

CUF Inspection Form Instructions

The form does not and is not intended to document every possible CUF consideration. CUF is recognized during the normal course of inspecting the DBE's work on the project. The form merely records that CUF was inspected for the benefit of the record, and provides evidence to FHWA that CUF is being reviewed. It is the primary responsibility of the prime contractor to ensure that the DBE is performing a CUF. GDOT, as the contracting agency, has oversight responsibility to ensure that the prime contractor has effectively met this responsibility under its contract with the Department.

I. **Preconstruction Meetings:**

Remind the Prime contractor/s about the DBE goal and the contract requirements. Briefly go through the list of DBEs in the contract and what they will be performing. Remind the contractor about their CUF responsibilities identified in the Contract – Special Provision “Criteria for Acceptability”. DBEs must perform a commercially useful function by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. Credit toward the goal must not be reported on the monthly report unless the DBE is serving a CUF. You may ask the prime at this time if they have a CUF Process. If they say no, EEO will provide them guidance prior to the DBEs beginning work. Remind the Contractor, the Superintendent shall notify the Engineer prior to starting any Pay Item Work. The Prime Contractor shall coordinate and be responsible to the Engineer for all activities of subcontractors.

II. **Construction phase:**

Be familiar with the Contractors progress schedule. When will the DBEs begin work and on what items. The Prime contractor must not do the work of the DBE without the Engineers approval. Make certain the Prime gets a subcontract approval prior to the DBE begins work. And obtain a physical copy of the subcontract or supply agreement.

III. **Reviewing the Subcontract:**

The physical subcontract must be specific as to the work the DBE will perform. If the subcontract states: *furnish and install*, the expectation should be that the DBE will pay for the materials. If the subcontract merely states the DBE will *Install, haul, or perform the work*, the Prime may have made arrangements to supply the materials themselves.

IV. **DBE begins work—CUF Form**

Begin the inspection by interviewing the Prime. Section A of the form. The intent is to establish that the contractor is aware of their responsibilities. Sections B through F are observations made during the normal course of inspecting the DBEs work.

Document a minimum of one review for each DBE for each project with a DBE goal. File the completed form in the official project records with the applicable DBE report. If your project is audited by a State or Federal agency, the expectation will be that each DBE that has worked on the project has had at least one documented CUF inspection.

The review should be started when the DBE first begins work and is not complete until the DBE has received a payment. Continue to monitor compliance through the course of the project. Use the CUF form to document any further noted concerns or inconsistencies.

Contact the District EEO Officer if you believe a DBE may not be performing a Commercially Useful Function (CUF), or if you have any questions related to the program. This form does not document every possible question or concern. Monitoring the DBE for CUF is a continuous process through the life of the project. Training is available online to aide in identifying fronts, scams, and pass-through schemes.