

Policy Statement

Kootenai County Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program

Section 26.1, 26.3

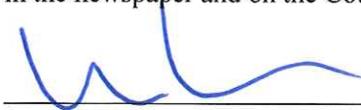
Kootenai County owner of the Coeur d'Alene Airport (COE) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with regulations of the United States Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. Kootenai County has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, Kootenai County has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of the Kootenai County Commissioners to ensure that DBE's, as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in USDOT-assisted contracts. It is also the Kootenai County Commissioners' policy:

- (a) To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of all contracts including, but not limited to, USDOT-assisted contracts in the Department's highway, transit, and airport financial assistance programs;
- (b) To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for all contracts including, but not limited to, USDOT-assisted contracts;
- (c) To ensure that the County's DBE program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- (d) To ensure that only firms that fully meet Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
- (e) To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in all contracts including, but not limited to, USDOT-assisted contracts;
- (f) To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE program; and
- (g) To provide appropriate flexibility to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

The Director of the Grants Management Office has been designated as the DBE Liaison Officer (DBELO). In that capacity, the Director of the Grants Management Office is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE Program. Implementation of the DBE Program is afforded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the Kootenai County Commissioners in its financial assistance agreements with USDOT.

This policy statement has been reviewed by the Kootenai County Board of Commissioners. In addition, The Kootenai County Commissioners have published this statement for reference by Kootenai County Employees, DBEs and Non-DBEs that perform work for Kootenai County on USDOT-assisted contracts, in the newspaper and on the County website.



Marc Eberlein, Chairman Board of County Commissioners