

Business Development Center – Certification/Licensing Support

The ODU Business Development Center (BDC) offers technical and financial support for certification and licensing for qualified participants. *

Certifications and Licensing

Commonwealth of Virginia Small, Women-owned and Minority-owned Business (SWaM) is a state certification program. The purpose is to enhance procurement opportunities for SWaM businesses participating in state-funded projects.

Women’s Business Enterprise Certification (WBE) - The WBE certification is beneficial to businesses looking to work with large corporations and government agencies. This can provide a network of decision makers in supplier diversity and procurement offices across the country. Many corporations require that you be WBE-certified before providing access to their supplier diversity programs. (Up to \$750 value). The WBEC also provides a monthly class in *How to Get Certified* and the BDC can review all documentation before you register.

Minority Business Enterprise Certification (MBE) – The MBE certification is beneficial to businesses looking to work with large corporations and government agencies. The MBE will connect your business to a network of decision makers in supplier diversity and procurement offices across the country. Many corporations require that you be MBE-certified before providing access to their supplier diversity programs. (Up to \$750 value)

State Corporation Commission (SCC) and **City Business Licensing** (typical \$100 value)

The BDC can support business certifications and licenses up to \$1750.

Other Specialized Training

Business Planning Research – offering access to premier resources and an overview of major business information sources (this session includes a personalized Industry Report valued at \$950)

Developing A Business Plan – this program offers access to the premier Live Plan software to guide you through the step-by-step plan.

*Qualified participants and VWIEC individuals will have attended VBOC or WBC programs or two counselling sessions. This support is contingent on available funding through our partner the Virginia Workforce Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center (VWIEC) grant from the US Department of Education. The VWIEC will facilitate opportunities for Virginia's current and aspiring entrepreneurs to help grow our recovering economy.

The Business Development Center Support for Certifications

Qualified individuals and businesses receiving services through the BDC may be eligible to receive financial support to offset licenses, certifications, and other costs. These professional licenses have been identified in the business plan you have developed with the BDC.

Contact the BDC at 757-683-4159 to discuss the specific needs for your business

Popular Professional Licenses include:

Project Management Professional (PMP) Certification

The Project Management Professional (PMP)[®] is the world's leading project management certification. Now including predictive, agile and hybrid approaches, the PMP[®] proves project leadership experience and expertise in any way of working. It supercharges careers for project leaders across industries. <https://www.pmi.org/certifications/project-management-pmp>

Risk Management (PMI-RMP) Certification

The PMI Risk Management Professional (PMI-RMP)[®] highlights your ability to identify and assess project risks, mitigate threats and capitalize on opportunities. In this capacity, you enhance and protect the needs of your organization.

Cybersecurity for Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)

Covered defense information” means unclassified controlled technical information or other information, as described in the Controlled Unclassified Information Registry at <https://www.archives.gov/cui/registry/category-list.html>, that requires safeguarding or dissemination controls pursuant to and consistent with law, regulations, and Government wide policies. In addition to the BDC support, companies can apply for 80% of certification fees through the GENEDGE Virginia Defend CUI Program grant. Contact BDC for more information.

Virginia License for General Contracting, Electricians and Plumbers

Virginia Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation (DPOR) Requirements <https://generalcontractorlicenseguide.com/virginia-contractors-license>
Contact BDC for more information.