



Supplier Diversity Policy

1. Mission Statement: The Garden is committed to the goal of enhancing the economic opportunities for Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBE).
2. Policy Statement: The Chicago Botanic Garden (“Garden”) is one of the country’s most visited public gardens and a preeminent center for learning and plant conservation science research. Its mission is to promote the enjoyment, understanding and conservation of plants and the natural world. The Garden recognizes its responsibility to the communities which it serves and is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination. It is the policy and commitment of the Garden not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any Garden contract or in the administration of the Garden’s Supplier Diversity Program. The Garden will take all necessary and reasonable steps to assure that diverse suppliers certified as defined below shall have a fair opportunity to participate in Garden contracts:
 - Minority Business Enterprises
 - Women-Owned Business Enterprises

The Chicago Botanic Garden Supplier Diversity Policy (“Policy”) sets forth the Garden’s guidelines, procedures, and requirements for its Supplier Diversity Program.

3. Policy Objectives: In implementing and administering this Policy, the Garden will take all necessary and reasonable steps to assure that small business enterprises certified as MBEs/WBEs shall have a fair opportunity to participate in Garden contracts. As part of its Diverse Supplier Policy commitment the Garden will make every effort to achieve the following objectives:
 - To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts;
 - To create a level playing field on which diverse suppliers can compete fairly for contracts;
 - To ensure that the Garden’s Diverse Supplier Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
 - To ensure that only firms that fully meet eligibility standards are permitted to participate as diverse suppliers; and,
 - To help remove barriers to the participation of diverse suppliers in contracts.



Council ("CMSDC"), Cook County, Women's Business Development Center ("WBDC"), National Minority Supplier Development Council ("NMSDC"), State



- 5.8.2. Hispanics: persons of Spanish culture with origins in Mexico, South or Central America, or the Caribbean Island, regardless of race;
 - 5.8.3. Asian-Americans: persons having origins in any of the original peoples of east Asia, Southeast Asia, the India subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands;
 - 5.8.4. American Indians: persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America, including Central America, and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment; and
 - 5.8.5. Other groups, or individuals, found to be socially and economically disadvantaged and to have suffered actual racial or ethnic discrimination and decreased opportunities to compete in the area markets.
- 5.9. "Minority Business Enterprise" ("MBE") means a small business in which at



disadvantaged women. This group includes any qualified Contractor, Consultant, Sub-consultant, Subcontractor or Supplier providing labor, services, products, or