

## Supplier Diversity Inclusion Plan • Fiscal Year 2018

---

**Agency:** Washington State Department of Agriculture

<b>Contact:</b> Kevin Greene	360-902-2001	kgreene@agr.wa.gov
Name	Telephone	Email

Agency's plan to increase participation of certified small minority, women, and veteran owned firms:

The WSDA consistently makes approximately 50 percent of its purchases/contracts through DES Master Contracts. Our Supplier Diversity Inclusion Plan addresses master contracts and other procurement areas where we can successfully increase our percentage of OMWBE vendor utilization. We have assessed our purchasing and procurement history and known upcoming needs. Our best opportunity to increase diverse business is in the MRO and janitorial contracting categories. In that light we have identified OMWBE and other diverse qualified firms that can provide those services and are increasing our purchases through them. We are also identifying small businesses to approach with each procurement.

Approach to improve:

- Increase diverse business is in the MRO and janitorial contracting.

We actively solicit diverse businesses and subcontractors with every contract issued. When making direct buy purchases we actively search for diverse businesses to purchase through.

Subcontractors:

After another extensive search we are not able to identify any diverse subcontractors within our internal contracts. However we request credit for our portion of the Charlotte Holt contract through the Business Diversity Subcabinet as we are effectively subcontracting them.

Food for thought:

OMWBE roster is predominately public works vendors and the preponderance of the WSDA procurements are of scientific equipment and supplies producing its own challenges.

By statute we are required to advertise our competitive procurements via the WEBS system. It remains a point of frustration that OMWBE firms are not automatically registered in the WEBS vendor registration system. It seems to make sense to facilitate WEBS registration as a part of OMWBE certification as it would improve process efficiencies for all agencies.

Our approach is working as we have increased our OMWBE certified vendor usage from .60 percent in June 2016 to 6.22 percent in October 2017.