



DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS

WHAT IS THE WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS (WOSB) PROGRAM?

The [WOSB Program](#) was created to help level the playing field for women small business owners. Under the program, DLA and other federal agencies reserve certain contracts exclusively for competition among woman-owned small businesses or economically disadvantaged women-owned small businesses (EDWOSB).

Unique to the WOSB Program, only certain contracts are eligible. The Small Business Administration (SBA) designates industries where woman-owned small businesses are underrepresented and eligibility for the program is determined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code assigned to the contract. The SBA maintains a list of eligible industries and the corresponding NAICS codes at www.sba.gov/WOSB.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

To be eligible for the **WOSB** Federal Contract program, you must be:

- A small business according to [SBA size standards](#); and
- Be at least 51% owned and controlled by women who are U.S. citizens; and
- Have women manage day-to-day business operations and make long-term decisions.

To qualify as an **EDWOSB** within the program, you must meet all the requirements above for WOSBs and be owned and controlled by one or more women each with:

- A personal net worth less than \$850,000;
- \$400,000 or less in adjusted gross income averaged over the previous three years; and
- \$6.5 million or less in personal assets.

It is important to understand that EDWOSBs are a subset of WOSBs and all EDWOSBs are also WOSBs. This means that EDWOSBs are eligible to compete for contracts reserved for either EDWOSBs or WOSBs.

GETTING CERTIFIED AS A WOSB

Becoming certified for the WOSB Program means your business is eligible to compete for contracts that are set-aside for WOSBs and EDWOSBs, as well as sole source awards under the program (for more, refer to [Subpart 19.15](#) in the Federal Acquisition Regulation).

Before firms can compete for WOSB/EDWOSB set-aside contracts, they must apply for certification using SBA's **free** online certification process at <https://wosb.certify.sba.gov/> or go through an approved third-party certifier, which may charge a fee for their services.

 An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

 **WOSB.Certify.sba.gov**

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WHERE TO FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Read more on SBA's website -- www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs

You may also obtain **free** assistance from your local APEX Accelerators which can help you understand the rules and opportunities for the WOSB Program -- www.apexaccelerators.us/#

