



## Connecting You to Local Minority Contractors

What products and services do local minority-owned businesses offer?

Local minority-owned businesses can provide everything from office moving services to office supplies, and many minority- and women-owned companies are available to assist government procurement offices with their purchasing needs.

The Mississippi Development Authority's (MDA's) Minority and Small Business Development Division (MSBDD) maintains a list of certified minority- and women-owned businesses in Mississippi, and the division serves public procurement officials by helping to connect them with minority- and women-owned firms that provide the products and services government agencies require.

For purchases under \$50,000, you can quickly select a disadvantaged business that meets your needs. Minority- and women-owned companies stand ready to assist your agency with larger purchases, as well.

How do I identify potential suppliers?

MDA offers many tools to help public procurement officials identify and connect with minority- and women-owned businesses. By visiting [Mississippi.org](https://www.mississippi.org), you can easily find available suppliers in your area and post bid notices.

Additionally, MDA maintains the Minority Business Directory, which contains a complete listing of certified minority- and women-owned businesses in Mississippi and the products and services they offer. MDA also oversees the Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program, which helps connect minority- and women-owned firms with procurement opportunities at local, state and federal government agencies and commercial enterprises. MDA staff can help any procurement official learn to use the system. Just call us at 601.359.3448.

## How do I stay connected?

MDA hosts networking opportunities and events throughout the year. Simply e-mail [minority@mississippi.org](mailto:minority@mississippi.org) to sign up for email alerts regarding upcoming events that are designed to provide you with opportunities to connect with qualified local suppliers.

In addition, the MSBDD staff can assist your agency or institution with organizing and implementing other events, such as pre-bid conferences, opportunity fairs, information exchanges and networking events specific to your needs.

### **Mississippi Development Authority**

Minority and Small Business Development Division

P.O. Box 849 • Jackson, Mississippi 39205

1.800.360.3323

601.359.3448

