



Chicago Housing Authority Diversity and Inclusion Contract Requirements

In its procurement of goods and services, CHA seeks relationships with vendors who share our values for inclusive and equitable contracting opportunities. CHA values contract diversity and is committed to strengthening workforce development and economic opportunities for low-income workers, and Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Business, including Section 3 Businesses.

1. Summary of Contract Requirements

Type of Contract	M/W/DBE	Section 3 (Labor Hours)	S3 Business subcontracting (> \$250,000)	Davis Bacon
Construction	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Professional Service (licensure required)	Yes	No	Yes	No
Professional Service (non-licensure required)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Professional Services (direct services to residents)	Yes	Yes	No	No
Material & Supply	Yes	No	Yes	No

* if not self-performing

Minimum Thresholds for Contract Diversity:

Minority/Women/Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (M/W/DBEs)

Certified Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (M/W/DBEs) shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part with federal funds. Vendors and their subcontractors or suppliers must take all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that M/W/DBEs have the maximum opportunity to compete for and perform contracts financed in whole or in part by federal funds. CHA establishes minimum **thresholds** for all contracts over \$50,001. The percentage is required for the entire project amount and not limited to CHA's funding. Vendors unable to meet the threshold requirement may propose indirect participation subject to CHA's written approval.

Section 3 Business Subcontracting – For contracts >\$250,000, vendors are required to subcontract to Section 3 Businesses, unless self-performing. CHA establishes minimum thresholds. To locate a Section 3 Business visit the [Workforce Opportunity Resource Center](#) (WORC) site. Professional Services that directly provide support services for CHA residents are not required to sub-contract to Section 3 Businesses but are encouraged to sub-contract when feasible. Vendors unable to meet the threshold requirement may



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propose indirect participation subject to CHA’s written approval. These may include, but are not limited to mentorship programs, internships, training, and employment opportunities for non-CHA funded projects, or payment into CHA’s Workforce & Education Fund.

Section 3 Labor Hours

CHA supports HUD’s Section 3 requirement which counts labor hours. All applicable contracts **require at least 25% of the labor hours** performed on a project are done so with Section 3 workers and businesses, of which 5% of those hours must be performed by Targeted Section 3 workers (i.e. CHA residents and HCV participants). Vendors will report these hours via B2Gnow and/or LCPtracker or through required affidavits based on the contract type (HUD Section 3 24 CFR part 75).

Davis Bacon and Minimum Wage Requirements:

The Davis-Bacon & Related Acts apply to construction contracts over **\$2,000** and ensures that all construction employees are paid under the US Department of Labor’s wage decision. Union contractors must ensure that Davis-Bacon wages are met, in accordance with the contract.

All CHA contracts must comply with the current local Minimum Wage requirement. The Minimum Wage Requirements shall be specifically incorporated as a contractual requirement in any award and agreement resulting from this solicitation for any of the Selected Respondent’s covered employees. The Respondent must consider the Minimum Wage Requirement in determining its fees for services to be performed or provided by the Respondent under its fee proposal and other submittals. Note that Federal wage determinations (either Davis-Bacon or HUD-Determined Wage Rates) preempt any conflicting State prevailing wage rate or the Minimum Wage Requirement when the State prevailing wage rate or the Minimum Wage Requirement is higher than the Federally imposed wage rate (24 CFR 965).

The following chart indicates the goals set by the CHA for each type of contract.

Minimum Thresholds

Type of Contract	Contract Amount	MBE/WBE/DBE Participation	Section 3 Business Subcontracting (>\$250,000)	Section 3 Labor Hours (25% of which 5% is through CHA resident hires)***
Construction	\$50,001+	30%	10%	25%
Supply & Delivery	\$50,001 +	20%	3%*	N/A
Professional Services	\$50,001 +	20%	3%**	25%

*Or indirect **excludes direct support service providers *** Required regardless of contract amount



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2. Utilization Plan:

This chart is a list of items needed to evaluate a full utilization Plan (UP). All respondents to CHA solicitations must submit a UP which enables CHA to evaluate how they will fulfill contract requirements.

Document Name	To be Completed By	Details
Utilization Plan (UP) M/W/DBE and Section 3 Businesses	Prime Contractor	This Excel worksheet will include all M/W/DBE and Section 3 Businesses subcontracting as well as proposed indirect, etc.
Letter of Intent	Each M/W/DBE and Section 3 subcontractor listed on the UP including a self-performing Prime Contractor	If a Prime is a M/W/DBE and they are self-performing, they must submit a Letter of Intent. A Letter of Intent for each sub-contractor that is MWD/BE or Section 3 Business must also be submitted. The information outlined in the UP must correspond with the Letters.
Letter of M/W/DBE Certification	Each M/W/DBE listed on UP, including a self-performing Prime Contractor	This form must be submitted with every UP and Letter of Intent and include current certification letters. Applications are not accepted.
Waiver Request-M/W/DBE	Prime Contractor	This form is only to be used if a vendor cannot meet their subcontracting requirements and all good-faith efforts, including indirect participation, have been exhausted. The form must include (1) the scope of work and (2) the reason the Prime cannot meet the commitments outlined.
Other Economic Opportunities (OEO)	Prime Contractor	If vendor is unable to subcontract to a Section 3 Business in full or in part they will need to propose indirect participation through the OEO section on the UP, or make commensurate payment upfront into the Workforce and Education Fund, subject to approval by CHA.

3. Reporting Requirements:

Contract Requirement	System	Details
Construction Contracts	LCPtracker	Certified Payroll Reports must be entered into LCPtracker weekly. This system also tracks compliance with Davis Bacon and Section 3 hours.
Professional Services	B2Gnow	Payments must be entered into B2Gnow for every pay application monthly. This system tracks and verifies Prime and Subcontractor payments made and received.



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Additional Information:

(a) COUNTING M/W/DBE AND SECTION 3 BUSINESS (S3B) CREDIT: A business that is both self-identified/certified as a Section 3 Business and certified as a M/W/DBE may allocate credit across both certifications at their discretion. For example, if an M/W/DBE firm is also a Section 3 Business and is required to meet the 30% threshold for M/W/DBE and 10% for Section 3 Business, the Prime could receive credit for the 10% Section 3 as part of the 30% threshold and not in addition to.

(b) PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO SECTION 3 WORKERS: In accordance with 24 CFR part 75.9, Prime and sub-contractors (including Section 3 Businesses) on CHA/HUD-funded contracts must ensure that Section 3 workers are provided economic opportunities with the following preference when applicable: a) residents of the project where the assistance is being provided; b) residents of other public housing or Section 8; c) Youthbuild participants; and d) resident of the metropolitan area.

(c) SUBSTITUTION/REMOVAL OF SUBCONTRACTOR: A prime contractor that needs to remove or substitute a subcontractor on its approved utilization plan must submit a written request for the removal or substitution of the subcontractor concerned. Only when Department of Procurement and Contracts (DPC) approves such a request in writing can the removal or substitution of the subcontractor be done by the prime contractor. Under no circumstance should a prime contractor unilaterally remove or substitute a subcontractor on its CHA/HUD-funded contract without prior approval by DPC.

Definitions

Section 3 Business are defined a business that either is a) 51% owned by public housing or housing choice voucher participant(s); b) 51% owned by a low-income person(s); or c) 75% of the labor hours are performed by low-income workers.

Davis-Bacon and Related Acts directs the US Depart of Labor to determine prevailing wage for construction projects.

Indirect Participation refers to the value of payments made to MWD/BE firms for work that is done outside of the proposed project or commensurate value to S3 Business or CHA residents/participants in other economic opportunities.

Additional information on CHA's contract requirements and forms can be found at www.thecha.org/doing-business.