Doing Business with CalPERS
A Guide for Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Firms
At CalPERS, we use a competitive process to award millions of contract dollars to businesses each year.
The California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS) is committed to increasing contracting opportunities with California’s certified Small Business (SB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) firms.

At CalPERS, we use a competitive process to award millions of contract dollars each year for a wide variety of goods and services, such as:

- Consulting and professional services, including graphic design, mailing services, and printing.
- Information technology-related products and services.

Our goal is to spend a minimum of 25 percent of our contracting and procurement dollars with certified SBs, and 3 percent with certified DVBEs, in support of Executive Order S-02-06 and the Military and Veterans Code 999(a).

Getting Certified

Getting certified as an SB or DVBE firm is an important step toward increasing opportunities for your firm to do business with CalPERS and other State agencies and departments.

The Department of General Services’ (DGS) Office of Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Services certifies SB and DVBE firms. Applications for SB certification (STD 813) and DVBE certification (STD 812) are available on the DGS website at [www.dgs.ca.gov](http://www.dgs.ca.gov) under “Small Business & Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Services.”

If you haven’t already become a certified SB or DVBE, visit the DGS website at [www.dgs.ca.gov](http://www.dgs.ca.gov) to begin the process today.
Whether you’re starting a new company or have been in business for years, the CalPERS Business Connection is ready to help match your products and services to our needs.
Connecting Your Business to Ours

To help us increase our business with SB and DVBE firms, we developed the CalPERS Business Connection.

This “one stop shop” is designed to connect qualified businesses like yours with various CalPERS programs that need your goods or services.

The CalPERS Business Connection can:

› Provide information on becoming a certified SB or DVBE.

› Help you partner with a “prime” or “sub” contractor in order to secure contracts or qualify for SB or DVBE advantages.

› Put your business information into the hands of key CalPERS decision makers and purchasers.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact the CalPERS Business Connection by phone at (916) 795-3847, by e-mail at calpers_business_connection@calpers.ca.gov, or by TTY: For Speech and Hearing Impaired at (916) 795-3240.
To learn more about CalPERS contract solicitation process, our contracting policies, and opportunities to do business with us, visit our website at www.calpers.ca.gov and select the “For Business Partners” link.
Contracting with CalPERS

The first step in contracting with CalPERS is to register as an eBusiness Partner so you can access all solicitation materials and receive an e-mail alert each time we add or update online solicitation information. We then offer the following ways to contract with us:

SB/DVBE Option
This option allows us to avoid the lengthy formal bid process and contract with a certified SB or DVBE after obtaining price quotes from at least two SBs or DVBEs. This option applies to consulting and professional services, goods procurement, and information technology products valued between $5,000.01 and $250,000.00.

Spring Fed Pool
Our Spring Fed Pool (SFP) saves CalPERS and bidders time by allowing us to enter into a contract with several firms at once. The SFP begins with a solicitation for bid process, where interested firms bid during a specified time. When applicable projects are identified, we engage a firm from the SFP through a Letter of Engagement. This simple process can be used over and over throughout the life of the contract. Visit our website to find SFP solicitations, or register as an eBusiness Partner to receive e-mail notifications.

Vendor Pool
This process is used to procure various products and services. Firms can apply to be included in the Vendor Pool anytime – there’s no need to wait for a solicitation to “join.” Those vendors with a current California Multiple Awards Schedule (CMAS) or General Services Administration (GSA) schedule, who meet the minimum qualifications and requirements, may be added to the Vendor Pool. For more information regarding the Vendor Pool, e-mail us at OSSD_Vendor_Pool@calpers.ca.gov.
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