

GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Note: Companies interested in doing business with most federal agencies are now required to be registered with the Department of Defense's Central Contractor Registration (CCR). Before you may register with the CCR, you must have a DUNS number provided by Dunn & Bradstreet, www.dnb.com. You may obtain a DUNS number free of charge by calling Dun & Bradstreet, 866-705-5711 (you'll receive your DUNS number immediately) or filing online (filing for your DUNS number over the Internet can take up to 30 days before you receive a number.)

Federal Agencies

Small Business Administration (SBA)

Pro-Net – Pro-Net is an electronic gateway to procurement opportunities open to small firms seeking federal, state and private contracts. Federal and state government agencies as well as prime and other contractors use Pro-Net to seek small business contractors, subcontractors and/or partnership opportunities. Companies with "home-pages" can link their web site to their Pro-Net profile, creating a very powerful marketing tool. Pro-Net's mail web page also provides links to other sources of procurement opportunities. **Note:** All new Pro-Net online registrations are now being handled by the Department of Defense's Central Contractor Registration (CCR). In addition, all updates to CCR-collected fields must also go through CCR. If, in your CCR registration or update, you specified that you wanted to be in Pro-Net, CCR will take you to the "Pro-Net Supplemental Page," which gathers information specific to Pro-Net that CCR does not collect. www.ccr.gov

HUBZone Program – The purpose of the HUBZone program is to provide federal contracting assistance for qualified small business concern located in historically underutilized business zones. To be a qualified HUBZone small business concern, a company must be a small business, owned and controlled only by US citizens, have their main office located in a HUBZone, have at least 35% of the company's employees residing in a HUBZone (doesn't have to be the same HUBZone as the company's principal office), and be certified under the Small Business Administration's 8(a) program. www.sba.gov/hubzone. To determine if your company is located in a HUBZone, log onto map.sba.gov/hubzone/init.asp#address.

8(a) Business Development Program – The SBA's 8(a) BD Program, is a business development initiative that helps small disadvantaged business concerns compete in the American economy. As part of the business development of the 8(a) firms, SBA helps small disadvantaged businesses access the Federal contracting marketplace. Certification through the SBA 8 (a) program is required for participation in this program. www.sba.gov/8abd/

FedBizOpps.gov – www.fedbizopps.gov/EPSEndorRegistration.html

FedBizOpps.gov is the single government point-of-entry for Federal government procurement opportunities more than \$25,000. Government buyers are able to publicize their business opportunities by posting information directly to FedBizOpps via the Internet. Through one portal – FedBizOpps – commercial vendors seeking Federal markets for their products and services can search, monitor, and retrieve opportunities solicited by the entire Federal contracting community. Once you are signed up with FedBizOpps, you will receive announcements by email.

Department of Housing and Urban Development – www.hud.gov/subscribe/index.cfm

HUD provides a Contract Opportunities Mailing Notification List that provides information about the Department's current contracting opportunities. You will receive an email notification whenever new solicitations and amendments are posted to HUD's Current Contracting Opportunities.

State of Louisiana

Procurement and Contract Network–

wwwsrch2.doa.state.la.us/osp/lapac/vendor/Vndrmess.asp

This site allows you to register to become a vendor to state agencies. Once registered you will be able to access solicitations by state agencies by specific commodity groups, by departments, by specific bid numbers, or search for open bids. Registered vendors should routinely check the LaPAC Bids site for a listing of current business opportunities. To do so, go to <http://wwwsrch2.doa.state.la.us/osp/lapac/pubmain.asp>