



Today, October 3, 2025, the U.S. Department of Transportation issued an Interim Final Rule (90 FR 47969) introducing changes to the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program. As a published IFR, the rules are effective immediately.

Among other things, the IFR removes race and sex-based presumptions in DBE qualifications and requires transportation agencies to recertify applicants based on evidence of social or economic disadvantage. To comply with the federal rule, effective today and until further notice, TxDOT will suspend the following:

- DBE Contract Goals: No new DBE goals will be set on contracts and DBE goals on existing contracts are suspended.
- Goal-Related Reporting: DBE participation will not be reported during this period.
- Bidders List Demographics: No collection of race and sex information for contractors on contracts.

The IFR calls for the development of new certification standards and recertification of all currently certified DBEs. This process will begin as soon as possible, and we will share instructions and timelines along with opportunities to provide input to the development of new certification standards and related goals. We will keep stakeholders informed as TxDOT works to implement the new requirements.