



Grow your business, build a nation.

1 of 44 Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) centers across the country under the U.S. Department of Commerce, the **Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Center – Tacoma** provides technical assistance and strategic business consulting to minority-owned Tacoma businesses regardless of size. They help them gain access to:

Capital

This includes bonding assistance, identifying financing opportunities, and matchmaking with banking institutions or mezzanine financing options. It also includes connecting businesses with alternative lenders for the financing of purchase orders or rapid scalability.

Contracts

This includes procurement opportunities, solicitation analysis, bidding and proposal preparation.

New Markets

(Domestic and International)

This includes trade leads through the U.S. Department of Commerce, World Trade Organization and other market research.

Is there a “core” MBDA client?

While the MBDA Center – Tacoma provides technical assistance and strategic business consulting to minority-owned Tacoma businesses regardless of size, the “core” MBDA client is a firm that generates more than \$1 million in annual revenue OR has rapid growth potential.

What percentage of the business must be minority-owned?

To be eligible for MBDA Center – Tacoma services, a firm must be at least 51 percent minority-owned. Firms eligible for MBDA center services are comprised of African Americans, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, Hasidic Jewish Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. While the MBDA grant funds technical assistance and strategic business consulting for minority-owned Tacoma businesses, it does not provide direct loans to Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs).

How do you apply?

To learn more about the services available through MBDA Center – Tacoma and to apply online: mbda.gov/businesscenters/tacoma

What if you need a paper application form?

Email gfrazier@cityoftacoma.org, call 311 from within Tacoma limits or (253) 591-5000 from anywhere else, or visit 747 Market St. Room 808 in Tacoma, WA.