

Black Business Month Action and Resources

By Danielle Fallon-O'Leary

Editor's note: August is National Black Business Month, founded in 2004 by Black entrepreneurs Frederick E. Jordan, an engineer, and John William Templeton, a publisher and historian, to highlight and support Black-owned businesses.

Black entrepreneurs play a valuable role in our nation's economy. According to the United States Census Bureau's recent estimates, the United States has more than 161,000 Black-owned businesses, bringing in over \$183 billion annually. Yet, Black Americans remain underrepresented among United States entrepreneurs and are often less likely to receive funding from lenders than their white counterparts.

In an effort to help close this opportunity gap, here is an extensive list of resources geared toward supporting Black entrepreneurs.

Black Business Accelerator

Black-owned retailers can sign up for Amazon's Black Business Accelerator program, which offers

various resources for those looking to sell their goods on the e-commerce platform. Participating businesses can access financial support, mentorship opportunities, and education to build their brands and customer reach.

Black Business Accelerator is open to US-based entities that are at least 51% Black-owned, managed, and controlled. Participating companies must also have a Professional selling plan on Amazon, a physical product that is ready to sell, and a Black-owned business certificate.

The Black Business Alliance

The Connecticut-based Black Business Alliance (BBA) works with Black business owners both in the state and nationwide to promote and grow small and medium-sized Black- and minority-owned businesses. Since 2014, the BBA has worked with over 600 business owners and professionals to provide economic development, business workshops, networking opportunities, and access to capital.

Additionally, minority small business owners in Connecticut can apply for the Minority Business Revolving Loan Fund (MBRLF), facilitated by BBA



in partnership with the state and the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). The MBRLF program offers loans up to \$100,000 to eligible applicants. Those interested in applying must first complete an intake form and meet with

Small Business Exchange • Voice of Small, Emerging, Diversity-Owned Businesses Since 1984

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Sub-Bid Requests



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INVITES EXPERIENCED SUBCONTRACTORS BASED IN WASHINGTON, DC TO EXPRESS THEIR INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN

Phase 1 of the Anacostia Area Sewer Rehabilitation Project

DC Water Contract No. 250110

Bid Date: August 26, 2025

Description of Project:

This initial phase offers early-stage subcontracting opportunities, including trucking/hauling, pipe inspection, pipe testing, material/compaction testing, erosion and sedimentation control, flagging, traffic control, seeding, restoration, construction materials supply, temporary facilities, cleaning services, photography/video services, electrical, and bypass pumping. Certified DBE firms are strongly encouraged to express interest.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact SHJV's Outreach Coordinator: Aislinn.Speranza@skanska.com • EOE/Vet/Disabled

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SBE OUTREACH SERVICES

With over 1.6 million businesses in our active database—the country's largest non-public diversity database—SBE sets the professional standard for diversity outreach across the nation. For more than four decades, we have served small businesses, prime contractors, and agencies—with proven results.

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Placed in various Small Business Exchange Northeast digital publications each month, and at www.sbenortheast.com

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Telephone follow-up calls using a script of five questions that you define

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Complete documentation that will fit right into your proposal, along with a list of interested firms to contact

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Call for more information: 800-800-8534

1984

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2025

Years

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM PANYNJ CERTIFIED MBE/WBE/SDVOB AS WELL AS LBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

AirTrain Newark Replacement Program—Maintenance and Control Facility (MCF) Project

PANYNJ Contract No. EWR-154.946

Bid Date: July 31, 2025

Description of project:

Construction of the maintenance, control and operations building and the elevated maintenance yard, as part of the program to replace the AirTrain Newark system. Project will be required to coordinate and interface with Guideway and Stations Contractor and System Technology Contractor, including phased construction.

Many bidding opportunities are available:

geotechnical instrumentation and monitoring, material inspection and testing, sitework, curb, sidewalk, asphalt, pavement, pavers, landscaping, fence, signs, guardrail, utilities, watermain, drainage, sewer, storm, precast, electrical, communications, fire alarm, site electric, sanitary, striping, pavement marking, concrete, rebar, reinforcing, formwork, structural steel, plumbing, fire protection, HVAC, elevator, miscellaneous metals, railings, stairs, MPT, lockers, acoustical ceiling, exterior walls, doors, windows, metal decking, painting, drywall, tile, carpet, vinyl base, acoustic panel, metal panel cladding, metal panels, roofing, insulation, waterproofing, trailers, cleaning, overhead doors, flooring, earthwork, dewatering, haul and dispose, contaminated soil, trucking, fills, stone, sewer cleaning, site clearing, trailers, cleaners, fireproofing, glass and glazing, concrete masonry unit, concrete block, disposal, containers, flagging, piles, groundwater treatment.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Aislinn.Speranza@skanska.com • EOE/Vet/Disabled

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

Design-Build Services for LIRR West Side Yard Flood Mitigation Measures

MTA Construction and Development Contract No. 6401

Bid Date: August 22, 2025

Description of project:

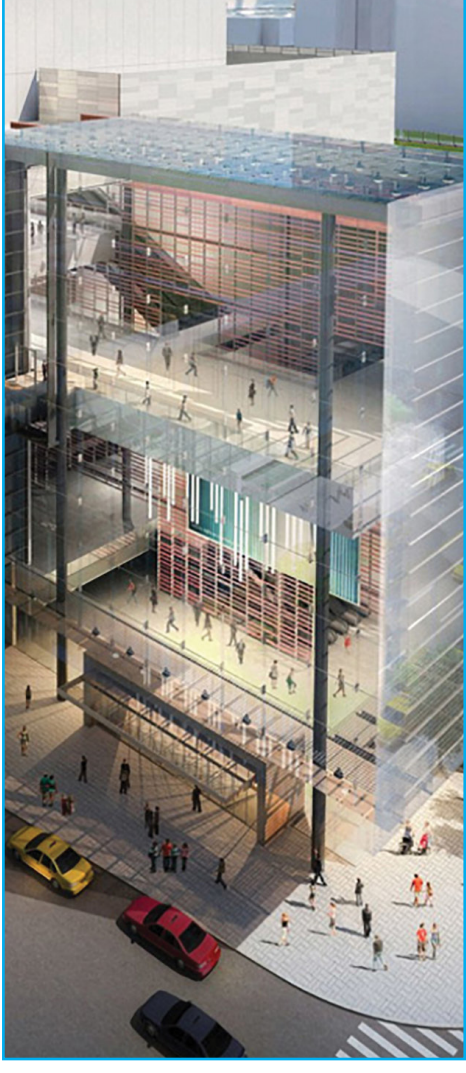
Design, furnish, construct, and install concrete perimeter flood walls, seepage cut-off barriers below the concrete flood walls, flood gates, deployable flood barriers, sump pumps, a tide gate chamber, drainage system improvements, workable aisles and a diesel generator, an automatic transfer switch, ancillary electrical equipment, and required communications.

This project will develop flood protection solutions for the West Side Yard in order to prevent and mitigate flooding of the LIRR Tunnels. The flood protection along the WSY perimeter will be accomplished via a combination of permanent flood walls and deployable flood barriers.

Many bidding opportunities are available:

deep foundations, minipiles, jetgrout, sheeting, rebar installation, concrete supply, site work, electrical work, painting, paving, curb and sidewalk, site utilities.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Diversity and Outreach Coordinator: Aislinn.Speranza@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled



INFO

You're invited to the

2025 MWBE REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES EXPO SERIES

UPSTATE NEW YORK EXPO
July 23, 2025 - Syracuse

QUEENS NEW YORK EXPO
August 2025 - Queens

The New York State Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Regional Expo Series brings together various New York State Agencies and Authorities and prime contractors that have a significant presence in all 10 NYS regions to provide MWBE firms with information on contracting opportunities.

MWBEs will be able network with state procurement officers, MWBE liaisons and private companies, listen in on panels and presentations on contracting opportunities and participate in capacity building workshops. And for the first time, the expo series will feature live matchmaking sessions where MWBEs can connect directly to contract opportunities that align with their business goods/services!

The NYS Regional MWBE Expo Series will be held in person only and is free of charge. Registration will be required for all attendees.

Register at <https://esd.ny.gov/2025-mwbe-regional-opportunities-expo-series>

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY

Division of Minority and Women's Business Development

A Division of Empire State Development

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PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICES

With a database of over 1.6 million businesses, SBE assists agencies with public legal notices

Advertisements

Placed in various Small Business Exchange Northeast digital publications each month, and at www.sbenortheast.com

Special Follow-Up Services

Custom design and development of services that you need for particular situations such as small business marketing, diversity goal completion, and agency capacity building

Call for more information: 800-800-8534

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• ITB to Targeted (NAICS/SIC/UNSPSC) Certified Businesses

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For more info contact Valerie Voorhies at vvv@sbeinc.com

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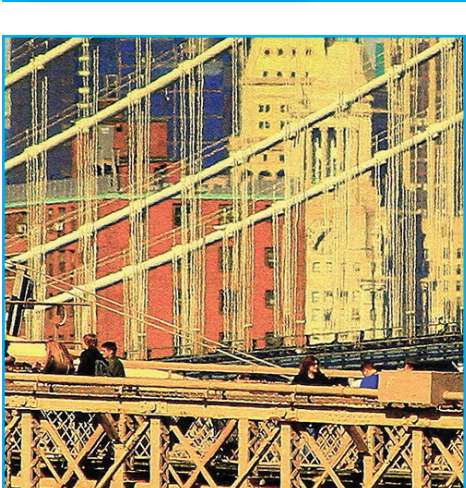
Work Begins on \$555 Million Kosciuszko Bridge Project

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weekly or whenever wherever you need to reach among agencies contractors diversity firms



VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2025

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar
Tuesday, August 19, 2025, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: Patrice Dozier, patrice.dozier@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
SBA is creating a space for Woman-Owned Small Businesses, for WOSB certification! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government 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-1123667883889>

8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar
Wednesday, August 20, 2025, 10:30 am–12:00 pm Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, illinois.do@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
Join the Small Business Administration (SBA)

Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer additional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. For this and other events, one goal is to better address the needs of attending current and soon-to-be business owners. To register for this free webinar, visit <https://www.sba.gov/event/65188>

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar
Thursday, August 28, 2025, 1:00 pm–4:00 pm Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611> SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting.