Small business programs

Program names describe different eligibility routes. Read the official criteria and the actual solicitation before deciding what applies to your business.

SBA · U.S. Small Business Administration

The federal agency that administers these small business certification programs.

WOSB · Women-Owned Small Business

A federal contracting program category; ownership alone does not establish program certification.

EDWOSB · Economically Disadvantaged Women-Owned Small Business

A category within the women-owned program with additional economic-disadvantage criteria.

HUBZone · Historically Underutilized Business Zone

A location-related small business certification program. A qualifying ZIP alone does not establish eligibility.

8(a) · 8(a) Business Development program

A separate business development and federal contracting assistance program. It is a program name, not an acronym.

Set-aside · Competition reserved for an eligible category

Check which businesses may compete and any certification or size conditions.

Small business certification programs

https://www.sba.gov/certifications/

Veteran status and the Durham example

The Durham training case requires an eligible certified SDVOSB prime. WOSB or another certification alone does not satisfy that requirement.

SDVOSB · Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business

The business category required for the prime in this case; check certification and applicable size conditions.

VOSB · Veteran-Owned Small Business

A distinct category. VOSB status alone does not establish SDVOSB eligibility.

VetCert · Veteran Small Business Certification

The SBA certification program for veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

VA · U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The federal buyer for the Durham medical-center groundskeeping example.

Prime contractor · The business holding the government contract

A subcontractor performs work under a prime. A partner lead does not automatically cure prime eligibility.

Veteran certification and eligibility

https://www.sba.gov/veterans/

Department of Veterans Affairs

https://department.va.gov/about/

Codes, notices and contract requirements

Use a code to focus your research, then read the actual requirement. Codes and historical totals do not replace the solicitation.

NAICS · North American Industry Classification System

Industry classification codes. This episode starts with code 561730, Landscaping Services.

SAM.gov · System for Award Management

The official federal website used for entity registration and contract opportunity notices.

FAR · Federal Acquisition Regulation

Federal procurement rules and defined terms. Check the clauses applicable to the actual solicitation.

PWS · Performance Work Statement

The contract document describing required performance and outcomes. Read amendments with it.

EA · Each

Durham document 4, paragraphs 315 and 375 use this pricing unit. It is not automatically the number of visits.

CT · Central Time

The time zone used for the deadline shown in this case. Verify the latest notice time zone.



Look up industry classifications

https://www.census.gov/naics/



Durham source notice and price schedule

https://sam.gov/opp/3c9006d433694934845656c2f4b3a420/view



Federal procurement definitions

https://www.acquisition.gov/far/2.101

Read the buying numbers correctly

These are the operational definitions used in this episode. Preserve the period, geography and source date when comparing results.

FY · Fiscal year

The federal fiscal year runs October–September. FY2026 covers 1 October 2025–30 September 2026.

Awards with activity · Distinct award identifiers with a transaction in the selected period and geography

They can include existing contracts. Do not add distinct counts across years or ZIPs.

Actions · Individual transaction records

These include initial awards, modifications and adjustments. One award can have many actions.

Net obligations · Recorded funding increases minus decreases in the selected period

With actions, a $0 net total means recorded funding changes sum to zero; check transactions for causes. Obligations are funding activity, not revenue or an annual price.

Recorded value range · Minimum to maximum positive base-plus-exercised values reconstructed through cutoff

This deck excludes zero balances from its award-size range; they stay in the audit. Full-award values can cover multiple periods or places. These are not annual service prices.

Net 30 · A payment term of 30 days

Durham form: document 1, paragraph 124; invoice/acceptance: paragraph 372. Check applicable conditions; payment is not measured from starting work.

Explore federal spending data

https://www.usaspending.gov/

General payment timing rules

https://www.acquisition.gov/far/32.904

Connect your assistant and keep learning

Use Qualified Bid's current setup guide for Claude, ChatGPT or Codex. These connection terms are background help; you do not need to memorize them.

MCP · Model Context Protocol

A standard that lets an AI assistant connect to tools such as Qualified Bid.

OAuth · An authorization framework

Allows an application to obtain approved access. Follow the provider's sign-in and authorization flow.

HTTP · Hypertext Transfer Protocol

A web communication protocol. Streamable HTTP is a remote connection transport named in some setup guides.

AI · Artificial intelligence

The assistant you use to ask questions and work with connected tools; check its answers against cited evidence.



Qualified Bid setup guides

https://qualifiedbid.qualifiedcapacity.com/#connect



Model Context Protocol introduction

https://modelcontextprotocol.io/docs/getting-started/intro



OAuth authorization framework

https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc6749.html