## **Program Benefits**

The federal government's goal is to award at least three percent of all federal contracting dollars to HUBZone-certified small businesses each year.

The government limits competition for certain contracts to businesses in historically underutilized business zones.

HUBZone certification qualifies you to:

- Bid on contracts reserved for HUBZone businesses, and
- Receive 10% price evaluation preference in full & open competition procurements

## **Program Qualifications**

- Be a <u>small business</u> according to SBA size standards
- At least 51% owned by US citizens OR be a business owned by:
  - Indian Tribal Government
  - Alaska Native Corporation
  - Community Development Corporation
  - Native Hawaiian Organization
  - Small Agricultural Cooperative
- Principal office <u>located in a HUBZone</u>
- At least 35% of employees <u>live in a HUBZone</u>

Full qualification criteria found in <u>Title 13 Part 126 Subpart B</u> of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Preliminary assessment of qualification available at <u>SBA's Certify website</u>.

### **HUBZone Certification**



## **Get Certified**

- 1. Make sure you have a <u>SAM.gov</u> account.
- 2. Make sure you have a General Login System account.
- 3. Apply for HUBZone certification using the <u>General Login System</u>. Log in, select "Access" and then "HUBZone" before completing the prompts.
- 4. Check your email for timesensitive instructions to electronically verify your application within 10 business days.
- 5. Submit requested supporting documentation within 10 business days.



# Getting the Most out of the HUBZone Certification

#### Participate in a Joint Venture

- Get enhanced market penetration
- Share costs, expenses and returns
- Increase knowledge and experience

#### **Access Other SBA Certification Programs**

- Gain access to further contracting opportunities by combining the HUBZone certification with other certification types
- Receive technical assistance for business plans, coaching, technology and financing services

- Utilize the Mentor-Protégé Program
- Enhance capabilities
- Help meet established business plan goals
- Improve ability to compete for contracts

#### Take Advantage of SBA's Resource Partners

- Assistance with training, executive education and one-on-one consulting in a broad range of business disciplines
- Technical assistance for business plans, coaching, technology and financing services

## **Proactive Self Marketing**

The HUBZone Certification program is **NOT** a contracting program. The program requires significant commitment on the part of the business to market it's products and/or services in order to succeed in the program.

- Focus on areas in your <u>niche</u> market and prioritize
- Identify federal **buyers** and get to know them
- Identify the agency contracting **procedures** and those who make buying decisions
- Make <u>contacts</u> through small business events and network your business



## Need help?

<u>HUBZone Certification Program</u> <u>hubzone@sba.gov</u>

