

Certification Made Easy

A "How to" Guide on the New York State MWBE Certification Application

A Division of Empire State Development

11/4/2016

Division of Minority & Women's Business Development



Division of Minority and Women's Business Development

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Welcome!

In fiscal year 2013-14, the State of New York's Division of Minority and Women's Business Development set a new record for MWBE utilization in state contracting - over 25% of all State spending - representing a total of nearly \$2 billion in contracts to certified MWBEs! Recently, Governor Cuomo set a goal of 30% utilization , the highest in the United States, designed to continue this momentum. This Division aims to meet or exceed this goal, through the continued promotion of equality of economic opportunities for MWBEs and the elimination of barriers to their participation in New York State contracts.

The first step to be considered for these MWBE procurement opportunities with the State of New York is to submit a **NEW Application**."

"Certification Made Easy" is designed to help minority and/or women-owned businesses with the online certification process. There are navigation buttons on the bottom right hand-side on each slide to make it easier to access each section. Our staff are also available to assist with questions on navigation or certification.

We look forward to welcoming you as a New York State MWBE certified business!

Lourdes Zapata Executive Director Division of Minority & Women's Business Development



Today's Agenda

- Benefits of the NYS MWBE Certification
- Eligibility Requirements for MWBE Certification
- Creating a Vendor Profile
- Applying for Certification
- Common Documentation Shortfalls
- The New York State Contract Reporter
- Little Known Facts about Certification
- Avoiding Common Application Pitfalls
- Additional Assistance



Benefits of the NYS MWBE Certification

- Listed on the NYS Statewide MWBE Certification Directory.
- Access to MWBE procurement and/or contracting opportunities with NYS Agencies and Authorities.
- Receive customized alerts for upcoming procurement opportunities. (NYS Contract Reporter)
- Access to statewide network of services and support for MWBEs: invitations for business development workshops, webinars, classes and customized technical assistance.
- Access to lending and bonding programs exclusively for certified MWBEs.



Eligibility Requirements

Under Article 15-A of the Executive Law, any for-profit firm that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned, operated and controlled by citizens or permanent resident aliens who are either a woman and/or minority is eligible for certification.

List of minority groups who are eligible for certification:

- Black persons having origins from any of the Black African racial groups.
- Hispanic persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Dominican, Cuban, Central or South American descent of either Native American or Latin American origin, regardless of race.
- Asian-Pacific persons having origins from the Far East, Southeast Asia or the Pacific Islands.
- Asian-Indian subcontinent persons having origins from the Indian subcontinent.
- Native American persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America.



An MWBE applicant must successfully demonstrate the following:

- **Ownership, Operation and Control**: All firms seeking MBE, WBE or MWBE certification must be independently owned, operated and controlled by minority and/or women members. The ownership must be real, substantial and continuing, and the minority and/or women members must exercise the authority to independently control the day-to-day business decisions.
- **Personal Net Worth (PNW) Restriction**: Each minority or woman owner, upon whom certification is based, cannot have a personal net worth exceeding \$3.5 million after allowable deductions.
- Small Business Restriction: The firm cannot exceed 300 employees.
- Independent, Active and In Business One Year: The firm must operate independently of other firms, must demonstrate business activity and, generally, the business is required to be in operation for at least one year.
- **Out of State Applicants**: Firm to be currently certified as a MWBE in their home state, should a similar process exists, and before applying for MWBE certification firm must be registered and authorized to conduct business in the state of New York and have a presence in New York.

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New York State Contract System ny.newnycontracts.com



3 Interrelated <u>BUT NOT</u> Interconnected Accounts

Three (3) Accounts/Profiles (Each requiring its own separate ACTION)

New York State Contract System Vendor Profile New York State Contract System Certification Application

New York State Contract Reporter



Accessing NYSCS - ny.newnycontracts.com



Click on "Apply for Certification"

Division of Minority and Women's **Business Development**

Accessing NYSCS - ny.newnycontracts.com



Create Account

Governor's M/WBE Program

-> Press Release

→ Who We Are

-> MWBE Division

Businesses

Vant to Certify?

-> Recertify

Update Profile

Opportunities

Executive Order



Create Account in System

Once all information is entered you will see a summary of your business information. Check the box that says "I would like to create an account in this system" and click "Next"

The process to apply for MBE/WBE certification with New York State involves 2 steps: - 2011 State of the State MWBE ^o Step 1: Create an account in our vendor management system. Step 2: Fill in and submit an electronic application. Empire State Development Please fill in the information below. The account creation process takes only a couple of minutes, and all information can be updated at any time afterward. You will then be automatically directed to the start of the certification application form. Important Note: If you received any form of notice from New York State, or - FAOS Learn About Certificatio are currently or previously certified, an account may have been pre-configured for you. Please look up your business to see if an account already exists. - Apply for Certificatio You can also check with Customer Service before registering to check for an existing account. If you are currently certified then your firm is already in the system. Find NYS Contracting If you have questions about this registration process or need more information, please contact Customer Service. -> Bid & Grant Opportunities required entry Section 1: Business Lookup Tax ID Number • Enter your firm's Tax ID Number and dick Lookup to check if an account already exists. Click to Lookup (Federal Tax ID, 9 numbers, do not enter dashes or snaces)

Business Name •	
DBA Name	
Company Type •	None selected
Company Ethnicity	None selected
Company Gender	None selected V
Section 3: Business C	Contact Information
Main Company Email •	

Search for Certified Firms

-> MWBE Directory

NYSCS Links

-> Home/Login - Contact Us & Support Password Reminder

+ Account Lookup Outreach & Program Notices



Making the most of a Vendor Profile

- Why is a Vendor Profile important?
 - Acts as an electronic business card
 - Accessible to other firms and state agencies
 - May lead to potential business opportunities
- Be sure to keep business information current!
- Any business can have a Vendor Profile regardless of certification status.
- The Vendor Profile is **<u>not</u>** the same as the certification application.

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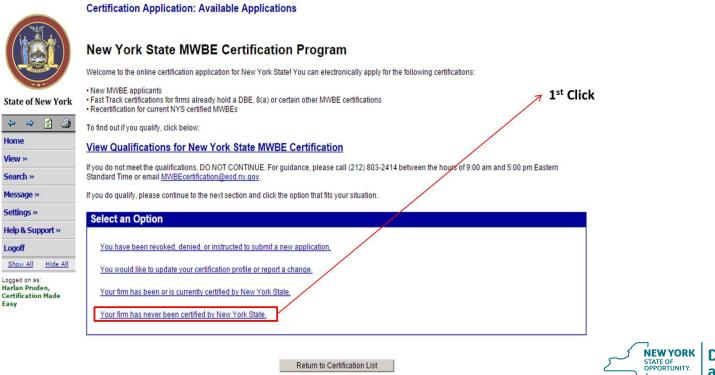
3 Interrelated <u>BUT NOT</u> Interconnected Accounts

Three (3) Accounts/Profiles (Each requiring its own separate ACTION)

New York State Contract System Vendor Profile New York State Contract System Certification Application New York State Contract Reporter



Three Clicks To Launch New Application



FAST TRACK Application

- New York State based firms certified by:
 - County of Erie and City of Buffalo, Joint Certification Committee *
 - New York City Department of Small Business Services* (as a M and/or W)
 - The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
 - New York & New Jersey Minority Supplier Development Council, Inc.
 - Women President's Education Organization New York Chapter
- Certified as a Disadvantaged Business Entity with any Federally funded transportation agency in the U.S.
- Certified as Federal 8(a) Disadvantaged Business with U.S. Small Business Administration

The above certifications must be current and have more than three (3) remaining months before expiration to be eligible for FAST TRACK Application.

*Note: Participating certification program may have geographic restrictions.

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Pre-Screening Check List

	Certification Application: Start Certificatio	n Application		Help & Tools 🛠		
	Application Type Information Certifying Agency Application Type Description	New York State New Application New York State MW/BECertification Standard Ap	plication and Affida vit	3		
State of New York	New	v York State New Certification Ap	plication	Need Help?		
🍫 🔿 🛃 🍱	This application is for NEW Minority/Women Business Enterprise certification.					
Home View »	If your firm is currently certified as a Federal 8(e) firm, a DBE firm in the U.S. DOT program, or as an MBE, WBE, or MINBE with a qualitying agency in New York State, please return to the previous					
Search »	For gritlance, picare call (212) 803-2111 between the form of 9000 am and 500 pm Earlern Standard Time or email <u>MW6 Exertitication@erd.ny/or</u> .					
Message » Settings »	Select a company type and application anto-fill option. Confirm or en	ter your personal and company email addresses to permit	t is to contact you quickly for technical support, if needed.			
Help & Support »	Company & Contact Information			?		
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Show All Hide All	Company Brall	your email address				
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Certification Made Easy	Application Auto-Fill •	 Use existing account information to auto-fill applie 	າລຽວເ			

The following basis or fields is used to evaluate eligibility for certification. However, meeting tiese basis items does not granantee that an application will be approved. This is only hended as a general over miner to see Hyper film should apply for certification.

ire you certhed as a Disadvantaged Bisliness Enterprise (DBE)?	Yes	No
ue you certified as a Federal 8(a). Business?	O Yes	No
ie vor certified with a local New York age toy (New York City Small 8 is lines Services, New York City School Construction Arthority, New York & New Jersey Mihority Supplier Development concoll, lico, Upstate New York Regional Mihority Purchasing Concoll, lico, "The Women's President Editorational Organization)?	© Yes	No
your film seeking MWBE re-certification or has your certification lapsed?	Yes	No
: your film at least51% owned, operated and controlled by minorities or women?	O Yes	No
loes the minority or woman owner exercise the arthority to independently control the day to day operations of the business?	Yes	No
bis film "publicly counsed"?	O Yes	No
t blis film "owhed wholly or in partby anoble r company"?	O Yes	No
loes fair firm employmore faar 300 fair fan ee gekale stemployees?	O Yes	No
loes ary milo rity or woman owner, upon which certification is based for tils firm have a personal networth which exceeds \$3.5 million, minus allowable deductions?	O Yes	No
ias this film been operational and active for at least one year?	Yes	No
this film tot-for-profit?	Yes	No
tblisfirm la comportanted la New York Starte or does bblisfirm have ble Arbbiorfly/bo do Susiness la New York Starte?	Yes	O NO

Pre-Screening Check-List



Document List- Mandatory & Required



Home

View »

Search >>

Message >>

Settings »

Logoff

Easy

Logged on as:

Harlan Pruden.

Certification Made

Help & Support >>

Show All Hide All

Certification Application: Document List Preview for Sole Proprietorship

Help & Tools 🛠

In addition to completing an application form, you will be required to submit supporting documents with your application. These documents can be submitted in electronic or hardcopy format, but must be all of the same format (e.g. all electronic or all hardcopy). Applications and documentation submitted electronically are reviewed faster. Processing of applications submitted with hardcopy documentation cannot begin until the documents are received by the organization.

Mandatory documents must be submitted with your application; there are no exceptions. Required documents must be submitted if applicable to the type of your firm and nature of its work. If you have any questions, please contact us before starting.

Review the items below **before** beginning the process to ensure you are able to and are comfortable providing the requested information. If you are unable or unvilling to provide the **Mandatory** documents, **do not proceed**. Failure to submit the attachments without an explanation will result in a delay in processing and your firm could utilinately be deried certified.

This document list will continue to be available after you start the certification application (click the **Documents** tab). You can also print the list to your printer or a PDF file.

Mandatory Documents All <u>mandatory</u> documents must be provided with the application. Failure to submit a mandatory document will result in a delay in processing and/or could result in denial.

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Download

Document Certification Application Notarization (New Application)

Personal Net Worth Affidavit, Attachment A for each minority or woman upon which certification is based Current year business Financial Statements: including Year-To-Date

Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement Most recent three (3) years of Federal, and State tax returns for the BUSINESS including all statements, schedules, and amendments

Most recent two (2) years of Federal and State PERSONAL tax returns; including all schedules, W2s, statements and amendments for each minority or woman upon which certification is based

Documented proof of sources of capitalization and investments

Bank signature card or letter from the bank identifying persons authorized to conduct transactions, level of authority and limitations, if any, on all business accounts Proof of US Citizenship or Proof of permanent resident alien status (i.e., permanent resident "green" card.) for each Minority or Woman who has an ownership interest in the applicant firm Resumes of all principals, partners, officers and/or key employees of the firm

Current, signed lease or Deed for all locations where your firm conducts business application. <u>Bewmload</u> <u>Dewnload</u>, print, complete, sign, date, and notarize the provided <u>Pewn</u>. Tasket, annother used for this requirement. Copies submitted mult be true and correct copies of the original business tax returns as submitted to the IRS and any other applicable entities. Include all W2s, 1099s, Steedunk -1s and all applicable attachments, etc. Copies submitted nust be true and correct copies of the original personal tax nume, as submitted to the IRS and any other applicable entities.

Document Description

Download, print, sign, notarize and provide this affidavit with your

Cancelled checks (both sides), bank statements, purchase receipts, any loan agreements, etc.

For proof of US Citizenship: Birth Certificate, U.S. Passport, Naturalization Certificate, ecc. For proof of permanent resident alien status: permanent resident "green" card. Show home address and telephone number, all education, training, and employment history with dates.

Provide proof of ownership of the space or home (with a Deed or mortgage agreement) or proof of agreement made for rent in exchange for the space the business occupies. If you do not have a formal lease, provide a statement that you do not have a lease or agreement. If you pay rent but do not have a current lease, in lieu of a lease or agreement, provide 6 months of rent payments in the Document list will vary depending on business structure &

application type

Print or Save the list of mandatory & required documents

Download, Print and Complete these documents

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. and V

Document List- Mandatory & Required

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State of New York State Of New		Resumes of all principals, partners, officers and/or key employees of the firm		Show home address and telephone number, all education, training, and employment history with dates.
Image:	State of New York	Current, signed lease or Deed for all locations where your firm conducts business		agreement made for rent in exchange for the space the business occupies. If you do not have a formal lease provide a statement that you do not have a lease or agreement. If you pay rent but do not have a current lease, in lieu of a lease or agreement, provide 6 months of rent payments in the form of cancelled checks
Instrume If doing hadriness under an assumed name. Instruction If doing hadriness under an assumed name. Instruction If doing hadriness under an assumed name. View > Can be abtained by contacting the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance at (000) 972-1233. Search > Required Documents Respired documents must be provided when applicable to your firm. Failure to submit a required document without an explanation as to why any such attachment was not provided with result in a delay in processing and conditions of the out in section and the section of the out in section and the section of t	4 A A A	Business Certificate, including any amendments		
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Al signed third party agreements including suppresent restals, purchase agreements, management, service agreements, servic. Any certification, decertification or denial of certification documentation Any enrichment agreements Copies of all Kenses, permits, certifications utilized by this firm to conduct basines, including theorem Tax Registration Supped Lease Agreements or proof of oursership for office space, yard space, warehouse space, and/or equipment Vehicle registration() for all vehicles used for business purposes and/or charged to the Business Written request for exemption from gubilic disclosure of certain records maintained by the program Vehicle registration() for all vehicles used for business activity in the form of a signed contract or purchase order Proof of business activity in the form of a signed contract or purchase order Addendum for WWEE Certification with Country of Ere and City of Buffalo, Joint Certification Addendum for WWEE Certification with New York City Oppartment of Sharll Business Services Addendum for WWEE Certification with New York City Oppartment of Sharll Business Services Addendum for WWEE Certification with New York City Oppartment of Sharll Business Services Addendum for WWEE Certification with New York City Oppartment of Sharll Business Services Addendum for WWEE Certification with New York City Oppartment of Sharll Business Services Addendum for WWEE Certification with New York City Oppartment of Sharll Business Services Addendum for WWEE Certification with The Port Authority of Hew York and New Yersy and New Yorks and New Yorks and New Yersy and Powersy Download Addendum for WWEE Certification with The Port Authority of New York and New Yersy and Download point Complex the addednum in full, and provide with your agalization. See downloadshie document for more information.	Logged on as: Harlan Pruden	Description of the state of the state of the state of MDT under Astron. 15 A fee fee each		Required for applicants for MRE costification and must evolutive state atheristic or race. Valid forms of
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Committee document for more information. Addendum for MWBE Certification with New York City Department of Small Business Services Download Download, print, complete the addendum in full, and provide with your application. See downloadable Addendum for MWBE Certification with The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Download Download, print, complete the addendum in full, and provide with your application. See downloadable	Logged on as: Harlan Pruden	Minority who has an ownership interest in the applicant firm All signed third party agreements including equipment rentals, purchase agreements, management, service agreements, etc. Any certification (excritination or denial of certification documentation Any employment agreements Copies of all lecness, permits, certifications, and/or accreditations utilized by this firm to conduct business, including those hed by individual Copy of the New York State Vendor Tax Registration Signed lease Agreements or proof of ownership for office space, yard space, warehouse space, and/or equipment Vehicle registration(s) for all vehicles used for business purposes and/or charged to the Business Witten requests		decimentation include Birth Cardinizate - yours or parent, or ginodaprent: Deah Certificate - parent or grandparent: Third Cardifacetoris, Mitter Recodin Takunization Papers - your, parent or grandparent: any documentation issued by a Federic State - Local Ocemment entity establishing but the applicant is applicant's parent or grandparent is a member of a minority group as recognized under Article 15-A. Out-of-State firms should attach copy of their home state certification, if similar process exists.
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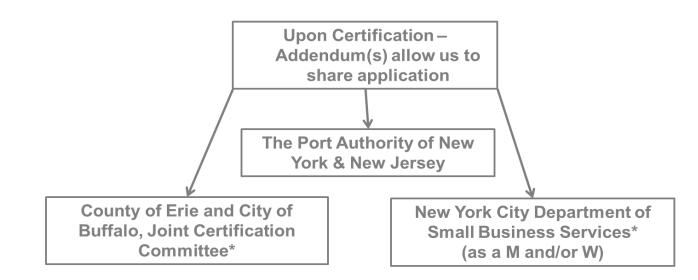
Addendums "One-Stop" Certification Application



Division of Minority and Women's **Business Development**

Check this box and click Continue to start the application process.

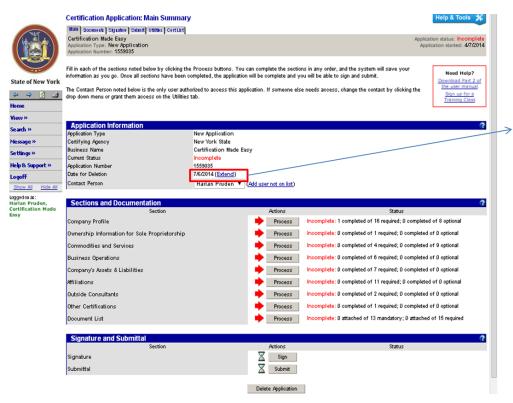
"One-Stop" Certification Application (only available to New Applicants)



*Note: Participating certification program have geographic restrictions.



Certification Application-Main Summary

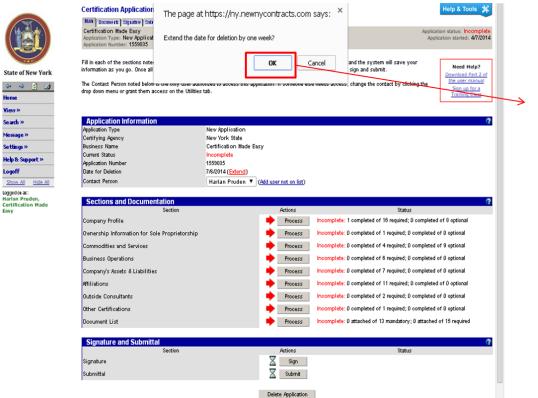


In 90 days, if the application is not submitted – it will be deleted. This deadline can also be EXTENDED!

Applications are <u>DELETED</u> on the date listed and cannot be recovered.



Extending The Deadline



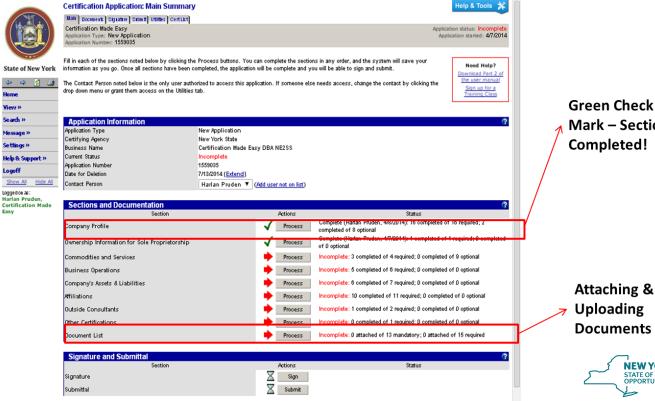
Click "OK" to EXTEND the deadline by ONE WEEK. This can be done as many times as you like!



Certification Application- Company Profile

	Certification Application: Main Summary	/	Help & Tools 🛠			
	Main Documents Signature Submit Utilities CertList					
	Certification Made Easy Application Type: New Application Application Number: 1559035		Application status: Incomplete Application started: 47/2014			
	Fill in each of the sections noted below by clicking the information as you go. Once all sections have been c		u will be able to sign and submit. Need Help?	1		
State of New York	The Contact Person noted below is the only user auth	orized to access this application. If someone else	peeds access, change the contact by clicking the the user manual			
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Logged on as: Harlan Pruden,	Sections and Documentation		9			
Certification Made Easy	Section	Actions	Status			
Easy	Company Profile	Process	Incomplete: 1 completed of 16 required; 0 completed of 8 optional			
	Ownership Information for Sole Proprietorship	Process	Incomplete: 0 completed of 1 required; 0 completed of 0 optional			
	Commodities and Services	Process	Incomplete: 0 completed of 4 required; 0 completed of 9 optional			
	Business Operations	Process	Incomplete: 0 completed of 6 required; 0 completed of 0 optional			
	Company's Assets & Liabilities	Process	Incomplete: 0 completed of 7 required; 0 completed of 0 optional			
	Affiliations	Process	Incomplete: 0 completed of 11 required; 0 completed of 0 optional			
	Annauoris	1100055				
	Outside Consultants	Process	Incomplete: 0 completed of 2 required; 0 completed of 0 optional			
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Company Profile Completed



Green Check Mark – Section **Completed!**

NEW YORK

OPPORTUNITY.

STATE OF

Division of Minority

Business Development

and Women's

Supporting Documents- Electronic or Paper

	Certification Application: Document List Help & To Main Document Signature Signature Signature Certility Certification Made Easy Application status: In Application Type: New Application Application Number: 1559035	ncomplete	Submitting Electronic, 7 document	
State of New York ↔ → 2 3	Electronic or hardoopy documentation is accepted for this application type. Please select below the format you want to use for this application. Once a format is select documents for this application must be provided in the same format, e.g. all electronic or all hardoopy. Applications submitted with electronic documentation are able to be per the organization and reviewed faster. Processing of applications submitted with hardoopy documentation cannot begin until the documents are received by the organization.		in a <u>FASTE</u> of applicat	<u>R</u> processing tions
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Attaching Documentation



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	Certification Made Application Type: N Application Number	lew Application				Application status: Incomplete Application started: 4/7/2014
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essage »	Please note that as	a condition of your application fo	r certification, you are req	uired to mainta	n in your office the original documents provided	. New York State will review these
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		Personal Net Worth Affidavit, A minority or woman upon which			ownload, print, complete, sign, date, and otarize the provided form.	NOT attached
	Attach Fax C	Current year business Financial Year-To-Date Balance Sheet and Statement	Statements: including		axes cannot be used for this requirement.	NOT attached
	n	Most recent three (3) years of I returns for the BUSINESS inclu schedules, and amendments		o s	opies submitted must be true and correct opies of the original business tax returns as ubmitted to the IRS and any other oplicable entities.	NOT attached
	р s	Most recent two (2) years of Fe PERSONAL tax returns; includin statements and amendments fo woman upon which certificatio	g all schedules, W2s, r each minority or	lı a s ti	clude all W2s, 1099s, Schedule K-1s and all pplicable attachments, etc. Copies ubmitted must be true and correct copies of ue original personal tax returns as submitted the IRS and any other applicable entities.	NOT attached
		Documented proof of sources on nvestments	f capitalization and	0	ancelled checks (both sides), bank atements, purchase receipts, any loan	NOT attached

agreements, etc.

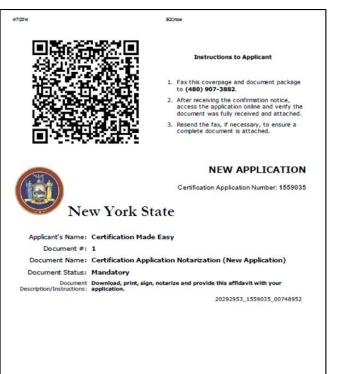
NOT attached

Attach Fax Bank signature card or letter from the bank identifying persons authorized to conduct transactions, level of

> Select "Attach"



Fax Coversheet



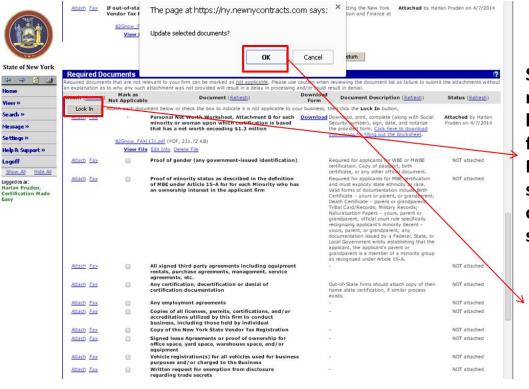
Each time "Fax" is selected, a new fax coversheet will be generated. Applicant must place coversheet on corresponding document.



Division of Minority and Women's Business Development

3/3

"Lock-In" Required Documents



Step 1 – After all required documents have been attached, faxed or "Marked as Not Applicable", select "LOCK IN" to complete this section

Step 2 - Select "OK"

NEW YORK

OPPORTUNITY.

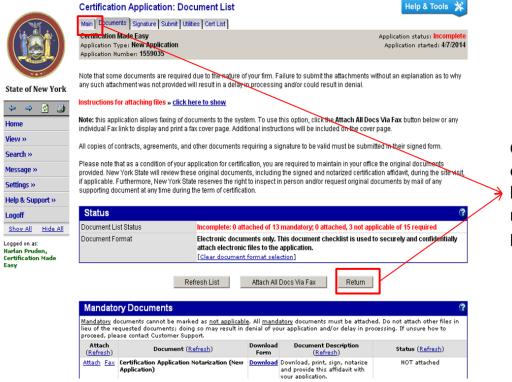
STATE OF

Division of Minority

Business Development

and Women's

Return to Main Page



Click on MAIN tab or the RETURN button to go back to main application page



Taking a Break from your Application

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY.

Returning to My Application ny.newnycontracts.com



Governor's M/WBE Program

- → Press Release
- → Executive Order
- → 2011 State of the State MWBE Clip
- → 2012 State of the State MWBE Clip

Empire State Development

- → Who We Are
- → MWBE Division

Businesses Want to Certify?

- → Learn About Certification
- → Apply for Certification
- → Recertify
- → Update Profile

Find NYS Contracting Opportunities

→ Bid & Grant Opportunities

Welcome to the New York State Contract System! New York State Works for MWBEs

New York is working harder than ever to make this state the place to do business.

This website is the gateway to attract and grow minority-owned and womenowned businesses.

The system makes the state certification process more user friendly and enables businesses to easily interact with the state agencies and authorities who are responsible for implementing the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) program.

Username:	[
Password:		
	Login	

Copyright © 2013. All Rights Reserved. The New York State Contract System is powered by B2Gnow Software.

Search for Certified Firms

MWBE Directory

NYSCS Links

→ Home/Login

- → Contact Us & Support
- → Password Reminder
- Account Lookup
- → Outreach & Program Notices
- → FAQs



Returning to Application-3rd Page

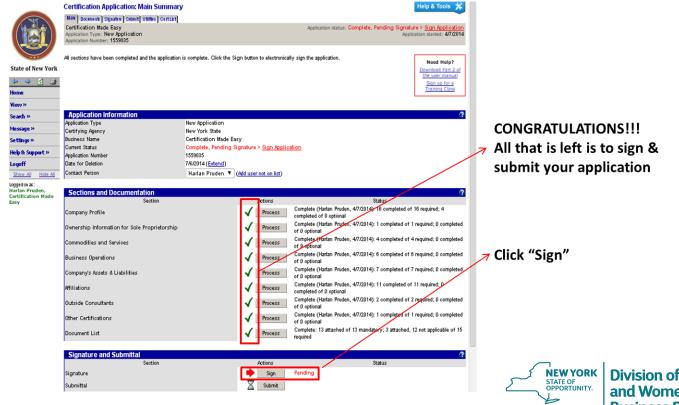
← → C 🔒 http	os://ny.newnycontrac	ts.com/From	ntPage/VendorMair	n.asp?XID=573		۲		
	Vendor Profile: C	ertification	s			Help & To	ools 💥	_
	Business Name: Certific Main General Info Public Certifications Workforce	Profile Users	Commodity Codes Contac	cts Employees	g Certification			
State of New York								Click "Process"
← ⇒ 🔮 🍰 Home	Current Certifications						?	CIICK PIOCess
View »	Applications						?	
Search »	Status	Application Number	Арр Туре	Organization	Dates	Contact	Actions	
Message » Settings »	Complete, Pending Signature	1559035	New Application	New York State	Started: 4/7/2014	Harlan Pruden	<u>Process</u>	
Help & Support »								
Logoff Show All Hide All								
Logged on as: Harlan Pruden, Certification Made Easy								NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. J

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Business Development

31

Sign and Submit

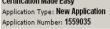


Signing Application



Certification Application: Sign Application

Main Documents Signature Submit Utilities Cert List Certification Made Easy



Help & Tools 🛣

Application status: Complete, Pending Signature > Sign Application Application started: 4/7/2014

State of New York

👔 🏐 ⇒

Under penalty of perjury, the person signing below: (1) warrants that he/she is authorized to submit this application for certification on behalf of the applicant firm, and (2) warrants that all documents, information, and statements contained in, attached to, or included with this application are true, accurate and complete as of the date furnished to the State. Submission of this form constitutes making the oath associated with notarization.

Home View »

Search » Message » Settings »

Help & Support » Logoff

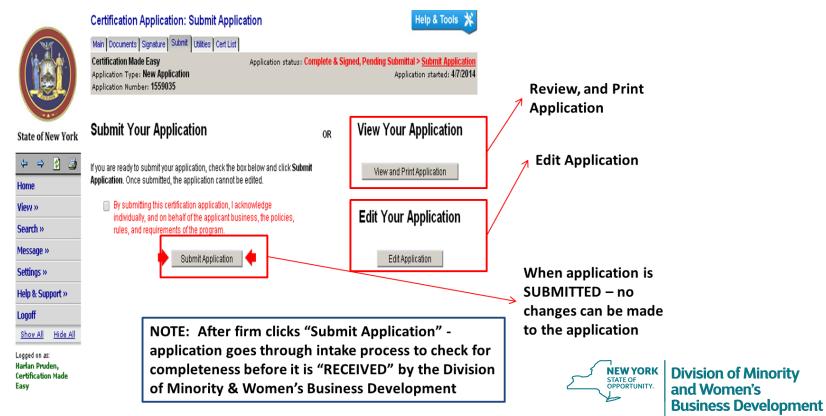
Show All Hide All

Logged on as: Harlan Pruden. **Certification** Made Easy



Business Development

Submit Application



Common Documentation Shortfalls

- No proof of capital contribution
- Equipment (purchase receipts)
 - Capital (Initial bank statements, copy of check/money order
 - Expertise (resume reflecting experience/role in business)
- Financial Statement (Accountant not needed!)
- Current signed lease/deed
 - Home based businesses are not exempt from this requirement.
 - Suppliers need to provide proof of warehouse location and an inventory list.



Common Documentation Shortfalls

- Corporate documents necessary (specific to business structure)
- Proof of race/ethnicity
 - Providing birth/death certificates of parents/grandparents if necessary
- Personal Net Worth Statement
 - Must be filled out even if negative
- Business vehicle registrations
- Certificate of Publication
 - Specific to LLCs
 - Even Out of State firms must get a C.O.P



3 Interrelated <u>BUT NOT</u> Interconnected Accounts

Three (3) Accounts/Profiles (Each requiring its own separate ACTION)

New York State Contract System Vendor Profile New York State Contract System Certification Application

New York State Contract Reporter



NYS Contract Reporter





www.nyscr.ny.gov



Utilizing the NYS Contract Reporter

- Create a FREE username/password
- Primes/ NYS Agencies & Authorities advertise opportunities on the NYSCR
- Search for Procurement Opportunities
 - Contract size, location, agency, industry, etc.
- Receive customized alerts based on preferences
- Join the NYS Business Registry for FREE



Little Known Facts About Certification

- Waiver of one year business requirement
 - Case by case- Must request in writing
 - Only applicable to professional license holders with a NYS license
 - http://www.op.nysed.gov/opsearches.htm
- Firms with a pending NYS contract as a prime or sub may have the state agency request an expedited review of their application
- Must re-certify every three years
 - If certification lapses, must submit new application



Avoiding Common Application Pitfalls

- Do not mail documents before submitting your application.
- Scan and label documents according to the document list!
- When uploading electronically- attach the correct documents for each section.
- Sign and notarize where applicable.
- Respond in a timely manner to requests for information/documentation.
- If your business requires a license, submit a copy of the license.



Additional Assistance

MWBE HELP DESK 212.803.2414 or 855.373.4692 MWBEcertification@esd.ny.gov

