



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

State of New York

General Program Information on the Enhanced Utilization Credit Initiative (EUCI)

Q: What is the Enhanced Utilization Credit Initiative (EUCI)? A: The EUCI is a program designed by the MTA, in partnership with the New York State Division of Minority and Women's Business Development (DMWBD), to increase participation of certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs) in MTA contracting. Specifically, it targets firms that have had limited or no prior opportunities to contract with the MTA.

Q: How does EUCI benefit MWBE vendors? A: The program makes eligible MWBE firms more attractive partners to prime contractors. Under this initiative, prime contractors receive an "enhanced utilization credit" of 1.5 times the dollar value of the subcontract when they engage an eligible MWBE firm. For example, if a prime contractor pays an eligible MWBE subcontractor \$10 million, the MTA will credit the prime with \$15 million toward their MWBE goals.

Eligibility Requirements

Q: Who is eligible to participate as an EUCI subcontractor? A: To be eligible, an MWBE firm must meet the following criteria:

- Must be NYS-certified for the applicable scope of work and have at least two years in business.
- Have **not** engaged in prime or subcontracting opportunities with the MTA within the past three (3) calendar years or have not performed on MTA contracts larger than \$500,000.
- *Note:* Current or graduate participants of the MTA EDGE Program are exempt from the requirement regarding prior MTA contract history.

The agencies of the MTA

MTA New York City Transit
MTA Long Island Rail Road

MTA Metro-North Railroad
MTA Bridges and Tunnels

MTA Capital Construction
MTA Bus Company



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Q: Are there training requirements to participate? A: Yes. Eligible firms must be identified as having received advanced training to ensure compliance and streamline participation. You must be certified as completing one of the following advanced education course cycles:

- “How to do Business with the MTA” (offered by the MTA on demand – launching in 2026).
- MTA EDGE - the MTA’s Small Business Mentorship Program Training.
- Business Growth Accelerator (BGA) Program (offered by Empire State Development).

Q: Do I need to apply to participate in this program? A: In order to receive EUCI certification you must have completed one of the three training programs; “How to do Business with the MTA”, MTA EDGE, or Business Growth Accelerator (BGA) Program. Additional qualifying training programs will be added soon. Upon completion of either program, you will automatically become a participant.

Q: What is the best way for prime contractors to learn about my ability to serve as a subcontractor? A: To ensure Prime contractors are aware of your availability and qualifications, you should implement a proactive outreach strategy focused on three key areas:

Refine Your Capability Statement: Explicitly list your firm as eligible for the EUCI program. Ensure this document clearly highlights your core competencies so Primes can quickly assess your fitness for a project.

Direct Relationship Building: Proactively reach out to Prime contractors you are targeting for future partnerships. Personal outreach helps keep your firm "top of mind" during the bidding phase.

Active Networking: Attend pre-bid meetings and industry outreach events. These forums provide a direct opportunity to introduce your team, distribute your capability statement, and highlight your availability for specific upcoming contracts.

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Program Limitations and Scope

Q: Is there a limit to how many times I can participate in the EUCI? A: Yes. Once a participating MWBE firm has completed two distinct or unrelated contracts under the EUCI, they will be deemed ineligible for future credit enhancement participation with the MTA.

Q: Are there dollar limits on the subcontracts eligible for the program? A: Yes. The full scope for subcontracts considered for inclusion in the EUCI cannot exceed \$20 million in value for each participating MWBE firm. Additionally, the enhanced credit cap for prime contractors is \$10 million per contract.

Q: Can Designated Enhanced Utilization Firms be removed from the eligible list? A: Yes. After a Designated Enhanced Utilization Firm is used on two distinct MTA contracts, it will no longer be approved to provide enhanced credit and will be removed from the list of eligible firms.

Process for Vendors

Q: How do prime contractors know I am eligible? A: The MTA Contract Compliance team will utilize NAICS codes to pull a list of eligible firms from the NYS MWBE Certification Directory. This list, or a link to it, will be included in the bid package shared by the MTA during solicitation. Additionally, you can search for certified firms via the NYS MWBE Directory.

Q: Does the "Enhanced Utilization Credit" affect the actual payment I receive? A: No. Enhanced credit is a metric used for the prime contractor's goal attainment. It does not affect the actual dollar value of the subcontract or the payments made to the subcontractor.

Q: How is my performance evaluated under this program? A: The MTA will conduct quarterly evaluations with the prime contractor regarding your work. The MTA will also submit a quarterly summary of activity to Empire State Development (ESD), which includes the prime contractor's evaluation of work performed and payments made to date.

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