



Doing Business with the FDIC: FAQs



Get answers to your FDIC-
related business questions

About FDIC Small Business Resource Effort

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) recognizes the important contributions made by small, veteran, and minority and women-owned businesses to our economy. For that reason, we strive to provide small businesses with opportunities to contract with the FDIC. In furtherance of this goal, the FDIC has initiated the FDIC Small Business Resource Effort to assist the small vendors that provide products, services, and solutions to the FDIC.

The objective of the Small Business Resource Effort is to provide information and the tools small vendors need to become better positioned to compete for contracts and subcontracts at the FDIC. To achieve this objective, the Small Business Resource Effort references outside resources critical for qualified vendors, leverages technology to provide education according to perceived needs, and offers connectivity through resourcing, accessibility, counseling, coaching, and guidance where applicable.

This product was developed by the FDIC Office of Minority and Woman Inclusion (OMWI). OMWI has responsibility for oversight of the Small Business Resource Effort.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I'm a small business owner and I'm new to the FDIC's web site. Where do I start?

A: For information on how to become a contractor, click on the following link: fdic.gov/buying/goods/. This page provides information on doing business with the FDIC, and the FDIC's practices for procuring goods and services.

Q: I'm a small business owner. How do I sign up to work with the FDIC? Where do I go to create my business profile?

A: The System for Award Management (SAM) is the primary registrant database for the U.S. federal government. The FDIC will only award contracts to businesses that are registered in SAM. Contractors are encouraged to keep their profiles updated regularly, at a minimum, annually.

SAM can be accessed online at sam.gov. Resources are available on this site to assist you with your registration and provide detailed instructions. Please note: if you had an active record in Central Contractor Registration (CCR), your record was transferred to SAM. If this is your first time logging into SAM, it is recommended that you verify your information.

Q: I used to have a CCR, FedReg, ORCA, or EPLS account, but can't access it anymore. What happened?

A: CCR was the former primary registrant database for the U.S. federal government, but many contractors also had to separately register in FedReg, ORCA, and EPLS. In 2012, the General Services Administration (GSA) implemented the System for Award Management (SAM). SAM consolidated the capabilities of CCR, Federal Agency Registration (FedReg), Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA), and the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS) into one system. If you had an active record in CCR, your record was transferred to SAM. If this is your first time logging into SAM, it is recommended that you verify your information.

Q: I am a minority-, women-owned, veteran-owned, or small disadvantaged business. Can I sign up to work with the FDIC?

A: Absolutely. FDIC's Minority and Women Outreach Program (MWOP) encourages minority- and women-owned businesses (MWOBs) and small disadvantaged businesses (SDBs) to participate as contractors or subcontractors. For more information about the FDIC's MWOP, go to fdic.gov/mwop.

Regardless of your business type, you will need to complete the SAM registration online at [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov).

Q: How do I get more information about bidding on FDIC contracts?

A: The FDIC acquisition management process is governed by the Acquisition Policy Manual. Like federal and commercial firms, the FDIC uses competitive solicitations to obtain goods and services. For a better understanding of the FDIC's practices for procuring goods and services, visit fdic.gov/buying/goods/.

Forms and policy documents required for doing business with the FDIC are available at fdic.gov/buying/goods/acquisition/.

You must register your business in SAM to be awarded FDIC contracts. Register online at SAM.gov.

Q: How should I approach working with the FDIC if I do not have experience?

A: The FDIC makes the names and contact information of its prime contractors publicly available through its "List of Awards and Contractor Contact Information." Depending on the size of each contract, the prime contractors must provide "maximum practicable subcontracting opportunities to small businesses." If you offer complementary services to these prime contractors, becoming a subcontractor may be the best way for you to initially bid on FDIC contract opportunities. Contact information for FDIC prime contractors is available at [List of Awards and Contractor Contact Information](#).

Prime contractors provide services under the following categories:

- FDIC Receivership Assistance
- Receivership Management Support Services
- Owned Real Estate (ORE) Management & Marketing Services
- Owned Real Estate (ORE) Sales
- FDIC Environmental Due Diligence/Site Assessment
- National Valuation (Appraisal) Services
- Securities Financial Advisory Services
- Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) Auction Services
- Internet Marketing and Support Services
- Financial Advisory Valuation Services
- Financial Advisory Services – Marketing and Sales of Loan Assets
- Financial Advisory Services – Note Structuring
- Financial Advisory Services – Complex Securities
- FDIC Loss Share Agreement
- FDIC Data Management Services
- FDIC Subsidiary and Other Assets Management Services
- FDIC Construction Loan Management Services
- FDIC Financial Compliance Review Services
- Due Diligence for Single Family Real Estate Services
- Due Diligence for Commercial Services Real Estate
- FDIC Small Business Administration Loan Consulting and Servicing Services
- FDIC Loan Servicing Assistance, Surveillance, and Oversight Services
- FDIC Business Process Operations (BPO)

- Securitization Program – Underwriter Services
- FDIC Securitization Master Services
- Appraisal Management Services (AMS)
- Loan Servicing
- Property Inspection Services
- Real Estate (Open-Outcry) Auction Services

Another good resource when starting a new business is the Minority Business Development Agency (mbda.gov/). The MBDA offers business tools, education and resources for minority and Diaspora businesses with business centers across the United States.

Q: What qualifications do I need to become a subcontractor?

A: The FDIC requires prime contractors to verify that each potential subcontractor meets the requirements stated in the Code of Federal Regulations. To be a potential prime contractor or subcontractor, you must be able to show that you:

- Are not disqualified from performing services under the FDIC contract because of the existence of any of the conditions identified in Sec. 366.4(a) of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- Have no conflicts of interest as defined in Sec. 366.2(c)(1) through (3) of the Code of Federal Regulations, subject to a request by the contractor for a conflict of interest waiver or proposal for the elimination of a conflict of interest as set forth in Sec. 366.5 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- Have not, during the ten (10) years preceding the submission of the offer, defaulted on a material obligation to any insured depository institution.
- Meet any other requirements that the FDIC may deem appropriate, the scope of which will be dependent on the particular contract.

While prime contractors and subcontractors must meet these requirements, doing so does not mean you automatically become a prime contractor or subcontractor. To review the complete Code of Federal Regulations, go to gpoaccess.gov/.

Q: What is the FDIC Contractor Resource List? How do I get on the list?

A: The Contractor Resource List contains potential contractors who can assist with work related to failing financial institutions and associated requirements. The FDIC uses the Contractor Resource List, as well as other information sources, when developing lists of qualified contractors to invite to participate in contract solicitations.

Businesses interested in being added to the Contractor Resource List should create their own record on the following site: fdic-crl.com. Only one user account is permitted per

vendor/contractor. If you are having technical issues, please contact the FDIC-CRL Help Desk at 877-275-3342.

Before you begin creating your Contractor Resource List account, you should obtain or complete your DUNS, SAM registration, and NAICS codes.

Q: How do I know if the FDIC uses my product or service?

A: The FDIC frequently uses contractors to assist with work related to failing financial institutions and associated requirements. The FDIC procures the following services from contractors:

- Brokerage, marketing, and/or property management services
- Appraisal services
- Asset and/or portfolio management services
- Financial and/or consulting services
- Legal services

The FDIC makes all prime contracts awarded publicly available through its “List of Awards and Contractor Contact Information.” More detailed information about contracts awarded by FDIC category and the contractor’s contact information is available at [List of Awards and Contractor Contact Information](#).

Q: I’ve never worked for a government agency before. Is there anything special I need to do?

A: Businesses must take specific steps to be considered as a government contractor for any government agency. These steps include:

- Obtaining a DUNS number by visiting [D-U-N-S Request Service](#).
- Registering with the federal government's contracting database, System for Award Management (SAM) at [SAM.gov](#).

While businesses must meet these requirements to contract with government agencies, doing so does not guarantee that you become a contractor. More information on government contracting is available at [Government Contracting](#).

Q: What is a Cage Code?

A: The Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS) has sole responsibility for assigning and maintaining the Cage Code Master File. The Cage Code is a five position code that identifies contractors doing business with the federal government, NATO member nations, and other foreign governments. The Cage Code is used to support a variety of mechanized systems throughout the government and provides for a standardized method of identifying a given facility at a specific location. The code may be used for facility clearance, a pre-award survey, automated bidders lists, identification of debarred bidders, fast pay processes, etc. If you do not have a CAGE Code, one will be automatically assigned after you complete your registration in SAM.

Q: What is a Dun and Bradstreet Number (DUNS)?

A: DUNS stands for "Data Universal Numbering System." It is a unique nine-digit numbering system that is used to identify a business. To find your DUNS number, please go to smallbusiness.dnb.com/. If you complete the online DUNS application, it takes approximately one week before the information is reflected on the Dun and Bradstreet web site.

Q: If I need help, can I call or email someone from the FDIC?

A: Yes. The FDIC's Call Center directs calls from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, Monday-Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET, Saturday and Sunday. Call toll free 1-877-ASKFDIC (1-877-275-3342) or access the TDD Line at 1-800-925-4618.

If you are a minority-owned, women-owned, veteran-owned, or small disadvantaged business, ask to be directed to the Minority and Women Outreach Program (MWOP) or send an e-mail to MWOBOutreach@fdic.gov.

Other Helpful Links

[System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#)

[Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\)](#)

[Definition of a small business](#)

[Federal Acquisition Regulations \(FAR\)](#)

[Help for small businesses](#)

[How to find government contracting opportunities](#)

[Official business link to the U.S. government](#)

[Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#)

[Small business Certification](#)

[U.S. General Services Administration \(GSA\)](#)