



JOSEPH M. NICCHITTA  
Director

Office of Small Business  
133 N. Sunol Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90063

(323) 881-3964  
(855) 230- 6430 (inside the County)

[dcba.lacounty.gov](http://dcba.lacounty.gov)

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# FREE SERVICES

FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY SMALL BUSINESSES

- Procurement Assistance
- Assistance to New Businesses & Startups
- Business Certifications
- Networking & Matchmaking Events
- Workshops on Government Contracting
- L.A. County Small Business Advocates
- Counseling & Resources

Serving Los Angeles County consumers and businesses since 1976.



## OUR MISSION

To promote a fair and vibrant marketplace, we serve consumers, businesses, and communities through education, advocacy, and complaint resolution.



# Community Business Enterprise Program

FOR BUSINESS OWNERS



**CERTIFY. CONNECT. GROW.**

# COMMUNITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

## What is the Community Business Enterprise (CBE) Program?

The Community Business Enterprise (CBE) Program encourages business owners who are minorities, women, disabled veterans, or disadvantaged to capitalize on opportunities in government and private-sector procurement programs.

## What are the participation designations?

Your business can participate as any of the following:

- Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)
- Women Business Enterprise (WBE)
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
- Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)

## How are MBEs eligible for certification with Los Angeles County?

Your business must:

1. Be independent and for-profit
2. Be owned by citizens or lawful permanent residents of the United States who are:
  - Black/African
  - Hispanic/Latino
  - Asian/Pacific Islander
  - Subcontinent Asian
  - Native American
3. Have at least 51-percent ownership by one

or more minorities, and

4. Be at least 51-percent managed by and have daily business operations controlled by one or more minorities

## How are WBEs eligible for certification with Los Angeles County?

Your business must:

1. Be independent and for-profit
2. Be owned by women who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of the United States
3. Have at least 51-percent ownership by one or more women, and
4. Be at least 51-percent managed by and have daily business operations controlled by women

## What are the benefits?

Your business will be included in the County's CBE listing. Many County departments, public agencies, private-sector prime and subcontractors use the CBE listing to meet subcontracting goals.

## How are DBEs eligible for certification and participation?

Although the County does not certify DBEs, the CBE program recognizes these businesses for program participation purposes. To qualify for the CBE program as a DBE, your business must be certified by:

- The State of California Department of Transportation's California Unified

Certification Program (CUCP), or

- Any agency authorized to certify under the Unified Certification Program

## How are DVBEs eligible for participation?

DVBEs who are certified with Los Angeles County will automatically qualify for inclusion in the CBE program. You do not have to apply for two separate programs.

## How do I apply for certification/participation?

**Step 1:** Register as a Los Angeles County Vendor at: [camisvr.co.la.ca.us/webven](https://camisvr.co.la.ca.us/webven)

**Step 2:** Submit your application at: [certify.lacounty.gov](https://certify.lacounty.gov)

- During the application process, you will be asked to provide supporting documentation.

Note: The criteria to qualify for this preference program may change. For the most up-to-date information on program eligibility, please refer to the DCBA website.

**Need more information?  
Contact our Office of Small  
Business at (323) 881-3964 or  
visit [dcba.lacounty.gov](https://dcba.lacounty.gov)**