

Comments

# **NWEA Supplier Diversity Survey**

#### Education begins with inclusion of all people.

At NWEA we are an **Equal Opportunity Employer**. We recognize that supplier diversity promotes creativity and better equips us to serve our education partners. We also stand by the belief that by bringing different people together with a wide range of viewpoints, backgrounds, and experience it makes us a better organization.

We're dedicated to helping school districts build plans to meet diverse educational requirements, while being able to procure the same quality and choice of products.

| We expect the same from our suppliers with a focus on commitment to deliver exceptional customer service, competitive pricing, value-added quality service solutions & products. |                               |  |          |
|--|-------------------------------|--|----------|
| If you are a certified diverse-owner of you do not qualify please check <b>No</b> *  | d company, please comp        | lete the following survey.                             |          |
| Business Name Products/Services Provided Primary Contact   |                               | Date   |          |
| Email  |                               | Number   |          |
| Is your company/organization cert  | tified in any federal, state, | , or local business enterprise program? (See           | e below) |
| Yes (see list below)   |                               | *No  |          |
|  | If no, do you have            | e a Diversity & Inclusion Program at your company? Yes | No (     |
| Program (check all that apply)   | Certifying Agency             | Certification #  |          |
| Small Business Vendor Pro  | gram (SBE)                    |  |          |
| Minority-Owned Business E  | nterprise (MBE)               |  |          |
| African American   |                               | Asian-Pacific American                                 |          |
| Hispanic/Latino American Other   |                               | Native American/Alaskan Native                         |          |
| Women-Owned Business   |                               |  |          |
| Women-Owned Business   | Enterprise (WBE)              | Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB)                      |          |
| Economically Disadvantag   |                               | Business (EDWOSB)                                      |          |
| Disadvantaged Business En  | iterprise (DVBE)              |  |          |
| Veteran (VBE) or Other   |                               |  |          |
| Veteran (VBE)  |                               |  |          |
| LGBTQ  |                               |  |          |
| Green or Other   |                               |  |          |
| Accessibility - 508 Complian   | nt                            |  |          |
| WCAG 2.0   |                               |  |          |
| WCAG 2.1   |                               |  |          |
| ☐ VPAT   |                               |  |          |

Thank you for taking the time to complete the short survey

#### Why should I bother getting my certification?

Access and visibility! Access into databases for companies looking for vendors like yours; networking opportunities to connect with companies needing your services/good; educational opportunities/training; and for getting loan assistance if needed. It puts your business on a short list for increased opportunities and levels the playing field.

### Why is certification important?

At times NWEA goes through a proposal process that requires the winning company use certified-only diverse suppliers. We would be required to use only vendors with up-to-date certifications in order to win or fulfill the requirements of that proposal. Vendors could include caterers, office supplies, event companies, tech companies, printers, proctors, etc. - each proposal is different and require different vendors. That's where your business could make a difference!

#### How do I know if I'm a diverse business?

If your business is a minority, women, veteran or service disabled veteran owned you should consider getting your certification. *It must be 51% owned AND operated* by a person (or group of persons) that is: 1) a racial or ethnic minority or a woman; and 2) citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Without 51% ownership and control, certification is unlikely.

In addition, you may qualify for Disadvantaged certification - personal net worth of the owner(s) must be below \$1.32 million (occasionally, below \$750,000) excluding the value of his or her personal residence. In some instances, the certifier will request that the owner(s) write a narrative about the social and economic barriers s/he has experienced.

Or you may qualify for Small Business certification - the business's average sales must meet the Small Business Administration guidelines based on its industry type.

To be Veteran Certified, the business must be 51% owned and operated by a Veteran of the US Armed Services (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines or Navy). To be or Service-Disabled certified, the business must be 51% owned and operated by a US Veteran with a service-connected disability determined by the VA or Defense Department.

### How difficult and time consuming is this process?

Each state is different but overall you'll be asked a series of questions about your business: basically - who, what, when, where and how type questions. You may be prompted to upload copies of your supporting documents as verification. Each state has confidential and secure processes for keeping your information safe. Each state has different requirements and timelines. Some states take as little as 10 days and some as long as 120 days.

## Where do I go to get my diversity certification?

Here is a site you can go to to check out your state's information:

National Conference of State Legislatures

Growing your business may be a click away!