

Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)

1. Certification Eligibility Requirements

For DVBE certification purposes, a “disabled veteran” is:

- A veteran of the U.S. military, naval, or air service;
- The veteran must have service-connected disability of at least 10%; and
- The veteran must reside in California.

To be certified as a DVBE, your firm must meet the following requirements:

- Your business must be at least 51% owned by one or more disabled veterans;
- Your daily business operations must be managed and controlled by one or more disabled veterans.
 - (Note: the disabled veteran who manages and controls the business is not required to be an owner of the applicant business.)
- Your home office must be located in the U.S. (the home office cannot be a branch or subsidiary of a foreign corporation, foreign firm, or other foreign based business).
- All existing and new DVBE applicants must submit to the Office of Small Business and DVBE Services (OSDS) complete copies of the DVBE federal income tax returns for the previous three years.
 - DVBE who have been in business for less than three years shall submit the federal income tax returns for the years they have been in business.
- A DVBE applicant that is not a sole proprietorship and rents equipment to the state must provide the federal income tax returns for each of their disabled veteran owners or your firm will be deemed an equipment broker.
- DVBE limited liability companies must be wholly owned by one or more disabled veterans.

2. DVBE Certification Benefits – IT’S FREE

Upon meeting eligibility requirement, certified DVBE are entitled to the following:

- Eligible for the state’s DVBE Participation Program. The program sets the goal to use DVBE in at least 3 percent of the state’s overall contract dollars.
- State agencies may use a streamlined process known as the “SB/DVBE Option” by contracting directly with California certified DVBE businesses for goods, services, information technology, and public works projects.
 - The solicitation must be valued at more than \$5,000 and the state agency must obtain price quotes from at least two California certified DVBE businesses.

If you have any questions regarding the DVBE Certification eligibility requirements or benefits, please contact OSDS Help.

By telephone: (916) 375-4940	by email OSDSHelp@dgs.ca.gov
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For SB/DVBE, through Cal eProcure, you can:

- Register your business
- Apply for SB and DVBE certification
- Search for bid solicitations and contracts