



NET TRANS

A Program of the First Tennessee Human Resource Agency

FTA Tier II Recipients on Implementing the Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

POLICY STATEMENT

49 CFR Section 26.1 Objectives & 49 CFR Section 26.23 Policy Statement

The First Tennessee Human Resource Agency, hereafter referred to as FTHRA, has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. FTHRA is designated as a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Tier II Recipient and receives Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, FTHRA has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26 to the extent applicable.

FTA Tier II Recipients are defined as "FTA recipient[s] to whom [part 26] applies who will award prime contracts (excluding transit vehicle purchases) the cumulative total value of which does not exceed \$670,000 in FTA funds in a Federal fiscal year." (49 CFR § 26.5)

It is the policy of FTHRA to ensure that DBEs are defined in part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also our policy:

1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT – assisted contracts;
2. To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
3. To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT assisted contracts;
6. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.

Malaika C. Barlow has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, Ms. Barlow is responsible for oversight in the implementation of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by FTHRA in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

This policy statement is posted on FTHRA's Intranet for employees and on the Internet under Public Notices page on its website (<http://www.fthra.org>) for DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for on DOT-assisted contracts.

Jason V. Cody, Executive Director

2-8-25

Date