



**Promoting Minority Business Participation in the
Economic Recovery of Pennsylvania:
*A Guide to Finding Opportunities under the
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act***

January 2010

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

The \$787 billion [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#), commonly referred to as the stimulus package, was signed into law on February 17, 2009.

With a recovery package of this size comes a responsibility to assure every taxpayer that we are being careful with the money they work so hard to earn... And we expect you, the American people, to hold us accountable for the results... We want transparency and accountability throughout this process.

President Barack Obama, February 17, 2009

The [Stakeholders Outreach Initiative](#), co-led by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Small Business Administration, is designed to ensure that minority businesses, small businesses, and firms owned by women and veterans have greater access to federal government contracting opportunities.

[The Enterprise Center](#) and the [Pennsylvania Minority Business Enterprise Center](#) were awarded a contract to [lead the effort in Pennsylvania](#).

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises and the ARRA

The White House Office of Management and Budget's [Implementing Guidance for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#) provides:

Targeting assistance consistent with other policy goals. Federal agencies should take additional policy considerations into account, to the extent permitted by law and practicable, when determining how best to use Recovery Act funds for achieving the Act's objectives, such as supporting projects that ensure compliance with equal opportunity laws and principles, support small businesses including disadvantaged business enterprises, engage in sound labor practices, promote local hiring, and engage with community-based organizations.

[Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Agreement Addendum on Implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009](#)

On October 28, 2009, Governor Edward G. Rendell signed [Executive Order 2009-02](#), "Creating Opportunities for Small and Disadvantaged Businesses in the Expenditure of Federal Stimulus Monies," which establishes a 10 percent aspirational goal for small and disadvantaged business inclusion.

How to Find Federal Stimulus Opportunities

Minority business enterprises should register with the [Minority Business Development Agency's Phoenix Opportunity Matching System](#). The database lists and matches ARRA-funded opportunities in Pennsylvania and across the country. The database also includes non-ARRA opportunities that match your firm's [NAICS codes](#).

- [Recovery.gov](#)
- [Recovery.org](#)
- [FedBizOpps.gov](#) (Federal Business Opportunities)
- [Broadband USA](#)
- [BroadbandMatch](#)
- [Grants.gov](#)
- [Recovery at Minority Business Development Agency \(MBDA\)](#)

How to Find State Stimulus Opportunities

- Recovery.PA.gov
 - [Opportunities](#)
 - [State Agency Point Persons on Stimulus](#)
 - [eMarketplace](#)

Transportation Projects

- [PennDOT Engineering and Construction Management System](#) (up-to-date information on construction projects, construction contracts and consultant agreements)
 - [Regional Offices](#)
 - [U.S. Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program](#)

Department of General Services

- [Bureau of Minority and Women Business Opportunities](#)
- [Request for Proposals Template and Instructions](#)

How to Find Local Stimulus Opportunities

- [Philadelphia Recovery](#)
 - [City Agency Point Persons on Stimulus](#)
 - [Regional Stimulus Watch](#)

- [SEPTA](#)

- [Pittsburgh Stimulus Tracker](#)
 - [Regional Stimulus Watch](#)
 - [Allegheny County Stimulus Tracker](#)

- [Harrisburg Recovery](#)

- [Recovery.org \(Search by City\)](#)

Weatherization Projects

- [Energy Coordinating Agency of Philadelphia](#)
- [Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation](#)
- [Weatherization County Contacts](#)

Federal and State Certifications

Federal

- [Small Business Administration 8\(a\) Business Development Program](#)
- [Central Contractor Registration](#)

State

- [Department of General Services Bureau of Minority and Women Business Opportunities](#)
 - [ARRA Application and Instruction Guide for Certification as a M/WBE](#)
- [Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program](#) (firms seeking certification to participate in federally-funded transportation projects, including PennDOT, SEPTA and Philadelphia International Airport)
- [Invitation to Qualify \(ITQ\) Information Technology Certification Process](#)
 - [PowerPoint Presentation: The New IT ITQ](#)
- [Weatherization Workforce Certification Requirements](#)

Local Certifications

- [Philadelphia Office of Economic Opportunity](#)
- [Allegheny County Minority/Women/Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Certification](#)
- [City of Pittsburgh Equal Opportunity Review Commission](#)

Online Resources

Federal

- [Small Business Administration](#)
- [Recovery at Minority Business Development Agency \(MBDA\)](#)
- [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](#)

State

- [Doing Business with the Commonwealth](#)
 - [Request for Proposals Template and Instructions](#)
 - [RFP Process Outline and Checklist](#)

Local

[Doing Business with the City of Philadelphia](#)

- [PowerPoint Presentation: Contracting with the City of Philadelphia](#)
- [Register for Procurement's Bidders List](#)
- [eContract Philly](#)



Questions? For more information, visit the
Pennsylvania Minority Business Enterprise Center
ARRA Advocacy and Outreach Initiative at

<http://bit.ly/2trDIb>

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