

Small and Diverse Supplier Program Summary

The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) recognizes how important small and diverse businesses are to the communities it serves. LCRA supports equal contracting opportunities for these businesses. LCRA's Small and Diverse Supplier Program is a reflection of that support.

LCRA's Small and Diverse Supplier Program has two goals:

- To encourage participation of small and diverse suppliers in LCRA's business opportunity solicitation process.
- To develop mutually beneficial business relationships with small and diverse businesses.

LCRA asks its LCRA agents to commit to specific activities in support of the program as part of their annual performance plans.

SELF-REPORTING STATUS IN LCRA'S VENDOR DATABASE AND SOLICITATION RESPONSES

A supplier may choose to self-report its small and diverse status to LCRA in two ways:

- Register in LCRA's vendor database through the [Supplier Connection](#) page on www.lcra.org. The information there is available to LCRA agents, who may use the database to identify potential suppliers. A supplier registering in LCRA's vendor database or responding to a solicitation is asked to report its small and diverse status. Each supplier in LCRA's vendor database is asked to review its profile in LCRA's supplier database on an annual basis and update any information that is no longer correct, including reviewing the supplier's small and diverse status.
- Submit a formal response to solicitations posted on LCRA's [Business Opportunities](#) page. Qualified suppliers are encouraged to respond to LCRA's postings, regardless of registration status. A supplier self-identifying as small or diverse may be asked by the LCRA agent to validate its status during the solicitation response process.

LCRA's Supplier Self-Classification Definitions

LCRA defines small and diverse suppliers according to guidelines derived from the National Minority Supplier Development Council, the Women's Business Enterprise National Council and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). A supplier should apply these definitions when assessing its small and diverse status for registration in LCRA's supplier database or for participation in LCRA's solicitation process:

[National Minority Supplier Development Council](#): A minority-owned business is a for-profit enterprise, regardless of size, physically located in the United States or its Trust Territories, which is at least 51 percent owned, operated and controlled by minority group members as defined below:

- **Asian-Indian** – A U.S. citizen whose origins are from India, Pakistan or Bangladesh.
- **Asian-Pacific** – A U.S. citizen whose origins are from Japan, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the Philippines, Thailand, Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Trust Territories of the Pacific or the Northern Marianas.
- **African American** – A U.S. citizen who is of African descent.
- **Hispanic** – A U.S. citizen of Hispanic heritage, from any of the Spanish-speaking areas of the following regions: Mexico, Central America, South America or the Caribbean Basin only.
- **Native American** – A person who is an American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut or Native Hawaiian and is regarded as such by the community of which the person claims to be a part.

[Women's Business Enterprise National Council](#): A woman-owned business enterprise is at least 51 percent owned and controlled by one or more women who are U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents, whose business formation and principle place of business are in the U.S. or its Trust Territories, and whose management and daily operation are controlled by one or more of the women owners.

[U.S. Small Business Administration](#): As defined by the Small Business Act, a small business concern is "one that is independently owned and operated and which is not dominant in its field of operation."

- **Small Business** – Depending on the industry, "small" is defined by either the number of employees or average annual receipts of a business concern. See the U.S. Small Business Administration's [size standards](#) by North American Industry Classification System code.
- **Small Veteran-Owned Business** – A small business that is at least 51 percent owned, operated and controlled by one or more veterans.
- **Small Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business** – A small business that is at least 51 percent owned, operated and controlled by one or more veterans with a service-connected disability.
- **HUBZone Business** – A small business operating in a "Historically Underutilized Business Zone." See [maps](#) showing areas the U.S. Small Business Administration has designated as HUBzones.

LCRA also recognizes the [State of Texas' Historically Underutilized Business \(HUB\)](#) classification.

REPORTING

LCRA uses an independent third party to classify prime suppliers as small or diverse for reporting of prime small and diverse spending. This classification is applied in the development of Supply Management's annual report to LCRA's Board of Directors and other small and diverse spend reporting conducted throughout the year.

For more information on LCRA's Small and Diverse Supplier Program, please email supplierdiversity@lcra.org.