



## HOW TO GET OREGON COBID CERTIFICATION

### Washington County Is Actively Seeking New COBID Partners!

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If you've never worked with a government agency before the contracts can seem overwhelming. At Washington County we understand, and we want to make sure you have the resources available to you to feel confident in applying for County contract opportunities.

One avenue a small business should pursue is becoming COBID Certified. COBID is Oregon's Certification Office for Business Inclusion and Diversity. There are 4 main certifications available to businesses and you may hold more than one certification at a time.

Emerging Small Business (ESB)

Minority/Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE)

Service Disabled Veteran (SDV)

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE and ACDBE)

Each one has their own criteria that need to be met to qualify. The certification process can take up to 1.5 hours if the applicant is prepared with all the appropriate documents at the time of application.

Washington County Purchasing is happy to provide assistance, but we are not the experts on certification and may not be the best resource to help you navigate the process. Below is a list of websites & resources you can use to become COBID certified. These resources not only provide certification assistance, but they also provide help in responding to government contracts and additional small business assistance

Website: [ORCOBID.COM](http://ORCOBID.COM)

State of Oregon COBID official site

The complete breakdown of the eligibility requirements and all necessary application information

Website: <https://www.gcap.org/>

Oregon Procurement Technical Assistance Center

Free service for vendors to help them get certified, provides bid-matching services, and small business assistance

Website: <https://oame.org/programs-services/mwesb-certification/>

Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs

A variety of services and information to all minority entrepreneurs grow their business

Oregon Revised Statue: ORS Chapter 200

While most people don't enjoy reading government legislation, it's helpful for any first-time business owner to become familiar with the laws that regulate government procurement as they pertain to COBID and affirmative action.