MBE/DBE Programs

The BCIA provides training programs designed to strengthen MBE/DBE construction businesses. These programs are in the form of both one-on-one counseling with MBE/DBE contractors and courses taught in the classroom setting. The following are indicative of those business elements for which the BCIA provides training.

- Construction Business Management
- Fundamentals of Construction Law
- Financial Management
- Marketing of the Construction Business
- Bid Preparation & Submittal
- Blue Print Reading
- Estimating
- Scheduling
- Job Site Performance
- Identification of Bid Opportunities
- Computer Fundamentals

Contact Us

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Birmingham Construction Industry Authority

A voluntary program for certification of and assistance to Minority and Disadvantaged business enterprises in the construction industry.

An independent agency of the City of Birmingham

Established in 1990

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Birmingham Construction Industry Authority is to increase the contract dollars being awarded to MBE/DBE construction firms located in the Birmingham area, in both the public and private sectors of the construction industry.

Our Mission

Promote community awareness and a sense of responsibility for including MBE/DBE contractors into the economic mainstream.

Promote a thriving and diversified construction marketplace for both business and employment in the greater Birmingham metropolitan area.

Promote the recognition of the BCIA by construction users as a resource center for community-responsible construction businesses.

Promote proactive and innovate efforts to meet the goals and objectives of "The Birmingham Plan".

Published directory containing information on all MBE/DBE businesses certified by the BCIA. This publication is distributed to all General Contractors in the Birmingham area, as well as to government agencies and owners of privately funded construction projects.

Birmingham Plan

The Birmingham Construction Industry Authority (BCIA) was established in 1990 as part of "The Birmingham Plan" to help increase the contract dollars being awarded to Minority/Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (MBE/DBE) construction firms located in the Birmingham area, in both the public and private sectors of the construction industry.

The Birmingham Plan, a series of voluntary programs designed to overcome historical economic inequities in the Birmingham community. The Plan encourages voluntary cooperative public, private partnerships and development of minority and disadvantages business in our community.

BCIA was included as one of the resource programs of the Birmingham Plan to focus on equitable sharing and economic growth in the local construction industry. Developers, owners, contractors as well as public entities that purchase, hire or contract for construction related services are directed to the BCIA for assistance to develop strategic plans for the respective projects. These plans result in opportunities that achieve program goals, all in an effort to boost economic parity in our community. This effort includes construction related professional service providers.

Certification of MBE/DBE Firms

The BCIA administers the City of Birmingham's Plan MBE/DBE Certification Program. The basic criteria for certification as an MBE/DBE firm requires that at least 51% of the business be owned by black, women or other minority groups designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce as being disadvantage. Day-to-day management and financial control of the business must also be the responsibility of those owners claiming either minority or disadvantage status.

The certification process requires that an individual wishing to become certified as an owner/operator of a minority or disadvantaged business enterprise, obtain an application for certification from the BCIA. This application should be completed and returned to the BCIA for review. If the applicant is found to meet all requirements for certification, a Certificate of Certification as an MBE or DBE will be issued by the BCIA.

In some instances, a waiver of the certification process will be granted by the BCIA. Inquiries concerning a waiver should be directed to the Executive Director. The BCIA also certifies joint ventures between minority and non-minority businesses.