



# Why Do People Celebrate Cinco de Mayo?

By History Channel

Cinco de Mayo—or the fifth of May—is a holiday that celebrates the date of the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War (1861-1867). A relatively minor holiday in Mexico, in the United States Cinco de Mayo has evolved into a commemoration of Mexican culture and heritage, particularly in areas with large Mexican-American populations.

### Benito Juárez

In 1861, Benito Juárez—a lawyer and member of the indigenous Zapotec tribe—was elected president of Mexico. At the time, the country was in financial ruin after years of internal strife, and the new president was forced to default on debt payments to European governments. In response, France, Britain, and Spain sent naval forces to Veracruz, Mexico, demanding repayment. Britain and Spain negotiated with Mexico and withdrew their forces.

France, however, ruled by Napoleon III, decided to use the opportunity to carve an empire out of Mexican territory. Late in 1861, a well-armed French fleet stormed Veracruz, landing a large force of troops and driving President Juárez and his government into retreat.

### The Battle of Puebla

Certain that success would come swiftly, six thousand French troops under General Charles Latrille de Lorencez set out to attack Puebla de Los Angeles, a small town in east central Mexico. From his new headquarters in the North, Juárez rounded up a ragtag force of two thousand loyal men—many of them either indigenous Mexicans or of mixed ancestry—and sent them to Puebla.

The vastly outnumbered and poorly supplied Mexicans, led by Texas-born General Ignacio Zaragoza, fortified the town and prepared for the French assault. On May 5, 1862, Lorencez gathered his army—supported by heavy artillery—before the city of Puebla and led an assault.

The battle lasted from daybreak to early evening, and when the French finally retreated,



they had lost nearly five hundred soldiers. Fewer than one hundred Mexicans had been killed in the clash.

Although not a major strategic win in the overall war against the French, Zaragoza's success

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# Sub-Bid Requests

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|--|---|

If you provide these services and are interested in participating, please complete the vendor interest form using this QR Code.



**PROJECT OVERVIEW**  
 A new out-of-the-ground two story, approximately 80,000 square foot (SF), Operational Facility, along with an adjacent, approximately 10,000 square foot (SF), equipment yard, on a 7-acre clear greenfield site in Melville, New York. This is a purpose-built, storm-hardened, redundant, state-of-the-art operational facility.

The building will include a 2-story high Technology arena, second story observation space, offices, meetings and training rooms, break rooms with pantries, a wellness room, restrooms with showers and lockers, and an open work area for workstations or touchdowns. The facility will also contain various meeting spaces that are flexible, and capable of being subdivided into three or more rooms that may be utilized as bunk areas to house storm riders. All necessary and required mechanical, electrical, emergency back-up equipment, and systems with also be constructed.

The project construction duration is from Q1 2026 through Q4 2027.

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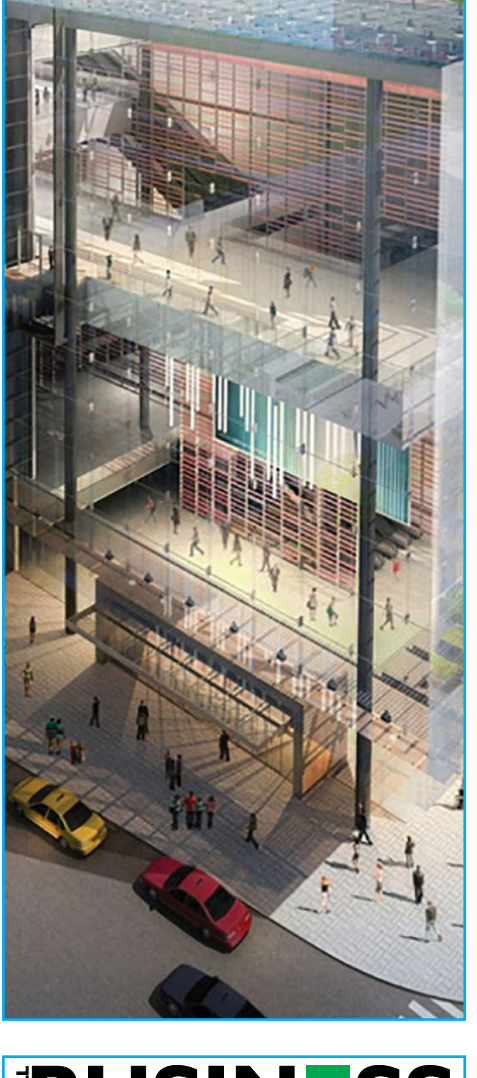
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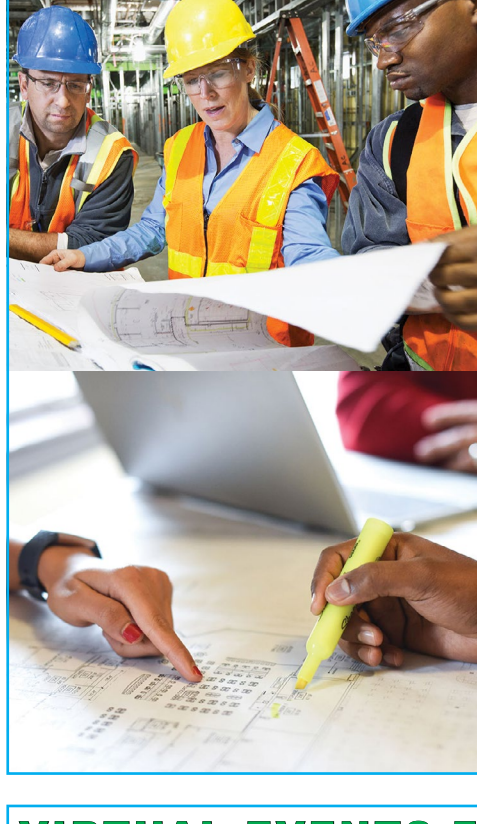
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## VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS



**2026**

**Federal Contracting for Small Businesses Webinar**  
 Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 12:00 pm–1:30 pm  
 Online  
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
 Contact: Irene Gonzalez, 208-334-1673, [irene.gonzalez@sba.gov](mailto:irene.gonzalez@sba.gov)  
 Fee: Free; registration required  
 Learn the essentials of federal contracting for small businesses. This event will cover the basics of navigating the federal contracting process, as well as the various certifications available to help your small business succeed in the government marketplace. Certifications include: 8(a) Business Development Program, HUBZone Certification, Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB/EDWOSB), and Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB). Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable insights and resources to help your small business. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/federal-contracting-basics-and-certifications-for-small-businesses-tickets-1977729720834>

**SBA 101: Introduction to SBA Programs Webinar**  
 Monday, May 18, 2026, 9:00 am–10:00 am  
 Online  
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, Rhode Island District Office  
 Contact: Brian Hopkins, 401-528-4575, [brian.hopkins@sba.gov](mailto:brian.hopkins@sba.gov)  
 Fee: Free; registration required  
 This free workshop, presented by the Rhode Island

District Office, is designed to help entrepreneurs understand the various SBA programs and services available to help them as they start, expand, grow, and recover their businesses. This overview presentation covers: Introduction to the SBA; SBA Resource Partner Network—Business Training and One-on-One Counseling; Selling to the Federal Government—SBA Contracting Certification Programs; Access to Capital—Loan and Surety Bond Programs; International Trade Assistance; Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Assistance Loans. Register online for the free workshop webinar at <https://www.sba.gov/event/80669>

**Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar**  
 Tuesday, June 16, 2026, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm  
 Online  
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
 Contact: Patrice Dozier, [patrice.dozier@sba.gov](mailto:patrice.dozier@sba.gov)  
 Fee: Free; registration required  
 SBA is creating a space for Woman-Owned Small Businesses, via WOSB certification! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions include an overview of the self-certification process, and a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/woman-owned-small-business-wosb-certification-program-tickets-1986913543896>

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