

Memo



To: Certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participant (DBE)

From: Civil Rights Division

Subject: Bonding Education Program (BEP)

The US Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) in partnership with the Surety and Fidelity Association of America and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) will be providing a Bonding Education Program (BEP) designed to help small businesses become bond-ready and better able to compete for federal-aid projects. The program curriculum consists of an educational workshops and bond readiness components.

The BEP program includes 10 workshops designed to help small businesses become bond-ready or increase their bonding capacity. The BEP arranges one-on-one meetings with surety company representatives and provides assistance with completing a bond application.

These free workshops will be offered to Oklahoma-based small and emerging contractors in the transportation field, all contractors seeking to increase their bonding capacity; and network with other companies in the transportation industry.

To participate, businesses must have been in operation for at least 2 years and be certified as one of the following:

- ODOT Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program
- ODOT Small Business Enterprise Program
- SBA 8(a)
- Woman-owned Small Business
- HUBZone
- Service Disabled Veteran Owned

The company must be capable of bidding on DOT-funded projects and commit to attend the series of workshops.

For your convenience, the BEP flyer is enclosed. For further information or registration, please contact Mr. Tony Arps, Project Coordinator, US DOT SBTRC at (214)523-3415 or tony@gdhcc.com.