

Program Benefits

Your small business can learn from an experienced government contractor through the SBA's Mentor-Protégé Programs.

Protégés can get valuable business development help from their mentors in several areas, including:

- Guidance on internal business management systems, accounting, marketing, manufacturing, and strategic planning
- Financial assistance
- Assistance navigating federal contract bidding, acquisition, and performance process
- Education about international trade, strategic planning, and finding markets
- Business development, including strategy and identifying contracting and partnership opportunities
- General and administrative assistance

Program Qualifications

Protégé requirements:

- Be a [small business](#) with industry experience
- Have a proposed mentor
- Organized as for profit or an agricultural cooperative
- Business is limited to two mentors in the firm's lifetime

Mentor requirements:

- Be organized for profit.
- Have no more than three protégés at a time

All Small Mentor-Protégé Program



Apply Today

1. Find a mentor.
2. Make sure both businesses are registered at [SAM.gov](#).
3. Create and agree to a [Mentor-Protégé agreement](#).
4. Have your NAICS code on hand.
5. Complete the [online mentor-protégé tutorial](#).
6. Apply online at [certify.SBA.gov](#).

8(a) Mentor-Protégé Program

8(a) firms may choose to apply directly through the All Small Mentor-Protégé Program or through the servicing District Office for submission of the 8(a) Mentor-Protégé application.



U.S. Small Business
Administration

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Mentor-Protégé Information

- The first term of a mentor-protégé agreement may last up to three years.
- Agreement may be extended for another three years.
- A protégé may have two mentors at the same time — as long as those relationships don't conflict or compete with each other.
- A protégé can have no more than two mentors over the life of its business.

Annual Report

Participants must maintain the mentor-protégé relationship after completing the annual evaluation report each year.

The SBA relies on the annual evaluation report to determine if businesses can continue to participate in the program.

Joint Ventures

- Form a joint venture and compete together for government contracts reserved for small businesses.
- Bid on contracts that are set aside for small business, small disadvantaged business, Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned, Women-Owned, or HUBZone businesses — as long as the protégé is a small business for the contract's NAICS code.



CONTACT SBA

[All Small Mentor-Protégé Program](https://www.sba.gov/allsmallmpp)
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