



THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON DC

**Responsible University Official:**  
Director, Procurement Organization  
**Responsible Office:** Procurement  
Organization, Office of Equal  
Employment Opportunity  
**Origination Date:** Not Available

## DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

### Policy Statement

It is the policy of the University, consistent with federal, state and local laws, to take affirmative action to optimize opportunities for business contracting with **Disadvantaged Business Enterprises**.

### Reason for Policy/Purpose

To provide guidance with respect to vendor selection and to comply with federal regulations.

### Who Needs to Know This Policy

Faculty and Staff

<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>Page #</b>
Policy Statement .....	1
Reason for Policy/Purpose .....	1
Who Needs to Know This Policy.....	1
Table of Contents.....	1
Policy .....	1
Website Address .....	2
Contacts.....	2
Definitions .....	2
Who Approved This Policy .....	3
History/Revision Dates .....	3

### Policy

The University takes affirmative action to optimize opportunities for contracting with Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (“DBE”). The focus of this effort is in the areas of

## DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

purchasing, construction, design and other professional services, and to ensure the opportunity of a fair proportion of business contracts with such enterprises.

Business owners who certify they meet the defined criteria of DBEs are considered socially and economically disadvantaged.

When required the Directors of Equal Employment Opportunity and **Procurement** Organization will establish goals for business contacts with DBEs and review progress against these goals on an annual basis.

The University will ensure that all solicitations are sought and considered without restrictions based on age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, veteran status, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, matriculation, personal appearance, political affiliation or family responsibilities

### **Waivers**

Requests for a waiver from this policy must be submitted to the Director of the Procurement Organization. The Directors of Equal Employment Opportunity and Procurement Organization will consider the reasonableness of the waiver request and make a final determination.

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## **Website Addresses**

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[GW University Policies](#)

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## **Contacts**

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<b>Subject</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
Disadvantaged Business Enterprises EEO	Procurement Organization  Office of Equal Employment Opportunity	202-994-2500  202-994-9656

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## **Definitions**

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**Disadvantaged Business Enterprises** -- A small business concern that is at least 51 percent owned by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock is owned by such individuals.

**“Socially Disadvantage Individual”**-- means an individual who has reason to believe that he or she has been subjected to prejudice or bias because of his or her identity as a member of a group without regard to his or her qualities as an individual.

## DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

**“Economically Disadvantaged Individual”**-- means an individual whose ability to compete in the free enterprise system is impaired because of diminished opportunities to obtain capital and credit as compared to others in the same line of business where such impairment is related to the individual’s status as “socially disadvantaged”.

Individuals in the following groups are rebuttably presumed to be socially and economically disadvantaged:

- Black or African American
- Native American
- Hispanic American
- Asian or Pacific Islander American
- Non-Minority Women
- American Vietnam Veterans
- American Veterans with Disabilities
- Americans with Disabilities

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### **Who Approved This Policy**

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**Beth Nolan**, Vice President and General Counsel  
Louis H. Katz, Executive Vice President and Treasurer

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### **History/Revision Dates**

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**Origination Date:** Not Available

**Last Amended Date:** July 1, 2005

**Next Review Date:** July 31, 2009