

Become a Certified MWBE

Unlock new opportunities for your business by becoming a certified Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE). Certification connects you with exclusive contracting opportunities, business development resources, and a powerful network of fellow entrepreneurs.



Westchester County



According to our research, **71%** of qualifying businesses in Westchester are **not registered** as a MWBE business.

How to Sign Up

You can sign up with two separate entities: **Westchester County**, or **New York City**

-Westchester County is easier, quicker, but the NYC MWBE can offer stronger and more lucrative benefits

-They **are not** mutually exclusive

How to Sign Up with the Westchester MWBE

Create an Account:

- Go to the **Westchester County MWBE Certification Portal** (hosted by the Westchester County Office of Economic Development).
 - Register for an account with your business information and create login credentials.
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Complete the Application:



- Fill out the **Westchester MWBE Certification Application** online.
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Upload Required Documents:

You'll need to provide:

- **Proof of ownership and control** (operating agreement, stock certificates, or partnership agreements)
 - **Business formation documents** (articles of incorporation, bylaws, DBA certificate, etc.)
 - **Financial records** (tax returns, balance sheets, or profit/loss statements)
 - **Identification** for all qualifying owners
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Submit & Track Your Status:

- Submit your application online or by mail.
 - Once submitted, the **Westchester County MWBE office** will review your application.
 - You may be contacted for additional documents or an interview.
 - Certification review typically takes **60–90 days**.
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What You Need to Qualify

To qualify, your business must:

- Be **at least 51% owned, operated, and controlled** by a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who is:
 - Black

- Hispanic
 - Asian-Pacific
 - Asian-Indian
 - Native American
 - Female
 - Be a **small business** with a principal place of business in Westchester County (or in New York State).
 - Have been in operation for at least **one year**.
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Benefits of Certification

By becoming certified, you'll get:

- **Access to County Contracts:** Westchester County has MWBE participation goals—certified firms are prioritized in procurement.
 - **Visibility:** Your business will be listed in the **Westchester MWBE Directory** used by agencies and prime contractors.
 - **Free Business Services:**
 - Training workshops
 - One-on-one procurement counseling
 - Networking and matchmaker events
 - **Statewide Recognition:** Westchester certification can be cross-recognized with the **NYS MWBE program**, broadening contracting opportunities.
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Ready to Grow Your Business?

👉 Start Your Westchester MWBE Application [Here](#):

Need More Help?

- Watch this [overview video on MWBE certification](#).
 - Call the **Westchester County Office of Economic Development** at (914) 995-2900 for application assistance.
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How to Sign Up with the NYC MWBE

1. Create an Account:

- Go to the [NYC Online Certification Portal](#) and log in or register for a NYC.ID account.

2. Complete the Application:

- Fill out the online MWBE Certification Application.
- Upload required documents:

Proof of business ownership and control (e.g., operating agreement, stock certificates)

Financial records (tax returns, profit/loss statements)

Identification for qualifying owners

3. Submit & Track Your Status:

- Submit your completed application and check your status anytime in the portal.
- The approval process typically takes 90 days or less.

What You Need to Qualify

To qualify, your business must:

- Be **at least 51% owned, operated, and controlled** by a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who is (same as above):
 - Black
 - Hispanic
 - Asian-Pacific
 - Asian-Indian
 - Native American
 - Female
 - Be a **small business** with a place of business in NYC or a NYC-certified jurisdiction. Locations include:
 - Nassau
 - Putnam
 - Rockland
 - Westchester
 - Suffolk
 - Bergen
 - Have been **operating for at least one year**.
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Benefits of Certification

By becoming certified, you'll get:

- **Access to City Contracts:** NYC agencies have MWBE participation goals—certified firms get priority in procurement.
- **Visibility:** Listed in the NYC Online Directory of Certified Businesses.
- **Free Business Services:**
 - Workshops and training
 - One-on-one procurement counseling
 - Networking events and matchmaking sessions
- **Fast Track Opportunities:** Prequalification for some contracts

For more benefits click [here](#).

Ready to Grow Your Business?

[Start Your MWBE Application →](#)

Do you need more help starting and filling out the MWBE application?

Click [here](#) for a useful YouTube video that will walk you through all of the steps (begin watching at the 23:00 mark and watch until the end).

Want more clarity and an overview on what MWBE is?

Watch this helpful video; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7OQG37WQhs>