



DBE Goal Setting Report FY 2024

RIDES MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

FY 2024 Overall DBE Goal

I. INTRODUCTION

Rides Mass Transit District (RMTD) has prepared this submission to the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) to describe the methodology used to establish the transit Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal mandated by 49 CFR part 26 for its federally assisted transit contracts.

II. Background

RMTD relied on and followed the regulations and guidance provided concerning the implementation of the regulations. 49 CFR §26.45 requires a two-step process for setting the transit DBE goal that reflects the level of DBE participation on RMTD's contracts expected in the absence of discrimination. The first step is the calculation of a base figure for the relative availability of DBEs. The second step requires consideration of a possible adjustment of the base figure to reflect the effects of the DBE program and the level of participation that would be expected "but for" the effects of past and current discrimination against DBEs. As further required by §26.51(c), RMTD submits a projection of the transit goal that it expects to meet through race-neutral means.

III. FTA-Assisted Contracting Program for FY 2024

Table 1 identifies NAICS codes with associated business classifications as well as RMTD's FTA-assisted contracting opportunities through 5307 and 5311. RMTD will maintain its active DBE policy and encourage participation in other non-planned contracts to certified DBEs.

NAICS CODE	BUSINESS CLASSIFICATION/ CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY	FTA \$ 5307	FTA \$ 5311	TOTAL FTA \$ AMOUNT
524114	Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance	\$996,319	\$1,303,026	\$2,299,345
424710	Bulk Fuel	\$614,707	\$803,938	\$1,418,645
TOTAL		\$1,611,026	\$2,106,964	\$3,717,990

Table 1

IV. Goal Methodology and Evidence

Step 1 Weighted Estimate of Relative Availability of DBEs

A. Relevant Market Area: Geographic Preference

The relevant market area was determined to specify the geographical area for seeking available businesses. Based on the past DPIT projects it is determined that the geographical area will be the counties of Edgar, Clark, Crawford, Cumberland, Edwards, Jasper, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Pope, Saline, White, and Williamson.

B. DBE Availability and Weighted Base Figure

RMTD followed the prescribed federal methodology to determine a weighted base figure.

First, RMTD divided the amount of DOT funds on a project by the total FTA-Assisted contract funds (Table 1). This calculation will determine the percent of total DOT funds (weight).

Next, RMTD took the number of reading, willing, and able DBE firms found in the Illinois Unified Certification Program DBE Directory divided by the total number of identifiable firms in the 2021 Census Bureau’s County Business Patterns (CBP) database. This calculation will determine the relative availability of DBE firms on each project. To assist in determining the numerator and denominator, RMTD utilized the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Codes.

Numerator: Illinois Unified Certification Program

Denominator: 2021 Census Bureau’s County Business Patterns Database

Lastly, RMTD took the weight of each project multiplied by its relative availability to determine the weighted base figure. The figure is then multiplied by 100 to represent a percentage. Table 2 identifies the result of the weighted base figure calculation.

NAICS CODE	NAICS DESCRIPTION	DBE FIRMS	ALL FIRMS	WEIGHT	RELATIVE AVAILABILITY	WEIGHTED BASE FIGURE
524126	Property & Liability Insurance	1	614	0.0	0.0	0.0
525190	Workers' Compensation	0	4,145	0.0	0.0	0.0
517311	Internet Service Providers, VoIP Service	1	1,190	0.0	0.0	0.0
561720	Janitorial Services	25	2,556	0.0	0.0	0.0
423120	Motor Vehicle Parts	3	480	0.0	0.0	0.0
524114	Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance	0	150	0.6184	0.0	0.0
541211	Auditing Services	7	2,240	0.0	0.0	0.0
424710	Bulk Fuel	1	118	0.3816	0.0085	0.0032
561730	Lawn Maintenance Services & Snow Plowing	48	4,927	0.0	0.0	0.0
441320	Tire Dealers	0	4,721	0.0	0.0	0.0
524291	Third Party Administrator	1	190	0.0	0.0	0.0
541214	Payroll Services	5	182	0.0	0.0	0.0
621999	Drug & Alcohol Testing Services	7	283	0.0	0.0	0.0
561621	Security Systems (e.g., fire, burglar)	5	194	0.0	0.0	0.0
339999	Fire Extinguisher Services	1	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
238990	All Other Specialty Trade Contractors	61	1,489	0.0	0.0	0.0
238210	Electrical Contractors and other Wiring Installation Contractors	37	2,710	0.0	0.0	0.0
238220	Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors	28	4,147	0.0	0.0	0.0
238390	Other Building Finishing Contractors	12	361	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL		243	30,697	1	0.0085	0.0032

Table 2

C. Overall DBE Goal

Based on the DBE availability, RMTD considers **.32 percent** as the base figure for its overall DBE goal for FY 2024.

V. Step 2 Consideration of Adjustment to the Base Figure

RMTD examined all evidence in its jurisdiction to determine what adjustment, if any, is needed to the base figure to arrive at the overall goal. Included among the types of evidence that must be considered are the current capacity of DBEs to perform work on RMTD’s federally assisted contracts and evidence from disparity studies conducted anywhere within RMTD’s jurisdiction, to the extent not already accounted for in the base figure. RMTD must also consider available evidence from related fields that affect the opportunities for DBEs to form, grow and compete, if available. These include, but are not limited to, statistical disparities in the ability of DBEs to obtain the financing, bonding and insurance required to participate in the program, and data on employment, self-employment, education, training, and union apprenticeship programs, to the extent relevant to the opportunities for DBEs to perform in the program. The regulations caution that any adjustment to the base figure to account for the continuing effects of past discrimination or the effects of an ongoing DBE program must be based on “demonstrable evidence that is logically and directly related to the

effect for which the adjustment is sought” §26.45(d)(3).

A. Consideration of Adjustment to the Base Figure

RMTD has no relevant data or local disparity studies from related fields that affect the opportunities for DBEs to form, grow, or compete on FTA-assisted contracts. RMTD will not be utilizing past participation to adjust the goal. No adjustment to the base figure is recommended.

VI. Projection of Race-Neutral vs. Race-Conscious Goal Attainment

RMTD will meet its aspirational FY 2024 goal of **.32 percent** through 100% race-neutral measures. The agency actively seeks to solicit procurement participation from DBE firms.

A. Race-Neutral Initiatives

Race neutral methods include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Provide technical assistance and other services upon request.
- Provide adequate communication of contracting procedures via website and other sources.
- Refer DBEs to local support service programs.
- DBE participation through a prime contract obtained through competitive procurement procedures.
- DBE participation through a subcontract on a prime contract.
- RMTD will provide pre-bid/pre-proposal conferences.
- RMTD will advise its contracting community of the online directory of certified DBE’s, found at the Illinois Unified Certification Program website: www.IllinoisUCP.com

RMTD will also make efforts to ensure that Requests for Proposals (RFPs), Invitation for Bids (IFBs) and all corresponding contracting requirements foster participation by DBEs and other small businesses. RMTD encourages prime contractors to subcontract portions of the work to DBEs. Formal RFPs, IFBs and a list of contracting opportunities are available on the website as is the DBE policy and general information about “how to do business” with Rides Mass Transit District.

B. Public Participation

RMTD will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 18th, 2023, at 1PM CST to accept public comments. Invitations will be sent to current DBEs on file, published in local newspapers and on the district’s website. RMTD will maintain a record of who was invited, who attended, and any comments made.

RMTD’s proposed DBE goal and methodology will be posted to the agency website. <https://www.ridesmtd.com/business/dbe/>