
15 U.S. Code § 656

Women's Business Center program

(a) Definitions

In this section—

- (1) the term “Assistant Administrator” means the Assistant Administrator of the Office of Women’s Business Ownership established under subsection (g);
- (2) the term “private nonprofit organization” means an entity that is described in section 501(c) of title 26 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such title;
- (3) the term “small business concern owned and controlled by women”, either startup or existing, includes any small business concern—
 - (A) that is not less than 51 percent owned by 1 or more women; and
 - (B) the management and daily business operations of which are controlled by 1 or more women; and
- (4) the term “women’s business center site” means the location of—
 - (A) a women’s business center; or
 - (B) 1 or more women’s business centers, established in conjunction with another women’s business center in another location within a State or region—
 - (i) that reach a distinct population that would otherwise not be served;
 - (ii) whose services are targeted to women; and
 - (iii) whose scope, function, and activities are similar to those of the primary women’s business center or centers in conjunction with which it was established.

(b) Authority

The Administration may provide financial assistance to private nonprofit organizations to conduct 5-year projects for the benefit of small business concerns owned and controlled by women. The projects shall provide

- (1) financial assistance, including training and counseling in how to apply for and secure business credit and investment capital, preparing and presenting financial statements, and managing cash flow and other financial operations of a business concern;
- (2) management assistance, including training and counseling in how to plan, organize, staff, direct, and control each major activity and function of a small business concern; and
- (3) marketing assistance, including training and counseling in identifying and segmenting domestic and international market opportunities, preparing and executing marketing plans, developing pricing strategies, locating contract opportunities, negotiating contracts, and utilizing varying public relations and advertising techniques.

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