

Georgia Department
of
Transportation
**Disadvantage Business Enterprise
(DBE)
Certification**





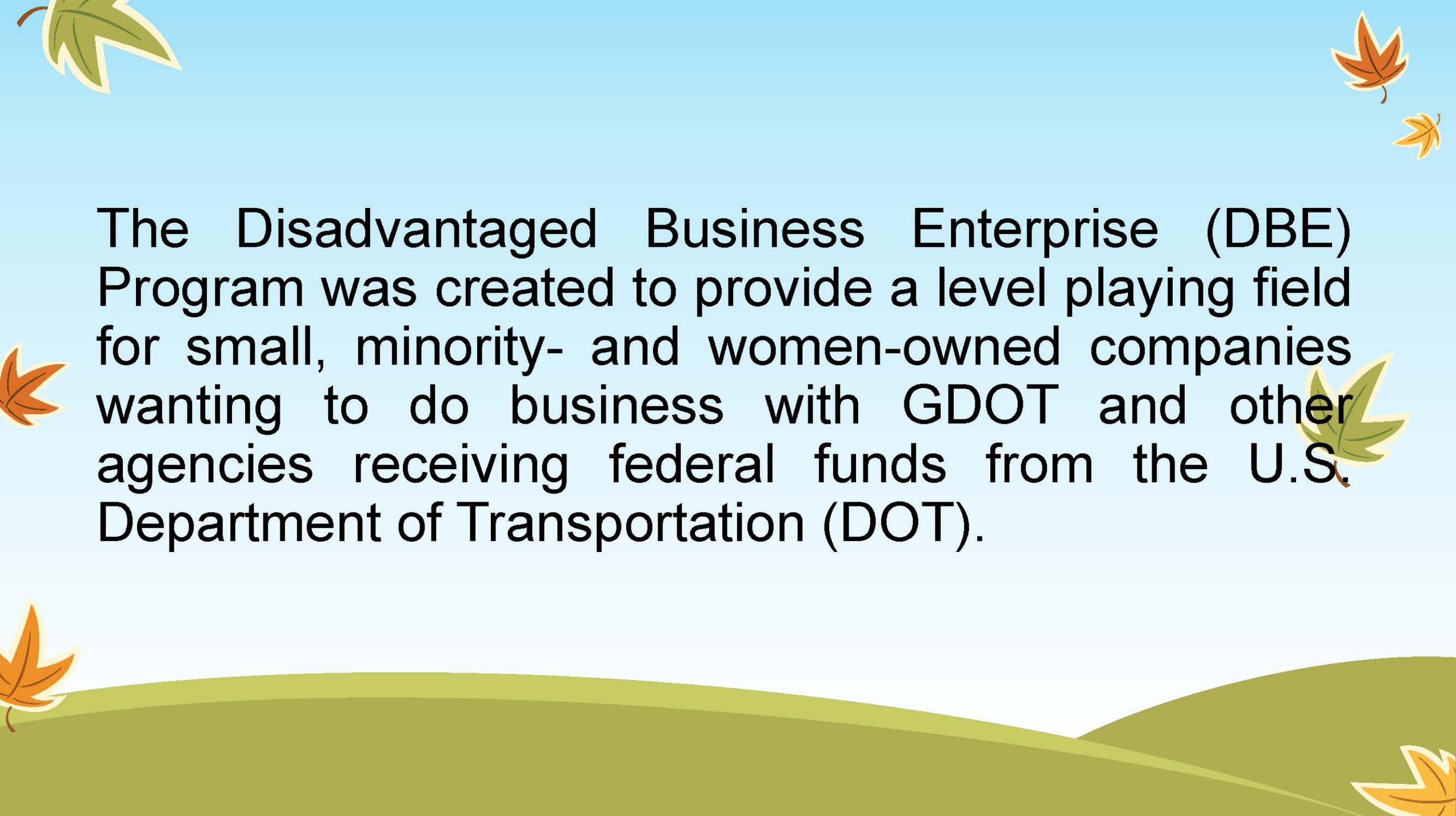
DBE Support Services



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The slide features a light blue background with several stylized autumn leaves scattered around the text. There is a green leaf in the top-left corner, a cluster of orange and yellow leaves in the top-right corner, a single orange leaf on the left side, a green leaf on the right side, an orange leaf in the bottom-left corner, and a yellow leaf in the bottom-right corner. The text is centered and reads:

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program was created to provide a level playing field for small, minority- and women-owned companies wanting to do business with GDOT and other agencies receiving federal funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).



Disadvantage Business Enterprise - Eligibility

- For-profit small business that is at least 51% owned by one individual or by at least two individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged
 - Business management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it
 - DBE owner must be a U.S. Citizen
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Disadvantage Business Enterprise - Elements

Social and Economic Disadvantage: Include Women, Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Subcontinent Asian-Americans or other minorities found to be disadvantaged by the federal regulations.



Personal Net Worth (PNW): The disadvantaged owner's personal net worth (not including primary residence and ownership in the business) may not exceed \$1.32 million to qualify as "economically disadvantaged."



Business Size Standard: Firm must be a small business with annual gross receipts for the three previous fiscal years which have not exceeded \$23.98 million (\$56.42 million for ACDBE).



Ownership: The firm must be at least 51% owned by a socially and economically disadvantaged person(s), such as African Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic, Asian -Pacific, Asian -Indian Americans, and/or Women. Claims of minority status will be evaluated by GDOT. GDOT may also determine, on a case -by-case basis, individuals who do not belong to any of these groups to be socially and/or economically disadvantaged.



Independence: The DBE must not be affiliated with another firm in such a way as to compromise its independence and control.



Management and Control: The managerial role of the socially and economically disadvantaged owners in the firm's overall affairs must be such that the DBE program administrators can reasonably conclude that the socially and economically disadvantaged owners actually exercise control over the firm's operations, management, and policy.





File an application and personal net worth (PNW) form with the Georgia Department of Transportation (**Note: If in Fulton, Clayton or DeKalb counties, online with MARTA**)

Application is checked for completeness. If incomplete, the applicant is sent a letter requesting the missing information

Once the application is complete an on-site review is scheduled and conducted at the applicant's office



All materials submitted by the applicant and the on-site report are reviewed by the investigator, who determines if the applicant meets the eligibility standards



If the application is approved, the applicant is notified, in writing, of the certification approval (**Note: If your application is complete, the process should take a minimum of 90 days. Please keep in mind that meeting the minimum 90 day processing time is dependent on the timeliness of the applicant's response to requests for information, scheduling of the on-site visit, etc.**)





What Happens After Certification

To do business with GDOT all prime contractors, subcontractors, certified DBEs and non DBE firms must be registered with the Department. This is a separate process than DBE certification and is handled by the Office of Construction Bidding Administration. There is also a prequalification process for all consultants interested in providing services to GDOT as well.



For more information visit the GDOT website at www.dot.ga.gov.





Benefits of Being A Certified DBE

- DBEs may be utilized to satisfy a DBE goal on any project with funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation
 - DBEs receive statewide exposure for contracting opportunities through the DBE Directory
 - DBEs may participate in a variety of supportive services, such as training and technical assistance (**Note: Many of these services are at no cost to certified DBEs**)
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Any Questions?

