

VTrans DBE Policy Statement

Objectives/Policy Statement ~ 49 CFR §26.1

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. VTrans has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, VTrans has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of VTrans to ensure that DBEs, as defined in part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also our policy:

1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts,
2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts,
3. To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts; and
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.

The Chief of Civil Rights and Labor Compliance, Lori Valburn, has been delegated as the VTrans DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, she is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by VTrans in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

VTrans has disseminated this policy statement to the Agency's Executive Staff, other senior management, and all of the components of our organization. We have distributed this statement to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for us on DOT-assisted contracts. Distribution is accomplished by a variety of methods, including the posting of this statement on our website and a widespread email distribution that includes all of our certified DBEs, our non-DBE contractors and consultants, our sub-recipients, the Association of General Contractors and other trade and professional organizations, numerous technical assistance and service providers, and community based organizations serving the disadvantaged business community.



Brian R Searles, VTrans Secretary

Date: _____

