

DRIVE FAQ

What is the commitment to participate as either a Mentor or Mentee?

- Each participant is asked to be active in the program for 24 months.

What are the cost involved?

- Participation is completely voluntary by both Mentor and Mentee. However, participants may incur some administrative cost due to training and development purposes. TxDOT will not contribute towards any cost.

If I am not a certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), may I participate?

- At this time, the program's efforts are focused on the emerging firms that are DBE certified. To apply for certification, visit <https://txdot.txdotcms.com/>

Is there training available to be a Mentor or Mentee?

- While there is no training available for this program, the program serves as a training opportunity for both the mentor and mentee.

Is the Mentor-Mentee Program considered a joint venture?

- No

How are the Mentees matched with mentors?

- The DRIVE Program Director will consider the needs of each party. After the review, mentors and mentees will be matched based on needs of the mentees and the expertise available with participating mentors. Each agreement must be signed before it is considered valid.

Can a Mentee have more than one Mentor?

- No, but there will be hosted events by both mentors and mentees that will allow for intimate interaction between all program participants and an opportunity to exchange valuable information.

Can a request be made for a specific Mentor or Mentee?

- All factors will be considered in an effort to provide the appropriate pairing to benefit both the mentee and the mentor.

Are there any reporting requirements?

- Throughout the duration of the program, the mentor and mentee shall jointly prepare collaborative quarterly reports documenting progress, successes, and challenges.

How is the DRIVE program measuring success?

- DRIVE aims to expand the capacity, technical knowledge, and participation of emerging DBEs on professional services contracts. In addition, cultivate long lasting relationships between the Mentor and Mentee.