

Construction Contract Awards Diversity Overview



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

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Board of Trustees
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Minority and Female Business Enterprise Construction Goals—A Comparison

	ILCS 575 et seq. “MAFBE” Act	U of I Weighted Avg. (Current)	U of I “High Aspiration” Goals
Chicago	10%	15.8%	22%
Urbana	10%	5.1%	15%
Springfield	10%	5.1%	15%
Peoria/Rockford	10%	5.1%	15%

State Statutory Environment

- **MAFBE goals are not quotas**
- **University is not constrained from establishing higher goals than those goals articulated in statute**
- **Low competitive sealed bid wins pending review**
- **Bidders are not allowed to “cure deficiencies” in their bid submittals after bid opening**
- **Bidders are required to identify their minority and female business enterprise subcontractors and suppliers when submitting their bid**

State Statutory Environment (cont.)

- Bidder may request a change in or waiver of the project specific MAFBE goal
- For acceptance of a request for a change in or waiver of the specified MAFBE goal, the bidder must document that they demonstrated “good faith efforts” (GFE)
- GFE process was developed through review of other University and government programs and detailed interaction with the two State construction agencies—Capital Development Board and Department of Transportation—that currently utilize GFE reviews of bid submissions

Capital Project Guidelines

- All projects with a construction budget \geq \$250,000 (irrespective of funding source) will have requirements for GFE documentation
- Project goals may be higher than base goals
- Project goals may have differential goals between minority and female vendors

Potential Outcomes

- High aspiration goals should drive an increase in MAFBE participation
- Over time capacity of MAFBE firms should increase
- Project schedule may be impacted to incorporate GFE documentation and review
- Project costs initially may be effected due to additional overhead requirements on contractors
- Board will be provided an activity report on a quarterly and fiscal year end basis
- When experience proves that the Board goals are being met, new goals may be established by the Board