

Program Benefits

The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to women-owned small businesses each year.

To help provide a level playing field for women business owners, the government limits competition for certain contracts to businesses that participate in SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) or Economically Disadvantaged Woman-Owned Small Business (EDWOSB) programs.

Joining the WOSB program makes your business eligible to compete for federal contracts set aside for the program or possibly receive sole source contracts. You could still compete for contract awards under other socio-economic programs (if eligible).

Program Qualifications

WOSB program:

- Be a [small business](#)
- 51% owned and controlled by women who are U.S. citizens
- Have women manage day-to-day operations and make long-term decisions

EDWOSB program:

- Meet all the requirements of the WOSB program
- Be owned and controlled by one or more women, each with a personal net worth less than \$750K and each with \$350K or less in average adjusted gross income
- Be owned and controlled by one or more women, each with \$6 million or less in personal assets

Woman-Owned Small Business



Get Certified

1. Register at [SAM.gov](#).
2. Self-certify at [certify.SBA.gov](#).

OR

3. Certify through a third-party:

[El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#)

[National Women Business Owners Corporation \(NWBOC\)](#)

[US Women's Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Women's Business Enterprise National Council \(WBENC\)](#)

4. If third-party certified, update your certification at [certify.SBA.gov](#).
5. Update your [SAM.gov](#) profile.



U.S. Small Business
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Proactive Self Marketing

The WOSB and EDWOSB programs are NOT contracting programs. These programs require significant commitment on the part of the business to market its products and/or services in order to succeed in the program.

- Focus on areas in your **niche** market and prioritize
- Identify federal **buyers** and get to know them
- Identify the agency contracting **procedures** and agency procurement forecasts.
- Make **contacts** through small business events and network your business



CONTACT SBA

Need help?

[Women-Owned Small Business Program](#)
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