

Chapter 29. Participation of Small Businesses and Minority-Owned, Women-Owned, and Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses in County Procurement

Summary

This chapter outlines the County’s policy promoting procurement from small businesses, businesses owned by minorities, women, and service disabled veterans, and employment services organizations.

Essential Information in this Chapter

- This County policy is to ensure that small businesses and businesses owned by minorities, women, and service disabled veterans have the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in County procurement transactions.

Key References to the Code of Virginia Applicable to this Chapter

Section 2.2-4310(B): Participation of Small, Women-Owned, Minority-Owned, and Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Business and Employment Services Organizations in Procurement

29-1 Definitions

The terms set forth below shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

- a. “Control” means exercising the power to make policy decisions.
- b. “Operate” means being actively involved in the day-to-day management of the business.

Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the terms “Minority individual,” “Minority-owned business,” “Service disabled veteran,” “Service disabled veteran business,” “Small business,” “Women-owned business” and “Employment Services Organization” shall be as defined in *Virginia Code* § 2.2-4310(F) or its successor(s), as amended.

29-2 Policy

It is the policy of the County, acting through its officers, agents, and employees, in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Virginia Public Procurement Act, to:

- a. Actively promote the procurement or lease of goods, services, insurance, or construction, from small businesses, businesses owned by minorities, women, and service disabled veterans, and employment services organizations in an equally competitive manner.
- b. Include participation from qualified small businesses, minority-owned, women-owned, and service disabled veteran-owned businesses, and employment services organizations on solicitation lists or through postings on the Virginia Department of General Services Division of Purchasing and Supply eProcurement Portal (eVA) .
- c. Ensure that small businesses, minority-owned, women-owned, and service disabled veteran-owned businesses, and employment services organizations are solicited whenever they are potential sources.
- d. Use a list or access a list through eVA of small businesses, minority-owned, women-owned, and service disabled veteran-owned businesses, and employment services organizations published by the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity and the Department of Veterans Services.
- e. Where procurement requirements permit, establish delivery schedules which will encourage participation by small businesses, minority-owned, women-owned, and service disabled veteran-owned businesses, and employment services organizations.
- f. Cooperate with and use the services and assistance of the United States Small Business Administration, the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity, the Department of Veterans Services, and other public or private agencies.
- g. Participate to the maximum extent possible in all local and regional purchasing fairs for small businesses, minority-owned, women-owned, and service disabled veteran-owned businesses, and employment services organizations.