

SECTION 00 43 39 – MCC BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM - MINORITIES, FEMALES, AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITY PARTICIPATION AND UTILIZATION PLAN

The Business Enterprise Program for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act (BEP) establishes certain goals for community colleges contracting with businesses that are owned and controlled by persons who are minorities (MBE), women (WBE), or persons with disabilities (DBE) (collectively, BEP certified vendor(s)).

Contract Goal to be Achieved by Vendor: This solicitation includes a specific BEP participation goal of 20% of the total dollar amount of the contract.

The BEP participation goal is applicable to all bids or offers. McHenry County College (College) will award this contract to a Vendor that meets the goal or makes good faith efforts to meet the goal. This goal is also applicable to change orders and allowances within the scope of work provided by the BEP certified vendor. If Vendor is a BEP certified vendor, the entire goal is met and no subcontracting with a BEP certified vendor is required; however, Vendor must submit a Utilization Plan indicating that the goal will be met by self-performance. Failure to complete a Utilization Plan or provide good faith effort documentation shall render the bid or offer non-responsive or not responsible and subject to rejection and/or disqualification in the College's sole discretion.

The following are guidelines for Vendor's completion of the Utilization Plan. **Please read the guidelines carefully.** A format for the Utilization Plan is included in this section. Vendor should include any additional information that will add clarity to Vendor's proposed utilization of certified BEP vendors to meet the targeted goal. The Utilization Plan must demonstrate that Vendor has either: (1) met the entire contract goal or (2) made good faith efforts towards meeting the goal. Any submission of good faith efforts by Vendor shall be considered as a request for a full or partial waiver.

To meet the College's BEP participation goals, Vendor, or Vendor's proposed Subcontractor(s), must be certified with the Business Enterprise Council as a BEP certified vendor. If Vendor or Vendor's proposed Subcontractor(s) are not BEP certified vendors but do meet the definition of MBE, WBE, or DBE companies as set forth in 30 ILCS 575/2, Vendor shall have the burden of submitting sufficient evidence of the company's ownership. The College shall have the sole discretion of whether to accept non-BEP certified vendors and applying said contracts towards its BEP participation goals.

1. If applicable where there is more than one prime vendor, the Utilization Plan should include an executed Joint Venture Agreement specifying the terms and conditions of the relationship between the parties and their relationship and responsibilities to the contract. The Joint Venture Agreement must clearly evidence that the BEP certified vendor will be responsible for a clearly defined portion of the work and that its responsibilities, risks, profits and contributions of capital, and personnel are proportionate to its ownership percentage. It must include specific details related to the parties' contributions of capital, personnel, and equipment and share of the costs of insurance and other items; the scopes to be performed by the BEP certified vendor under its supervision; and the commitment of management, supervisory personnel, and operative personnel employed by the BEP certified vendor to be dedicated to the performance of the contract. Established Joint Venture Agreements will only be credited toward BEP goal achievements for specific work performed by the BEP certified vendor. **Each party to the Joint Venture Agreement must execute the bid or offer prior to submission of the bid or offer to the College.** The contract will not be awarded to Vendor unless the College approves the Vendor's Utilization Plan and Joint Venture Agreement, if applicable.
2. **Calculating BEP Certified Vendor Participation:** The Utilization Plan documents work anticipated to be performed, or goods/equipment provided, by all BEP certified vendors and paid for upon satisfactory completion/delivery. Only the value of payments made for the work actually performed by

BEP certified vendors is counted toward the contract goal. Applicable guidelines for counting payments attributable to contract goals are summarized below:

- 2.1. The value of the work actually performed or goods/equipment provided by the BEP certified vendor shall be counted towards the goal. The entire amount of that portion of the contract that is performed by the BEP certified vendor, including supplies purchased or equipment leased by the BEP certified vendor shall be counted, except supplies purchased and equipment rented from the Prime Vendor submitting this bid or offer.
- 2.2. A vendor shall count the portion of the total dollar value of the BEP contract equal to the distinct, clearly defined portion of the work of the contract that the BEP certified vendor performs toward the goal. A vendor shall also count the dollar value of work subcontracted to other BEP certified vendors. Work performed by the non-BEP certified party shall not be counted toward the goal. **Work that a BEP certified vendor subcontracts to a non-BEP certified vendor will not count towards the goal.**
- 2.3. A Vendor shall count toward the goal 100% of its expenditures for materials and supplies required under the contract and obtained from BEP certified vendor manufacturers, regular dealers, or suppliers. A Vendor shall count toward the goal the following expenditures to BEP certified vendors that are not manufacturers, regular dealers, or suppliers:
 - 2.3.1. The fees or commissions charged for providing a bona fide service, such as professional, technical, consultant or managerial services and assistance in the procurement of essential personnel, facilities, equipment, materials or supplies required for performance of the contract, provided that the fee or commission is determined by the College to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services.
 - 2.3.2. The fees charged for delivery of materials and supplies required by the contract (but not the cost of the materials and supplies themselves) when the hauler, trucker, or delivery service is not also the manufacturer or a supplier of the materials and supplies being procured, provided that the fee is determined by the College to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services. The BEP certified vendor's trucking firm must be responsible for the management and supervision of the entire trucking operation for which it is responsible on the contract, and must itself own and operate at least one fully licensed, insured and operational truck used on the contract.
 - 2.3.3. The fees or commissions charged for providing any bonds or insurance specifically required for the performance of the contract, provided that the fee or commission is determined by the College to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services.
- 2.4. BEP certified vendors who are performing the contract as second tier subcontractors may be counted in meeting the established BEP goal for this contract as long as the Prime Vendor can provide documentation indicating the utilization of these vendors.
- 2.5. A Vendor shall count towards the goal only expenditures to firms that perform a commercially useful function in the work of the contract. A Vendor shall not count towards the goal expenditures that are not direct, necessary and related to the work of the contract. Only the amount of services or goods that are directly attributable to the performance of the contract shall be counted. Ineligible expenditures include general office overhead or other Vendor support activities.

- 3. Good Faith Effort Procedures:** Enclosed and sealed with the Vendor's bid documents, the Vendor must submit a: (1) Utilization Plan and (2) either Letters of Intent or subcontract documents that meet or exceed the published goal. If Vendor cannot meet the stated goal, Vendor must submit documents to support the good faith efforts it undertook to meet the goal. The College has the right to reject Vendor's bid as not-responsible and/or not responsive if the College or the Business Enterprise Council determine, in either of their sole discretion, that Vendor failed to make a good faith effort to meet the MBE goals. The College may also accept and enter into a contract with a Vendor that can provide sufficient evidence of MBE, WBE or DBE status of Vendor or its proposed subcontractors and/or sub-vendors in compliance with the Illinois Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act. If the College or the Council determine that Vendor has made good faith efforts to meet the goal, the College may award the contract provided that Vendor is otherwise eligible for award.
- 4. Contract Compliance:** Compliance with this section is an essential part of the contract. The following administrative procedures and remedies govern Vendor's compliance with the contractual obligations established by the Utilization Plan. **After approval of the Utilization Plan and award of the contract, the Utilization Plan becomes part of the contract.**

 - 4.1.** The Utilization Plan may not be amended after contract execution without the College's prior written approval. Vendor may not make changes to its contractual BEP certified vendor commitments or substitute BEP certified vendors without the College's prior written approval. The Vendor's request to substitute BEP certified vendors must state the specific reasons for the change or substitutions. Unauthorized changes or substitutions, including performing the work designated for a BEP certified vendor with Vendor's own forces, shall be a violation of the Utilization Plan and a breach of the contract, and shall be cause to terminate the contract, and/or seek other contract remedies or sanctions.
 - 4.2.** Vendor shall maintain a record of all relevant data with respect to the utilization of BEP certified vendors, including but without limitation, payroll records, invoices, canceled checks and books of account for a period of at least three years after the completion of the contract. The College shall have the right to access to these records upon 48 hours written demand. The College shall have the right to obtain from Vendor any additional data reasonably related or necessary to verify any representations by Vendor.
 - 4.3.** The College reserves the right to withhold payment to Vendor to enforce these provisions and Vendor's contractual commitments. Final payment shall not be made pursuant to the contract until Vendor submits sufficient documentation demonstrating compliance with its Utilization Plan.

UTILIZATION PLAN

The Utilization Plan and Letter of Intent must be sealed and submitted with Vendor's Bid Documents.

(Vendor) submits the following Utilization Plan as part of our bid or offer in accordance with the requirements of the BEP Program Status and Participation section of the solicitation for McHenry County College's Greenhouse Project.

Vendor submits the following statement:

- Vendor is a BEP certified firm and plans to fully meet the goal through self-performance.
- Vendor has identified BEP certified subcontractor(s) to fully meet the established goal and submits the attached executed Letter(s) of Intent; or
- Vendor has made good faith efforts towards meeting the entire goal, or a portion of the goal, and hereby requests a waiver (complete checklist below).

Vendor's designee responsible for compliance with this BEP goal:

Name:

Title:

Telephone:

Email:

BEP Utilization Plan

The following firms will be utilized to meet the goals of the BEP Program:

Name of Firm	Contract Value	Description of Work	% of Goal
Total			

DEMONSTRATION OF GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE GOAL AND REQUEST FOR WAIVER

If the BEP participation goal was not achieved, Vendors must provide documented evidence of good faith efforts to achieve the goal.

Below is a checklist of actions that will be used to evaluate a Vendor's Demonstration of Good Faith Efforts and Request for Waiver. **Please check the actions which you completed.** If any of the following actions are not completed, please attach a detailed written explanation indicating why such action was not completed. If any other efforts were made to obtain BEP participation in addition to the items listed below, attach a detailed description of such efforts. The College reserves the right to review and audit the results of the Vendor's good faith efforts.

- Utilize the Sell2Illinois website: www2.illinois.gov/cms/business to identify BEP certified vendors within the respective commodity/service codes denoted above and at a minimum email all listed vendors and solicit quotes from all vendors who express an interest via follow-up emails or telephone calls.
- Solicit through all reasonable and available means (e.g., attendance at a vendor conference, advertising and/or written notices) the interest of BEP certified vendors that have the capability to perform the work of the contract. Vendor must solicit this interest within sufficient time to allow the BEP certified vendors to respond to the solicitation. Vendor must determine with certainty if the BEP certified vendors are interested by taking appropriate steps to follow up initial solicitations and encourage them to submit a bid or proposal. Vendor must provide interested BEP certified vendors with adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract in a timely manner to assist them in responding promptly to the solicitation.
- Select portions of the work to be performed by BEP certified vendors in order to increase the likelihood that the goal will be achieved. This includes, where appropriate, breaking out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate BEP certified vendor participation, even when Vendor might otherwise prefer to perform these work items with its own forces.
- Make a portion of the work available to BEP certified vendors and selecting those portions of the work or material needs consistent with their availability, so as to facilitate BEP certified vendor participation.
- Negotiate in good faith with interested BEP certified vendors. Evidence of such negotiation must include the names, addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of BEP certified vendors that were considered and an explanation as to why an agreement could not be reached.
- Thoroughly investigate the capabilities of BEP certified vendors and not reject them as unqualified without documented reasons.
- Make efforts to assist interested BEP certified vendors in obtaining lines of credit or insurance as required by the College.
- Make efforts to assist interested BEP certified vendors in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services.

GOOD FAITH EFFORTS CONTACT LOG

Use this Log to document all contacts and responses (telephone, e-mail, fax, etc.) regarding the solicitation of BEP certified vendors within the specific scope of work selected. It is not necessary to show contacts with BEP certified vendors who are identified on the Letter(s) of Intent. Keep and submit copies of all emails sent and received from prospective BEP vendors. Include a copy of the commodity list or scope of work you solicited prospective BEP vendors to perform. Duplicate this log as necessary; do not limit your contacts to the number of spaces shown.

Name of Certified BEP Vendor	Date	Method of Contact	Scope of Work Solicited	Reason Agreement Was Not Reached

END SECTION 00 43 39