



Moving Pennsylvania forward and
creating economic opportunities for all.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Bureau of Workforce Development & Business
Opportunity
P.O. Box 3251
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Phone: (717)787-5891
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January 5, 2026

RE: Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program
Submission Notice for DBE/ACDBE Certification Reevaluation

Dear DBE/ACDBE:

According to the Interim DBE/ACDBE Final Rule (IFR), published on October 3, 2025, the United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) prohibits Unified Certification Programs (UCPs) from using race and sex-based presumptions in determining DBE/ACDBE certification eligibility. The socially and economically disadvantaged owner(s) (SEDOs) of all DBE and ACDBE firms must demonstrate on an individual basis that they are socially and economically disadvantaged, based on their own experiences and circumstances within American society without reliance on race or sex. Therefore, the Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program (PA UCP) and all UCPs are required to reevaluate all certified DBE/ACDBE firms in its directory for the firm to remain certified. The following items must be submitted for reevaluation:

1. A Personal Narrative (PN) for each owner claiming social and economic disadvantage. The code of federal regulations (CFR) 49 CFR 26.67 found below, outlines what information the PN must contain. In the narrative, the owner must:
 - a. Demonstrate that the owner is socially and economically disadvantaged based on his or her own experiences and circumstances that occurred within American society, and without regard to race or sex.
 - b. Establish the existence of disadvantage by a preponderance of the evidence based on individualized proof regarding specific instances of economic hardship, systemic barriers, and denied opportunities that impeded the owner's progress or success in education, employment, or business, including obtaining financing on terms available to similarly situated, non-disadvantaged persons.

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- c. State how and to what extent the impediments caused the owner economic harm, including a full description of type and magnitude, and establish the owner is economically disadvantaged in fact relative to similarly situated non-disadvantaged individuals; and
2. A Personal Net Worth (PNW) statement and any other financial information the owner considers relevant.
3. A copy of the 2024 Personal Federal Tax Return, with all schedules and forms for each SEDO.

Please provide the requested information by **February 5, 2026**, so we can reevaluate your DBE/ACDBE certification. The requested information can be submitted via:

1. Upload to: <https://penndot.dbesystem.com> via **25 Re-eval** application process.

Your failure to submit this information will result in your firm remaining ineligible for counting towards DBE/ACDBE participation. The firm will remain ineligible until successful completion of the reevaluation.

The full text of US DOT's Interim Final Rule & FAQs can be found at the following links:
<https://www.transportation.gov/mission/civil-rights/disadvantaged-business-enterprise/october-2025-interim-final-rule>

https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/DBE_IFR_FAQs.pdf

If you do not wish to go through the reevaluation process, and wish to withdraw your DBE/ACDBE certification, please send an email to: penndotucpinfo@pa.gov.

Upon receipt and review of your required submission, our agency will notify you regarding your continued eligibility. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact our office at penndotucpinfo@pa.gov.

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Failure to submit the required information or failing to take action will render your firm ineligible for counting towards the DBE/ACDBE participation.

Thank you for your interest in Pennsylvania's DBE/ACDBE Program.

Sincerely,

Megan E. Peterson, Ed.D.
Director
Bureau of Workforce and Business Opportunity

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