



# Next Steps for Maximizing Your BEP Certification

Congratulations on attaining your BEP Certification! This is a pivotal step towards positioning your business for success with the State of Illinois. To help you navigate the subsequent steps and fully leverage your certification, please consider the following:



**1. Leverage Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) Resources:** Four CPOs manage a distinct portfolio and provide unique opportunities. Familiarizing yourself with these portfolios can strategically position your firm to tap into contracts from various State purchasing entities.



**2. Register on Procurement Platforms:** We strongly recommend visiting and registering on the Illinois Procurement Gateway (IPG) at <https://ipg.illinois.gov/Home.aspx>. The IPG is an online vendor portal used for gathering business information from vendors who wish to conduct business with State agencies and universities. Instead of submitting required information in paper form with every solicitation response, vendors can submit the information in advance electronically.



**3. Enroll in Notifications:** Please be advised that BEP certification does not automatically subscribe you to notifications regarding solicitations. Each of the four CPOs publishes notices of the State's solicitations for their respective portfolios. We strongly recommend that all BEP-certified vendors register with each of the four State of Illinois procurement bulletins to increase your visibility for potential contracting opportunities. Registration with the appropriate procurement bulletin corresponding to your NIGP codes is essential to stay informed about upcoming opportunities. Learn more about the chief procurement officers' bulletins and doing business with the State at <https://pathway2procurement.illinois.gov/>.



**4. Utilize Available Resources:** Optimize your opportunities by leveraging resources provided by the CPOs, including workshops, seminars, and guidance documents.

## CPO Procurement Sites:

- Chief Procurement Officer of General Services: The CPO-GS oversees the goods and services purchases for roughly 65 State agencies, boards, and commissions. Learn more about CPO-GS at <https://cpo-general.illinois.gov/>.
- Chief Procurement Officer of Higher Education: The CPO-HE oversees purchasing by State universities. Learn more about CPO-HE at <https://cpo-highered.illinois.gov/>.
- Chief Procurement Officer of Capital Development Board: The CPO-CDB oversees vertical construction and construction-related services purchases. Learn more about CPO-CDB at <https://cpo-cdb.illinois.gov/>.
- Chief Procurement Officer of Illinois Department of Transportation: The CPO-IDOT oversees horizontal construction and construction-related services purchases. Learn more about CPO-IDOT at <https://cpo-dot.illinois.gov/>.

By actively engaging in these steps, your business will be well-prepared and strategically positioned to capitalize on forthcoming opportunities. Thank you for your participation in the Business Enterprise Program. We are here to support your endeavors and be an integral part of your continued growth and success.





**Illinois Commission on Equity and Inclusion**  
Nina Harris, Chairperson  
Alexandria Wilson, Acting Executive Director  
115 South LaSalle Street, Suite 4N, Chicago, IL 60603

11/20/2024

RJSL Group LLC  
537 N Artesian Ave  
Chicago, Illinois, 60612

Re: VBP Certification No Change Affidavit Approval

Dear Richard Lee,

Congratulations! After reviewing your No Change Affidavit (NCA) information, we are pleased to inform you that your firm has been granted continued certification under the Veterans Business Program (VBP).

**Certification Type:** Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business

**Certification Date:** 11/28/2022

**Certification Expiration Date:** 01/28/2029

**Certification Renewal Date:** 01/28/2026

The Illinois Commission on Equity and Inclusion (CEI) will email you at least 90 days before your certification anniversary date to remind you to update your certification as a condition of your continued certification. You are responsible for ensuring that the contact email address in the system is accurate and up to date and that the email account is checked regularly so you do not miss any important notifications.

Certified firms are encouraged to notify CEI's certification unit within two weeks if any of the following changes occur:

- Ownership changes.
- Changes in control.
- Changes in the host agency's certification status.

**Please review the following list carefully to ensure all relevant NIGP codes are included.** Your firm's name will only appear in CEI's certified vendor directory as a VBP-certified vendor in the specialty area(s) of:

918 - 06 - Administrative Consulting, 918 - 21 - Business Consulting, 918 - 75 - Management Consulting

CEI welcomes your continued participation in VBP and wishes you unrelenting success. If you have any questions or comments, please email [CEI.BEP.Certification@Illinois.gov](mailto:CEI.BEP.Certification@Illinois.gov) or call (312) 814-4190.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlos Gutierrez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carlos Gutierrez  
Certification Manager

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