

THE DB MESSENGER

PUBLISHED BY THE DIVERSE BUSINESS SUPPORTIVE SERVICES CENTER AT CHEYNEY UNIVERSITY

VOL. 2 EDITION 7

JULY 2017



NEWS

PennDOT Transportation Alternatives Set Aside of the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Application Round Now OPEN!

“The Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA Set-Aside) provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, environmental mitigation, recreational trail program projects, and safe routes to school projects,” states the [TA Set-Aside program page](#).

PennDOT is looking for **Project Sponsors** for this project set to initiate in 2018.

Things Project Sponsors Must Know:

- Project sponsors must meet with their Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) or Rural Planning Organization (RPO) staff to discuss their project application.
- The Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA Set-Aside) is not a grant program and no money is provided upfront. Applicants pay pre-construction costs on their own (design, environmental, right of way acquisition, utility). No applicant match is required. [SEE FULL LIST HERE](#)

If you are interested in this project, final submissions are due September 22nd by 4pm. **PLEASE CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE PARTY FOR QUESTIONS.**

DB FACTS

A Diverse business is a business that is at least 51% owned by one or more of the following entities: women, minorities, veterans & disabled veterans.

The benefits of becoming a certified DB include increased business visibility, maximized potential for contracting opportunities, and partnering opportunities with other DB firms on PennDOT projects.

DB SSC offers FREE services including onsite assistance, networking events, ECMS training, business partner registration assistance and notification of contracting opportunities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Diverse Business Supportive Service Center Small Business Conference

September 13, 2017 @ 8 AM to 4 PM
[Philadelphia, PA](#)

September 20, 2017 @ 8 AM to 4 PM
[Pittsburgh, PA](#)

Registration Coming Soon!

DB OPPORTUNITIES

Center for Women’s Entrepreneurship Open House

August 7, 2017 @ 5:30 PM

[Information and Registration HERE](#)

GACO Federal Government Contracting Seminar for Veteran-Owned Businesses

August 8, 2017 @ 8:30 AM – 12:30 AM

[Register HERE](#)

Do Business w/ SEPTA now!

[Register for FREE HERE](#)

P3 Rapid Bridge Replacement Project Letting

Dates

August 29, 2017

[Click Here for More Information](#)

[BRBP Construction Update: Spring 2017](#)

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

The DB SSC is proud to announce our first Small Business Conference and Resource Fair!

Join us on September 13th in Philadelphia or September 20th in Pittsburgh for a one-day conference that is sure to get any DB firm ready to work with a PA state entity.

DB SSC Small Business Conference

Join the Diverse Business Supportive Services Center for brand new trainings and discussions *specifically* for diverse businesses! Topics covered in this conference will include becoming DB certified and how to do business with PennDOT, P3, Transit Authorities and other Primes – PLUS meet your local small business centers and learn what they can do for you!



Wednesday, September 13, 2017
PASSHE, Center City
701 Market Street, Room 116
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Thursday, September 20, 2017
Riverside Center for Innovation
700 River Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15121

8 AM to 4 PM

***REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Keynote:

Corporate Capability Statements
Benjamin Hunt - GCSA



*****Registration will be available soon*****

If you know that you would like to attend, please email Dominique Smiley at passc@cheyney.edu with the following information: NAME, BUSINESS NAME, DATE ATTENDING, EMAIL & PHONE NUMBER. One form *per* person.

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Federal Government Contracting Seminar for Veteran-Owned Businesses

August 8, 2017

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



VA Butler Healthcare
325 New Castle Road
Butler, PA 16001

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

The U.S. government awards approximately \$500 billion in contracts annually. According to SBA's Fiscal Year 2016 [Small Business Scorecard](#), small businesses received over 24% of these contracts and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses received slightly less than 4%. All federal agencies have procurement goals for small business including woman, disadvantaged, service-disabled veteran-owned and certified HUBZone businesses. The Department of Veterans Affairs has goals for both veteran (12%) and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses (10%). To become a successful government contractor, companies must understand some of the basic requirements for selling their products and/or services.

Join us for this **free** seminar which will provide guidance to veteran and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses interested in federal contracting opportunities.

Topics to be addressed include:

- System for Award Management/Dynamic Small Business Search (SAM/DSBS) Registrations
- CVE Verification and Reverification Process
- Doing Business with the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Common Mistakes to Avoid in Government Contracting
- Challenges Facing Small Businesses
- Department of Labor Requirements

Register online by August 6, 2017 at
<https://cupgaco.ecenterdirect.com/events/226>

For additional information contact Renee Decker at
renee.decker@sru.edu or 724-738-2346

Note: Please follow event signs for parking in designated area



Sponsored by:

Government Agency Coordination Office (GACO), PTAC of California University of Pennsylvania
Government Contracting Assistance Center (GCAC), PTAC of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania

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HOW TO BECOME A CERTIFIED DB

CERTIFYING ORGANIZATIONS

- ◆ [National Minority Supplier Dev. Council](#)
- ◆ [Women's Business Enterprise Council](#)
- ◆ [Small Business Administration](#)
- ◆ [Department of Veteran Affairs](#)
- ◆ [Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program](#)

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BUSINESS TIP

[WRITE AN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY](#)

By: Guest Blogger, sba.gov

- ◆ Create written summaries for special uses:
 - ◆ General Summary for Publications and Loans – “think of it as a marketing document whose key goals include defining a target market and sending a message to that market.”
 - ◆ For Business Loans and Allies – “The summary of strategy, tactics, and milestones is more likely to be appropriate for banks, and the more sales oriented summary of product, market and main message is likely to be more appropriate for allies...”
 - ◆ For Investors – “it’s good to start with a description of the problem you solve, how you solve it, and why you are well positioned to offer such a solution.”

Click the title to view the full article.