

FACT SHEET



FTA Overall DBE Goal (FY 2023 – 2025)

What is the COATS MPO Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program?

The Columbia Area Transportation Study (COATS) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is dedicated to serving our community, including ensuring nondiscrimination of disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs) in the award and administration of U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA)-assisted contracts. The goals of the program are:

- To ensure a “level playing field in which DBEs can compete fairly for FTA-assisted contracts
- To ensure the DBE Program is narrowly tailored
- To help remove barriers to DBE participation in USDOT assisted contracts.
- To ensure that only firms that meet federal standards are permitted to participate as DBEs

DBE Goal Setting Process

The COATS MPO’s DBE goal is developed based on the agency’s specific circumstances. The methodology used to develop the goal is reviewed for agreement and accepted or rejected by FTA.

FY 2023 – 2025 FTA Overall DBE Goal

The COATS MPO has calculated an overall **DBE Goal of 8%** for fiscal years (FY) 2023 – 2025, which must be submitted to FTA by August 1, 2022. The goal setting process must include a 45-day public comment period, which extends from June 8th – July 27, 2022. The next update of the COATS MPO’s DBE goal is due to FTA no later than August 1, 2025.

What is a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise?

A disadvantaged business enterprise or DBE means a for profit small business -

- 1) That is at least 51% owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged or, in the case of a corporation, in which 51% of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals; and
- 2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it.

Source: Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 26

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title49/49cfr26_main_02.tpl



Please turn over for opportunities to participate in the COATS MPO DBE goal setting process and provide input via the DBE Program Assessment Survey!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5BB9LRT>

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DBE Program Powerpoint

Please review the COATS MPO Powerpoint about the FY 2023 – 2025 FTA DBE Goal on the CMCOG website located at www.centralmidlands.org. The powerpoint will include a detail description on the goal setting process and contact information for questions and comments.

Presentations on the DBE Goal Setting Process will be held on June 9th and June 23rd @ 12 p.m. at the Transportation Subcommittee and CMCOG Board of Directors meetings respectively. These meetings will be held at the offices of the Central Midland Council of Governments and Midlands Technical College Airport Campus. As well a joint presentation with the COMET will be held on June 16th at 12 p.m. at the offices of the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority.

Please contact Reginald Simmons, Deputy Executive Director /Director of Transportation at rsimmons@centralmidlands.org to schedule a meeting to discuss the DBE goal in more detail.

DBE Program Assessment Survey

The COATS MPO is committed to its DBE Program. To help us determine what services would increase the participation of DBE firms in federal-aid contracts we have developed the DBE Program Assessment Survey. Please take a few minutes to complete this important survey, which can be found on the CMCOG website noted above and at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5BB9LRT>

For complaints, questions or concerns about the DBE and/or Title VI Programs; or for accessible formats for individuals with disabilities, please contact Reginald Simmons, Deputy Executive Director/Director of Transportation, at (803) 376-5390 or rsimmons@centralmidlands.org.

For more information, please contact:
Reginald Simmons, Deputy Executive Director/Director of Transportation
Central Midlands Council of Governments
236 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, SC 29210
Phone: (803) 376-5390 – Email: rsimmons@centralmidlands.org.

Useful Links:

COATS MPO DBE Program:

<https://centralmidlands.org/wp-content/uploads/FINAL-CMCOG-COATS-MPO-DBE-PROGRAM-2020.pdf>

State of South Carolina DBE Program:

<https://www.scdot.org/business/bus-development-overview.aspx>

State of South Carolina Unified Certification Program Directory:

<https://www.scdot.org/business/bus-development-dbe-sbe-cert.aspx>

South Carolina Division of Small and Minority Business Contracting and Certification:

<http://osmba.sc.gov/index.html>

South Carolina Division of Small and Minority Business Contracting and Certification DBE Directory:

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