



**Goal for FY24:** 9.13%

**Business Diversity Spending Goal Plan FY24 - Governor's Supplier Diversity Subcabinet approved best practices**

**Summary Statement:**

The Department of Services for the Blind (DSB) fully supports and is committed to supporting Executive Order 22-01 and promoting business diversity. As a small agency providing services to Washingtonians that are blind, low vision or deafblind, the majority of DSB contracts and purchases are for client services that are being provided by businesses that are minority owned and/or owned by individuals with a significant disability that do not contribute to achieving EO 22-01. It is important to note that our continued support for this segment of the State's contractor base is critical to achieving the desired outcomes for those we serve. As for certified businesses, DSB is continuing to prioritize and select certified businesses for non-participant contracts by utilizing the State contracts and ensuring certified providers are given a preference when selecting a vendor. The contracting team is also providing training to our purchase group as well as meeting quarterly to ensure we achieve our goal of 9.1%.

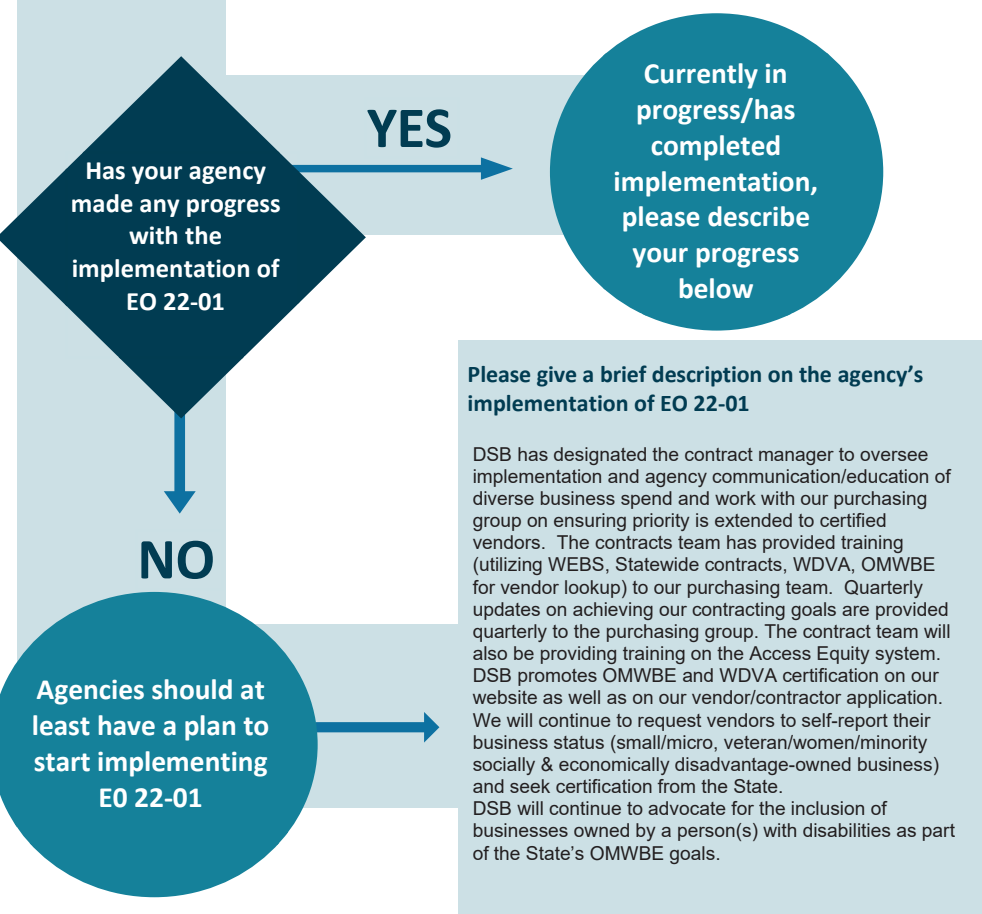
**Steps your agency has completed to prepare for forecasting and steps remaining:**

DSB operations and contract teams regularly meet to determine future procurement needs. The contracts team reviews non-client service purchases to identify available certified businesses to meet the anticipated contracting needs for the next 6 months with our first priority to utilize certified businesses that have an existing Statewide contract. This process has recently resulted in acquiring a certified business for consulting by utilizing a state contract. The contract team is developing a tool for identifying certified businesses for routine purchases and continues to discuss diversity contracting during the quarterly purchasing group meetings and leadership meetings. DSB is also adopting the Supplier Diversity Forecasted Needs Report. This report will be managed by the Contract Team and support contracting planning.

**How are supplier diversity efforts managed within your agency:**

The contract team continually educates staff in the process for purchasing from companies that are either a small business, Veteran-, Women-, Minority- and/or disability-owned business. This includes accessing DES statewide contracts, OMWBE Certification Directory or WEBS for eligible purchases. The contract team is creating and will be implementing a certified business resource list for the agency to use for frequent purchases. DSB will continue to post competitive bids on OMWBE and WEBS and certified business will receive additional points. DSB continues to update supplier diversity information on agency's website in our Contracting and Qualified Service Providers section. Information regarding certification with OMWBE, WEBS or WDVA will be included in our vendor application pack and within any competitive bids. New vendors and contractors will be encouraged to certify if applicable.

**Progress to Implement EO 22-01:**



**Outreach to OMWBE Certified Businesses:**

