



Quarterly Newsletter

August 2021



OFFICE OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION

FROM THE DIRECTOR



On behalf of the OSDBU, I am happy to share these quarterly DOE small business updates. The OSDBU is supporting several Departmental initiatives to help maximize opportunities for small businesses.

This includes supporting Executive Order 13985, *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*. In participation with the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity (ED) and the Office of Acquisition Management-led Equity Procurement Working Group (EPWG), the OSDBU led a sub-team to conduct

outreach with state and local government organizations to benchmark best practices and lessons learned to help eliminate barriers unrepresented entities face in doing business with the government. The OSDBU compiled the findings from this outreach into an Executive Summary for the EPWG.

In other developments, the Small Business Administration has released the FY 2020 Small Business Scorecards for federal agencies. [Here you will see the DOE has earned a "B" grade for FY 2020](#). The Department exceeded its overall small business goal of 14% and awarded over \$5B in prime small business contracting.

For FY 2021, it is projected that the Department will surpass its previous year-end total small business spend, but may fall short of its 14% prime small business goal. As we complete the final stretch for FY 2021, the OSDBU is requesting any and all small business spend in the queue for 4th quarter (and 1st quarter FY 2022, if possible) be prioritized and/or accelerated for capture in the FY 2021 Small Business Scorecard. With your help, we can get back to earning "A" grades for our small business achievements!

Thank you for advocating for the utilization of small businesses to help advance DOE's missions.

Paul Ross, Acting Director and Principal Deputy Director
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization
U.S. Department of Energy

SMALL BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

The DOE has earned a "B" grade from the SBA for its FY 2020 small business and socio-economic contracting achievement. With awards of \$5.1B in prime small business contracting, the Department achieved 14.41% in overall prime small business procurement, exceeding its goal of 14%. The DOE also surpassed all of its subcontracting goals, including the four SBA-graded socio-economic categories. Thank you for the utilization of small businesses to help advance the DOE's missions.

In the current procurement period, the Department is projected to outpace its previous Fiscal Year total amount of small business dollar spend. The DOE also continues to advance its socio-economic small business performance. In particular, the Department is tracking an increase of approximately \$100 million more on Small and Disadvantaged Businesses (SDB) and \$50 million more on HUBZone Small Businesses than in FY 2020.

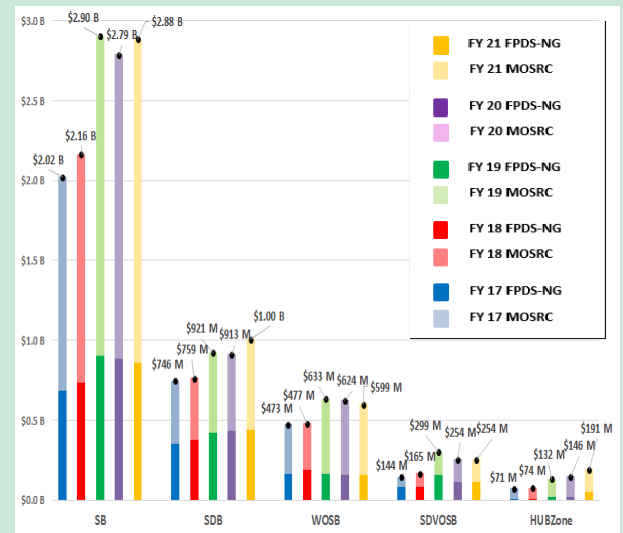


Chart: Prime Achievement (FPDS-NG plus MOSRC) by Socioeconomic Category

FPDS-NG...Federal Procurement Data System-Next Generation
MOSRC...Management & Operating Subcontract Reporting Capability

OSDBU ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE



The OSDBU is pleased to share that Tanisha Parker is its new Deputy Director for Corporate Resource Management. Having served various leadership positions at the Department and other federal agencies, Tanisha will be responsible in this role for the strategic planning and resource management for the OSDBU's human resources, finance and budget, acquisition management, and administrative operations.

Tanisha previously served as the Acting Director of the Workforce Management Office in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), where she oversaw the staff that manages Human Resources and Operations for EERE's over 600 employees. She also served for eight years as chief of staff in the Chief Financial Officer's Budget Office and six years as a Legislative Affairs Specialist in Congressional Affairs.

Tanisha received a Women's Leadership Certification from Cornell University and Executive Leadership Certification from the United States Graduate School. She studied Biblical Theology at the Lancaster Bible College and is an author, speaker, certified life coach, and community advocate for the Elimination of Poverty.

EQUITY PROCUREMENT OUTREACH WITH STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

In support of Executive Order 13985, *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*, the Office of Acquisition Management (OAM) has put together an Agency-wide Equity Procurement Working Group (EPWG) to identify and ultimately mitigate barriers to doing business with the DOE. A sub-team including members of OSDBU and NNSA conducted outreach with the following state and local government organizations to benchmark best practices and lessons they have learned in eliminating barriers unrepresented entities face in doing business with the government:

- Office of Equity in Procurement (OEP), State of Minnesota
- Encouraging Diversity, Growth and Equity (EDGE) Program, State of Ohio

This outreach yielded several key findings that could be considered in DOE's equity assessment and plan to enhance equity for underserved communities in Agency contracting and financial assistance programs, polices, processes, and operations. For example, the Minnesota Office of Equity Procurement developed a streamlined certification tool to help make it easier for small businesses to find the certifications they need. Ohio's Encouraging Diversity, Growth, and Equity Program, created a Vendor "Bid Academy" to train small businesses, including addressing nuances in the transition from subcontracting to prime contracting.

The OSDBU compiled the key findings from this outreach into an Executive Summary for the EPWG for consideration by the DOE and the federal government as a whole to reduce barriers and advance equity for underserved communities. Please stay tuned for further updates on this report and other initiatives from ED, OSDBU, and OAM.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Below are upcoming small business events. Check out the [Small Business Events Calendar](#) on the OSDBU's website for more information.

- **August 23-25, 2021** - [National 8\(a\) Association - 2021 Alaska Regional Conference](#)
- **September 2, 2021** - [HUBZone Small Business Summit \(Virtual\)](#)

If you would like to share a DOE small business success story, or have a suggestion for another topic in this newsletter, please email your submissions to Darren Lurie at darren.lurie@hq.doe.gov.



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