



**State of Rhode Island
Department of Administration / Division of Purchases
One Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5855
Tel: (401) 574-8100 Fax: (401) 574-8387**

March 15, 2019

ADDENDUM #1

RFP #: 7598663

Title: Tobacco Control Community Education and Coordinating Organization

Submission Deadline: April 2, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ET)

Notice to Vendors

Attached are vendor questions with state responses. No Further questions will be answered.

**David J. Francis
Interdepartmental Project Manager**

Interested parties should monitor this website, on a regular basis, for any additional information that may be posted.

Vendor Questions for RFP #7598663 Tobacco Control Community Education and Coordinating Organization

Question 1: Can you please explain what the following acronyms mean: MBE, WBE, and ISBE?

Answer to question 1: The acronym “MBE” means Minority Business Enterprise. The acronym “WBE” means Women Business Enterprise. “ISBE” is the term coined to include those firms certified by the State of Rhode Island as an MBE, WBE or Disability Business Enterprise.

Question 2: Can you provide guidance on how an organization can determine whether they are or are not an ISBE Vendor?

Answer to question 2: In order to be considered an ISBE Vendor, the firm must be certified as either an MBE or WBE by the State of Rhode Island, Department of Administration, Office of Diversity, Equity and Opportunity (ODEO), or the firm must be certified as a Disability Business Enterprise by the Governor’s Commission on Disabilities. Certified MBE and WBE firms may be found on the ODEO website, located at <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/mbe-wbe.php> . Certified Disability Business Enterprises may be found by contacting the Governor’s Commission on Disability, located at <http://www.gcd.ri.gov/> . Vendors may also contact Dorinda Keene at the ODEO/Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office for further assistance – Dorinda.keene@doa.ri.gov .

Question 3: For non-ISBE Vendors (when determining their ISBE Participation Rate) are subcontractors who operate out-of-state, that fit ISBE criteria able to be considered an ISBE?

Answer to question 3: Any firm certified as either an MBE or WBE by the State of Rhode Island, Department of Administration, Office of Diversity, Equity and Opportunity (ODEO), or certified as a Disability Business Enterprise by the Governor’s Commission on Disabilities, and who is proposed to be working within their area of certification is able to be counted toward’s ISBE participation rates. Out of state firms may apply for certification as MBEs and WBEs in the State of Rhode Island. Please note that certification by any other jurisdiction other than ODEO will not be considered when evaluating ISBE participation rates. Firms interested in applying for MBE or WBE certification in the State of Rhode Island may download the certification application form from the ODEO website, located at <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/mbe-wbe.php#section2> or may contact Dorinda Keene at the ODEO/Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office for further assistance – Dorinda.keene@doa.ri.gov .