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## For More Information:

Full details, resources, and the MWBE Program application are available on our website at [www.MeetCharlesCounty.com](http://www.MeetCharlesCounty.com)



For questions and assistance, email  
[MWBE@MeetCharlesCounty.com](mailto:MWBE@MeetCharlesCounty.com)

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**Charles County Government**  
200 Baltimore Street, La Plata, Maryland 20646  
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# MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWBE) PROGRAM

To ensure that minority and women-owned businesses are adequately represented in the government procurement marketplace, Charles County Government relies on the MWBE Program and MWBE Vendor List.



[www.MeetCharlesCounty.com](http://www.MeetCharlesCounty.com)

## The MWBE Program Advantage

*Charles County Government spends millions of dollars annually on goods and services and prioritizes purchasing from MWBE businesses. Charles County Government departments buy goods and services directly, with guidance and assistance from the Purchasing Division.*

There are many benefits for minority and women-owned businesses participating in the MWBE program, including (but not limited to):

- Learning about business opportunities with various departments and agencies of Charles County Government.
- Exposure of business products and services to potential Charles County Government customers.
- Networking with and learning from other MWBE firms and other small business development practitioners and resource providers.
- Accessing technical assistance regarding MDOT's certification application process, including where to submit form(s), and who to contact for additional technical assistance.
- Accessing technical assistance to MWBE firms regarding the county's overall procurement and bidding procedures.



## MWBE Criteria

To qualify for the MWBE Program, applicants must own 51 percent of their business and classify as one of the following:

- African American
- Asian American
- Indian/Native American
- Hispanic
- Woman
- Disabled American Veteran

Before applying for Charles County's MWBE program, you must be certified in the State of Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) program. Small businesses located in Charles County may also register for the Small Local Business Enterprise (SLBE) program to receive additional benefits.