# DES seeking feedback on draft supplier diversity policy outline

The Department of Enterprise Services (DES) is seeking feedback as the agency continues work to develop an enterprise policy to encourage and facilitate the purchase of goods and services from Washington’s small businesses, many of which are minority-owned, as well as veteran-owned businesses.

The intent for this round of feedback is to see whether topics and subtopics in the draft policy outline address all appropriate areas and whether anything critical is missing. As the DES policy team starts adding detail to the topic and subtopic areas, additional feedback will be sought.

## Time frame

DES is seeking feedback on the [draft policy outline](https://des.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/documents/About/Procurement_reform/Policies/Draft/2020JuneWkshp/SupplierDiversityOutlineDraftPOL.docx?=75977) through July 31.

* Email [feedback forms](https://des.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/documents/About/Procurement_reform/Policies/Draft/2020JuneWkshp/FeedbackForm.xlsx) to DESmiEnterpriseProcurementPolicy@des.wa.gov.

DES will also hold a June 30 [virtual workshop](https://des-wa.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V9ey1BTpQKu36-YLWovsjA) to discuss this policy outline and others.

* [Register](https://des-wa.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V9ey1BTpQKu36-YLWovsjA) for the workshop
* Submit questions for the workshop (deadline June 26).

## Background

This is a continuation of work on an enterprise supplier diversity policy. The draft policy outline was developed based on feedback DES received in October 2019 regarding the policy concept and is meant to:

* Follow recommendations made by the Business Diversity Subcabinet following a [Washington State Disparity Study](https://omwbe.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/State%20of%20Washington%20Disparity%20Study%202019%20-%202019%2007%2030%20%281%29.pdf).
* Align with the state’s work within an [established legal path](https://omwbe.wa.gov/governors-subcabinet-business-diversity/disparity-study) to improve diversity and inclusion in government contracts.
* Align with model policies developed for agencies by the Washington State Business Diversity Subcabinet Community of Practice regarding forecasting, outreach, unbundling, inclusion plans, contract language, and purchase cards. The cross-agency action team involved numerous subject matter experts, agency leaders and stakeholders in the development of these model policies.
* Align with the intent of  [RCW 39.26.005](https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=39.26.005),[RCW 39.26.090(6)](https://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=39.26.090), [RCW 39.19.010](https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=39.19.010), [RCW 43.60A.200](https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=43.60A.200), as well as Executive Orders [13-01](https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/exe_order/eo_13-01.pdf) and [19-01](https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/exe_order/19-01_VeteranAndMilitaryFamily%20.pdf).

## Feedback

**DES would especially appreciate hearing thoughts on:**

* Are the outline topics and subtopics correct?
* What other topics and subtopics should be included?
* Do you have any model examples of topics/subtopics that we should consider for the policy?
* Does the policy outline addresses all supplier diversity related areas?

# Next steps

The DES enterprise procurement policy team will compile the feedback, provide responses and post the information online. Our next step will be to start putting details to the topic/subtopic areas for further feedback

# More information

[Draft policy information](https://des.wa.gov/about/projects-initiatives/procurement-reform/draft-policies-guidelines-under-review)

For questions or comments, please contact DESmiEnterpriseProcurementPolicy@des.wa.gov