# Should your business be Certified?

# Yes!

# VDMBE

**The Commonwealth of Virginia spends $5 billion a year buying goods and services from the private sector.** By becoming certified, you place your company on a preferred listing of Small, Women and Minority business enterprises (SWaM). **The Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise** (VDMBE), with its new streamlined certification process, will certify your company if qualified, free of charge, as part of the Commonwealth's initiative to open the door to state and local government contracting opportunities. VDMBE also provides assistance on how to do business with the Commonwealth. In addition, we provide management and technical assistance on an individual or group basis and administer a loan program for disadvantaged businesses.

## Which Certification is Best For You?

## DBE

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)**
The Federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) certification program is for companies interested in doing business in the Transportation Sector. The DBE program is a federal initiative designed to significantly increase the number of disadvantaged businesses participating on projects funded by the US Department of Transportation.

## SWaM

**Small, Women and Minority (SWaM) Certification**
The SWaM Program is a Commonwealth of Virginia initiative designed to significantly increase the state's use of small businesses, especially those owned by women and minorities. When your company is certified, it may qualify for a number of specific initiatives, including the small business set-aside program, which includes businesses owned by women or minorities. Your company name will also appear in eVA as a preferred vendor.

**www.dmbe.virginia.gov**

*Apply Now. It's Fast & It's Free*

**Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise**
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