UC Small Business First

SB/MB and DVBE Search Job Aid
First, what businesses are qualified for this set-aside program?

Businesses must be certified as **Small Businesses** (includes Micro- Businesses) or **Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises** in order to participate in the Small Business First program.

- UC’s first preference is that businesses be certified by the **State of California Office of Small Business and DVBE Services (OSDS)**
  - Direct your suppliers, wherever possible, to become certified with the State of CA
  - Suppliers can learn about getting certified [here](#)
  - This is one of the fastest and easiest certifications processes! It’s also free!

- UC will also accept supplier Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise certifications from Cal OSDS Reciprocity Partners and other select Councils or Certifying Agencies.
  - Find list of approved certifications on the [UC Small Business First program](#) page
How to find a qualified Small Business or DVBE?

Businesses can be searched for via many methods – UC recommends the following:

✓ UC’s designated diverse supplier search tool Explorer Professional (Supplier.io search database)
✓ Cal eProcure – State of CA supplier search database
✓ By working with your campus Small Business Officer/Supplier Diversity Coordinator
Cal eProcure

UC prefers that businesses be certified by the State of California Office of Small Business and DVBE Services (OSDS)

CA certified suppliers can be searched for via Cal eProcure

- Searching the Cal eProcure system is fast and easy!
- All businesses listed as a Micro Business (MB), Small Business (SB) or Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) qualify for the Small Business First program
- Encourage qualified SB/MBs and DVBEs to get certified
- Check out State of CA Searching for SB and DVBEs training
- Specific UC trainings on Cal eProcure will be available shortly on the UC Small Business First webpage
Explorer Professional

UC has for a number of years partnered with supplier.io for supplier diversity data enrichment and access to their Explorer Professional platform

- Explorer Professional aggregates data from hundreds of sources and makes it easy to find diverse suppliers across many different diversity classifications and certifications
- This system allows users to search for a variety of Small Businesses and DVBEs
  - You may set filters to search for only suppliers that hold applicable certifications
  - Or, you may search for all SBs or DVBEs to find a wider pool of potential suppliers
- To request access to Explorer Professional, review QRGs and training webinars visit the UC Supplier Diversity Database webpage
Campus Supplier Diversity Coordinators

Each UC campus has a designated Small Business Officer/Supplier Diversity Coordinator. These campus subject matter experts may offer support in finding qualified small businesses to meet your purchasing needs.

- Having trouble finding the right small business to meet your needs?
- Contact your campus Supplier Diversity Coordinator (Small Business Officer) for support!
Thank You