businesses apply for the SBE Program?

The application portal is open, and businesses may submit applications. Interested applicants are encouraged to review program guidelines before applying.

What are the benefits of SBE certification?

Certified SBE firms may gain increased visibility for County contracting opportunities and access to programs designed to support business development. Certification may also provide a competitive advantage in certain procurement processes.

Where can I find more information or get help with the application?

Businesses can visit the County's official website to review the SBE Ordinance, policies, and application instructions:

<https://www.ocfl.net/VendorServices/SmallBusinessVendors.aspx>

For additional assistance, applicants may contact the Business Development Division at 407-836-7317.