

The Los Angeles Minority Business Opportunity Center (LA MBOC) is a *free service* providing Minority business owners with a variety of business services and resources. Minority businesses become clients of LA MBOC after submitting required Intake and Application forms.

Background

L.A. MBOC is a City of Los Angeles operated program under the direction of the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), which is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. MBDA is the only federal agency created specifically to foster the establishment and growth of minority-owned businesses in America. MBDA is an entrepreneurially focused and innovative organization committed to wealth creation in minority communities.

Who MBDA considers as a Minority Business Enterprise

- African Americans
- Aleuts
- Asian American
- Asian Indians
- Asian Pacific Americans
- Eskimo
- Hasidic Jew
- Hispanic American
- Native American
- Puerto Rican

LA MBOC VISION OF SUCCESS - (What we seek to be)

LA MBOC's vision is to achieve entrepreneurial parity for local Minority Business Enterprises by actively promoting their ability to grow and compete in the global economy.

LA MBOC MISSION STATEMENT - (What we do)

LA MBOC's mission is to link minority business enterprises to public and private sector contracting and financing opportunities.

LA MBOC CORE VALUES - (Guiding principles for achieving our vision and mission)

Honor

- We take pride in our everyday efforts of assisting MBE's achieve success.
- We strive for personal and professional excellence.

Respect

- We appreciate and value one another. Our actions are carried out with trust, integrity and fairness.

Service

- We focus on our MBE needs.
- We recognize, in order to promote MBE growth, we must be a learning organization that seeks improvement and embraces accountability.

LA MBOC Services and Referral Information

Contract and Procurement

LA MBOC works with a network of public and private sector partners to connect our clients to a vast resource of business opportunities. Contract opportunities provided through:

- On-Staff business development managers providing personal service to clients
- Los Angeles Business Assistance Virtual Network website www.labavn
- Minority Business Development Agency www.mbda.org website

Capital Access

For small businesses, limited access to capital resources often minimizes their ability to grow and expand. LA MBOC finance providers offer capital resources to meet business needs. Clients are guided and supported through the funding process by the LA MBOC business development team.

LA MBOC Subcommittees

International Trade

The L.A. MBOC International Trade sub-committee (ITC) is focused on “Growing Minority Business Enterprises through International Trade Activity.” The goal is to expose Minority Business Enterprises to international trade opportunities. The committee is comprised of public and private international trade assistance agencies. The L.A. MBOC ITC also provides opportunities to Los Angeles region MBEs to expand their business internationally through trade missions, events, and major trade shows.

Finance

The Finance Subcommittee identifies lending, equity, capital and government resources, which will increase access to capital to LA MBOC clients. The Subcommittee is comprised of representatives from various lending and equity providers, bonding and insurance, intermediaries and MBOC's members. Through the efforts of the Finance Subcommittee, the LA MBOC facilitates lending, equity capital, government resources and will enable better M/W/OBE access to capital providers.

Contracting & Procurement

The Contracting and Procurement Subcommittee capitalizes on its members' affiliation in public agencies or private sector businesses to research, obtain, disseminate and facilitate contracting and procurement opportunities to minority business enterprises (MBEs). With the assistance of representatives from various organizations (e.g. contracting /procurement providers MBEs, business assistance providers, government, etc.), the subcommittee also acts as an LA MBOC outreach arm by establishing relationships with minority business associations and promoting the LA MBOC business assistance services and program activities.

L.A. MBOC refers businesses to agencies and City departments to assist with meeting their company's needs. Referrals are made for the following services:

Certification

The certification process requires disadvantage, minority and/or woman business enterprises (DBE/MBE/WBE) the opportunity to compete and/or participate in local and federally funded contracts. Once DBE/MBE/WBE companies are certified they have access to compete for government contract opportunities.

- The California Unified Certification Program (CUCP) provides DBE certification from one certifying agency in California. The CUCP is honored throughout the state and eliminates duplicate or multiple agency DBE certifications. In addition, firms will be listed in the statewide directory of certified DBE companies.

Bonding and Insurance

Bonding and insurance are encouraged for the purpose of limiting your professional liability. Bonding and insurance is required for many public and private sector contracts. The LA MBOC refers interested businesses to bonding specialists for assistance.

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