

Reevaluation Application Guidelines

This letter provides updated guidance for all Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) firms regarding the mandatory reevaluation for DBE certification under the USDOT's Interim Final Rule (IFR).

The DBE reevaluation application is now available. The NDOT will complete the IFR reevaluation period for DBE/ACDBE firms on November 13, 2026. Recertification Applications submitted after this date will still be accepted and reviewed. NDOT will review submissions as quickly as practicable and will notify firms once recertification eligibility decisions are determined. If you have questions about the process or do not plan to apply for recertification, please notify NDOT.

Please note that recertification under the IFR eligibility standards is required for a firm's participation to be eligible for DBE credit.

You may review the Interim Final Rule at: [DBE Laws, Policy, and Guidance](#).

Key changes under the new USDOT rule include:

- The presumption of social disadvantage has been removed. Eligibility will no longer be based on an owner's race or sex.
- Each firm must submit two required documents: a current Personal Net Worth (PNW) Statement and a Personal Narrative (PN).

Reminders

- Your PN must show disadvantage by a "preponderance of the evidence," meaning that based on the information you provide, it is more likely than not that the circumstances you describe resulted in social and economic disadvantage. Race or sex does not create a presumption of social or economic disadvantage.
- If you choose not to apply for reevaluation, please notify NDOT.
- All firms seeking reevaluation must respond as quickly as practicable. Firms must provide the requested information and documentation within the timeframe specified by NDOT. Failure to provide the requested information may result in action to remove the firm's DBE certification, consistent with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26.

Thank you for your participation in the DBE program and your patience during this transition.

NDOT Civil Rights Office

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