



Friday, August 15, 2025 1:00PM

Technical Assistance Conference Request for Qualififcations #227 (Re-Issue Fall 2025)

Small Business Consulting and Training Services

RFQ Issued: Thursday, August 7, 2025

Proposals Due: Thursday, August 28, 2025, by 12:00 P.M. PST

San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development





Presentation Overview

- Welcome and Overview
- Goods and Services Requested Details
- RFQ Timeline and Application Process
- City Supplier and Compliance Requirements
- Q&A





About OEWD

OEWD's Mission is to advance equity and shared prosperity for all San Franciscans by:

- growing sustainable jobs,
- supporting businesses of all sizes,
- creating great places to live and work, and
- helping everyone achieve economic self-sufficiency.





About RFQ #227 (Reissue Fall 2025)

In August 2023, the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), in partnership with the San Francisco Small Business Development Center (SBDC), a program within OEWD, issued RFQ 227. The purpose was to identify business consultants to provide counseling and training services to new and existing entrepreneurs in San Francisco.

In August 2025, RFQ 227 is being reissued to recruit additional consultants. <u>Applicants qualified</u> <u>under the original RFQ 227 are not required to re-qualify, but may choose to submit updated information regarding their qualifications.</u> The original RFQ 227 prequalified pool will be extended for another two years.

Services may be delivered in multiple languages and cover expertise in areas such as:

- Finance (loans, analysis, grants, funding)
- Marketing & Sales (ads, strategy, e-commerce, design)
- Legal (leases, formation, franchising, HR)
- Accounting (bookkeeping, taxes)
- Procurement (government/corporate contracts, certifications)
- Operations (restaurant, retail, brick-and-mortar)
- Manufacturing, Childcare, Startups/Tech, Import/Export, Architecture





QUESTIONS?

- Please submit your questions in the chat.
 Our team will answer as many questions as possible at this session; all questions will be logged, answered, and posted to the RFQ 227 website.
- You may still submit questions until 12:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, by email (oewd.procurement@sfgov.org)

https://www.sf.gov/resource--2025--request-qualifications-rfq-227





About OEWD'S - Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

The San Francisco Small Business Development Center (SBDC), housed within the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), is a citywide resource that delivers expert advising and training to help new and existing entrepreneurs start, sustain, and grow their businesses. As part of the national SBDC network, the SF SBDC leverages local, state, and federal partnerships to provide no-cost, high-quality business support services that strengthen San Francisco's small business community and local economy.

The SBDC offers specialized assistance across a wide range of business needs, connecting entrepreneurs to expert advisors in areas such as:

- Financial Management (loan packaging, grant writing, profitability strategies)
- Marketing & Sales (branding, e-commerce, social media)
- Legal & Compliance (lease negotiations, business formation, HR)
- Operations & Management (retail, restaurant, brick-and-mortar strategies)
- Permits & Licensing (guidance on navigating City, State, and federal permitting processes)
- Emerging Sectors (technology, climate tech, manufacturing, childcare, import/export)

Through one-on-one advising, group training programs, and multilingual support, the SBDC equips small business owners with the tools to navigate challenges, access capital, increase market opportunities, and measure impact.

Learn more about OEWD and its divisions at:

https://oewd.org





Goods and/or Services Requested: Small Business Consulting & Training Services (SBDC)

Maximum Budget Request: Hourly rates of \$75/hour (up to \$100/hour for CPAs, architects, and attorneys) (Pr

Anticipated # of Awards: Multiple (Prequalified Pool)

Total Funding: OEWD anticipates allocating up to \$1.5 million for initial as-needed contracts.

Eligible Neighborhoods: Citywide

Priority Population(s): San Francisco's small business community, including underserved and historically disadvantaged entrepreneurs.

- OEWD's goal is to strengthen San Francisco's small business ecosystem by providing expert advising, training, and resource connections through the San Francisco Small Business Development Center (SBDC).
- Selected suppliers will join the prior RFQ 227 Prequalified Pool to provide one-on-one advising, group training, and multilingual assistance across key business areas, including finance, marketing, legal, operations, procurement, permits, and emerging sectors like tech, manufacturing, and childcare.
- These services help entrepreneurs access capital, expand market opportunities, navigate regulatory requirements, and improve long-term business sustainability—supporting inclusive economic growth citywide.





Timeline

- Thursday, August 7, 2025: RFQ 227 published on OEWD website
- Friday, August 15, 2025: Technical Assistance Conference
- Wednesday, August 20, 2025: Deadline to submit substantive questions (12:00pm PST)
- Thursday, August 28, 2025: Proposals due by 12:00pm PST Deadline
- Tuesday, October 14, 2025: Notice of Intent to Establish Prequalified
 Pool

https://www.sf.gov/resource--2025--request-qualifications-rfq-227





HOW TO APPLY

Applications will be accepted <u>online only</u>.

Visit: https://www.sf.gov/information--bid-opportunities

Apply

Go to the online application

View the questions that are in the application in Appendix A linked below. All elements of the proposal package must be submitted online by the application deadline on **Thursday, August 28, 2025 at Noon**.

Need help with the online application? Email us for support at oewd.procurement@sfgov.org





Supplier Instructions

For general questions regarding the Supplier registration process, contact the User Support Desk 415-944-2442 or email sfcitypartnersupport@sfgov.org





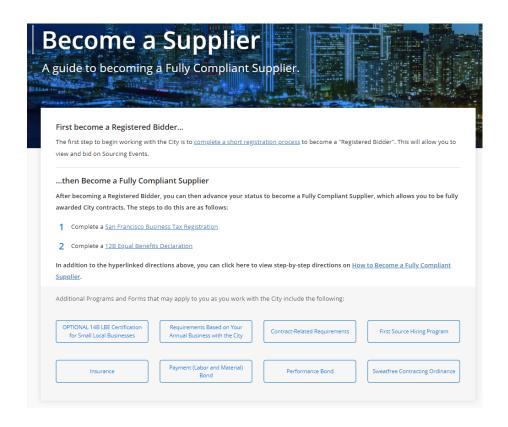
Supplier Compliance Requirement Instructions

- City Supplier Registration
- Secretary of State (SoS)
- Office of Attorney General (OAG)
- First Source Hiring Program
- Business Tax Compliance (TTX)
- Equal Benefits (formerly 12B) Compliance (CMD)
- Minimum Compensation Ordinance, Health Care Accountability
 Ordinance and Health Care Security Ordinance (OLSE)





Register to become a City Supplier https://sfcitypartner.sfgov.org/pages/become-a-supplier.aspx







Supplier Instructions - sfcitypartner.sfgov.org

First become a Registered Bidder...

The first step to begin working with the City is to <u>complete a short registration process</u> to become a "Registered Bidder". This will allow you to view and bid on Sourcing Events.

...then Become an Approved Supplier

After becoming a Registered Bidder, you can then advance your status to become an Approved Supplier, which allows you to be fully awarded City contracts. The steps to do this are as follows:

- 1 Complete a San Francisco Business Tax Registration
- 2 Complete a 12B Equal Benefits Declaration

In addition to the hyperlinked directions above, you can click here to view step-by-step directions on <u>How to Become an Approved Supplier</u>.

Additional Programs and Forms that may apply to you as you work with the City include the following:

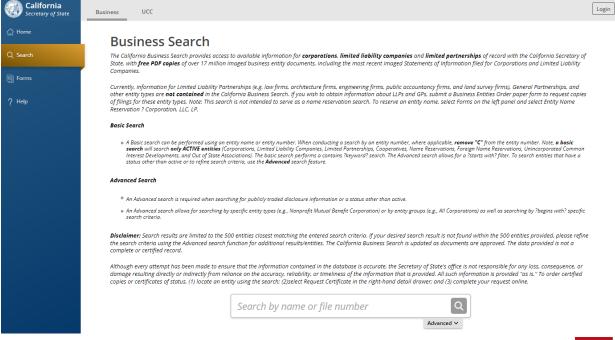
OPTIONAL 14B LBE Certification for Small Local Businesses Requirements Based on Your Annual Business with the City

Contract-Related Requirements

First Source Hiring Program



California Secretary of State (SoS) https://bizfileonline.sos.ca.gov/search/business







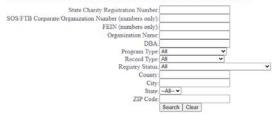
California Office of the Attorney General (OAG) https://rct.doj.ca.gov/Verification/Web/Search.aspx?facility=Y



Search the Files of the Registry of Charitable Trusts

The Registry Search Tool allows you to query the Registry's database and verify whether a charitable organization or fundraiser has compiled with the Attorney General's registration and reporting requirements. You may also review and download records and public filings that a charitable organization or fundraiser has submitted to the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Intrusts. This Includes copies of annual registration renewal forms (Form RRF-1), IRS Forms 990, raffle reports and fundraising reports that are in the Registry's database. Information is retrieved from the database in real-time but data and statuses may change intraday as filings are processed.

Potential donors are encouraged to research organizations using this query tool and those available from the <u>Secretary of State, Franchise Tax Board</u> and IRS to determine an organization's tax-exempt status and compliance status with all appropriate state and federal agencies. Each agency maintains their own database and independently determines the disposition of organizations relative to their statutory oversight. Each should be considered carefully and collectively to gain the most complete assessment possible. Donors may also benefit from reviewing our <u>Resources and Donation Tips</u>.



Note: On the organization details page, under Filings & Correspondence, if incorrect documents seem to open when you try to download or view them, try clearing your browser's eache and then also refreshing that page. The order of the documents may change, but those two steps should clear up most issues with the links.

Registry Status Definitions & Search Tips Downloadable Lists of Charities Home Page

For more information on how to cure your delinquent status, visit: https://oag.ca.gov/charities/delinquency







FIRST SOURCE HIRING PROGRAM

August 15, 2025

https://sf.gov/comply-first-source-hiring-program





WHAT IS THE FIRST SOURCE HIRING PROGRAM?

- The First Source Hiring Program was enacted into law in 1998 as Chapter 83 of the SF Administrative Code and amended in 2009
- Requires covered employers to make good faith efforts toward employing economically disadvantaged San Francisco residents for entry level positions on applicable projects
- The San Francisco Workforce Development system provides supply of qualified workers to employers with hiring needs, and gives economically disadvantaged individuals the opportunity to apply for entry-level jobs in San Francisco







WHAT IS THE FIRST SOURCE HIRING PROGRAM?

COVERED EMPLOYERS

- All businesses with City contracts for goods, services, grants or loans in excess of \$50,000 (or in excess of \$350,000 for construction contracts)
- Employers engaged in commercial activity in over 25,000 square feet space that involved new construction, an addition, or alteration after April 2001 and resulted in the expansion of entry level positions
- Businesses who have leases on City property







HOW DOES FIRST SOURCE HIRING WORK?

- First Source applies to entry level positions that require less than two years of experience
- Covered employers submit entry level job descriptions to OEWD's First Source Hiring Program team by submitting a <u>First Source Workforce</u> <u>Projection Form</u> for every applicable contract
- First Source positions are promoted across OEWD's network of community and educational partners
- OEWD and partners pre-screen applicants to refer qualified candidates to employers
- Employers make a good faith effort to hire First Source candidates







- Complete/submit a <u>First Source Workforce Projection Form</u> of entry-level positions
- 2. Register as a First Source Employer with WorkforceLinkSF
- 3. Create and submit a job order which includes basic qualifications, wage rate, benefits etc.
- 4. Make a "good faith effort" to interview and hire referrals from the City's workforce development system.
- 5. Submit verification of any hires made with your designated First Source Hiring Specialist.

Questions? Email or call our Employer Services Team:

Employer.Services@sfgov.org

(415)701-4848 (ask for Employer Services)





Supplier Instructions

- Treasurer and Tax Collector's Office ("TTX")
- Contract Monitoring Division ("CMD") Equal
 Benefits (formerly 12B) Compliance
- Office of Labor Standards Enforcement ("OLSE") Minimum Compensation Ordinance, and Health Care Ordinances





- Bidder / Supplier ID
- Connect your Business Account Number to Bidder/Supplier ID

https://newbusiness.sfgov.org/vendor

Are you already registered?

Are you a registered business with a Business Account Number (or Business Registration Certificate)? If so, use the link provided to link your Bidder/Supplier ID Number to your Business Account Number Click here to enter your BAN and Bidder/Supplier ID Number



If you do not have a Business Account Number, complete the questionnaire.

f	f you a	re not	registered as a business:			
			"Yes" or "No" to the questions below to determine if you are required to register as a business with the Office of the collector.			
)	oes this	pes this business:				
			Receive a grant, stipend or honoraria from the SF Arts Commission, as an individual artist or panelist and otherwise siness in San Francisco?			
	○Yes	® No	Maintain a fixed place of business within San Francisco?			
	○Yes	® No	Perform work or render services within San Francisco for all or part of any seven days during one tax year?			
	○Yes	● No	Solicit business within San Francisco for all or part of any seven days during one tax year?			
	○Yes	® No	Exercise corporate or franchise powers within San Francisco?			
	○Yes	® No	Own or lease real or personal property within San Francisco for business purposes?			
	○Yes	⊚ No	Regularly maintain a stock of tangible personal property in San Francisco for sale in the ordinary course of business?			
	○Yes	No	Employ or loan capital on property within San Francisco?			
	○Yes	No	Liquidate businesses when the liquidators hold themselves out to the public as conducting such business?			
	○Yes	No	Use streets in San Francisco for business purposes for any part of seven (7) days during the tax year?			
	○Yes	● No	Have more than \$500,000 in total gross receipts allocated to the City during the tax year?			



CCSF Supplier - Application Form In-Lieu of Business Registration

I declare that my business does not need to register with the City and County of San Francisco's Office of the Treasurer & Tax Collector because it does not meet any of the following:

- . Maintain a fixed place of business within San Francisco
- . Perform work or render services within San Francisco for all or part of any seven days during one tax year.
- . Solicit business within San Francisco for all or part of any seven days during one tax year.
- . Exercise corporate or franchise powers within San Francisco
- . Own or lease real or personal property within San Francisco for business purposes
- . Regularly maintain a stock of tangible personal property in San Francisco for sale in the ordinary course of business.
- Employ or loan capital on property within San Francisco
- · Liquidate businesses when the liquidators hold themselves out to the public as conducting such business.
- . Use streets in San Francisco for business purposes for any part of seven (7) days during the tax year.
- . Have more than \$500,000 in total gross receipts allocated to the City during the tax year.

If the Office of The Treasurer & Tax Collector determines that I am conducting business in San Francisco, the City may either cancel the contract or withhold payment ten days after written notification by the Tax Collector. I declare (or certify) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that I am authorized to bind this entity contractually.

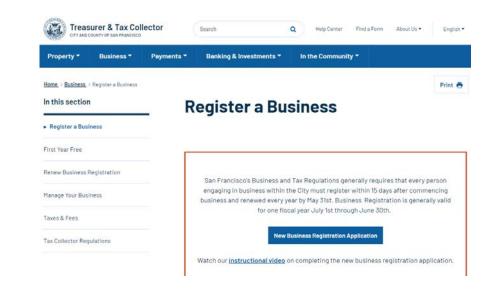
Full Name:	Email Address:
Name of Company	Supplier/Bidder ID Number
Mailing Address	City, State, ZIP
Tax ID Number	Telephone Number
	Continue

If you are not required to have a Business Account Number, you will see this form.

For assistance: TTX.VendorAccounts@sfgov.org



- Registration is required within 15 days after commencing business and renewed annually by May 31st.
 - To register your business, visit
 https://sftreasurer.org/business
 /register-business
- For additional support, visit the Help Center at the above website





Selecting "yes" enables our office to ask the Supplier Management Team to link your bidder/supplier ID# with your business account#.



For Assistance:

Email to: TTX.VendorAccounts@sfgov.org



Requirement Before Contracting: Equal Benefits Compliance

Labor and Employment Code Article 131 & 132

Equal Benefits Unit, Contract Monitoring Division (CMD)

▲ 415-581-2310 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

cmd.equalbenefits@sfgov.org

☐ Equal Benefits Program | SF.gov



What is the Equal Benefits Ordinance, Articles 131 & 132 Labor and Employment Code? (Formerly known as 12B)

Equal Benefits is a social policy that requires City contractors to provide equal treatment for employer sponsored health and well-being benefits.

City requires Equal Benefits compliance for contracts.

What Are The Employer Requirements?

If benefits are provided then:

- Employees who are in a domestic partnership are treated the same as married employees in/or related to employee benefits.
- Employees are given the option to add a spouse or domestic partner to employer sponsored benefits when available.
- Proof of relationship/waiting period requirements are applied the same for employees that are married or in a domestic partnership.



How do I complete Equal Benefits compliance?



1. Start at link Comply with the Equal Benefits Program | SF.gov



- 2) Gather and submit the 3 compliance documents
 - The total number of employees in U.S.
 - Proof of employee count (IRS 941 or W-3)
 - Provide a Memorandum that summarizes employee benefits.



3) Complete online declaration



What if - I do not provide benefits, have zero-employees, or my employees have no partner/spouse – what do I do?

Compliance is required of all firms. However, documenting compliance for a firm in this situation is simpler. For example: if you:

Do not provide benefits:

On Declaration respond to question 2A and 2B with "No"

Have zero employees, provide:

- IRS Form 1040 Schedule SE- Individuals
 or
- Self Certification more information contact CMD at cmd.equalbenefits@sfgov.org

Have employees with no partner or spouse:

O Document that if employee marital/partnership status changes, they are still Equal Benefits compliant. This will be declared in the Memorandum to Employees.



Want more information? Helpful links



More info on the Equal Benefits Program –

Equal Benefits Program | SF.gov



Step-by-step job aid for Equal Benefits online declaration –

Managing Your Equal Benefits
Declaration v2.9 (2)

Live Help One-on-One Labs

Call User Support: Mondays (Except Holidays)

Monday — Friday 8:30 AM — 5:00 PM

415-944-2442 Please make a reservation by emailing sfcitypartnersupport@sfgov.org

Email User Support: Video conferencing is available by appointment.

Help from San Francisco City Partner Portal

helpdesk



Contact us with any and all questions!

Equal Benefits Unit

- **415-581-2310**
- cmd.equalbenefits@sfgov.org
- Equal Benefits Program | SF.gov





Minimum Compensation Ordinance (MCO) & Health Care Accountability Ordinance (HCAO)

Jade San Diego, Compliance Officer

Beverly Popek, Supervising Compliance Officer





Minimum Compensation Ordinance (MCO)

Covered Employer

- For-profit and nonprofit 5+ workers (permanent, temporary, etc.) anywhere in the world
- with a City contract
- subcontractors and subtenants need to comply

Covered Employee/Worker

- Anyone working for a covered employer on a City contract
- Working in the US



Office of Labor Standards Enforcement



Compensation = Wages + Time Off







For Profit Rate: \$21.54*

**Non-Profit Rate: \$21.55*

(Effective 1/1/2026: \$23.00)

*Annual increases occur every July 1
**Rates are contingent on the City's Budget.



17 18 25 26 27 5 24 25 26 27

Paid Time Off (PTO)

- 12 days (Accrual rate is 0.04615 hours)
 - PTO is the property of the worker

Unpaid Time Off (UTO)

- 10 days (Accrual rate is 0.03846 hours)
 - For use as unpaid sick time

Office of Labor Standards Enforcement



Health Care Accountability Ordinance (HCAO)

Covered Employer:

- For Profits have 20 or more workers anywhere in the world
- Non-Profits have 50 or more workers anywhere in the world
- Has a City Contract
- Subcontractors and subtenants need to comply

Covered Employee:

• Anyone in the US who works at least 20 hours a week or more on a City Contract for services or on the leased property.



Office of Labor Standards Enforcement



HCAO's Three Options- Slide 1 of 2

Employer chooses how to comply with HCAO depending on where the work is performed.

Option 1- Available in all locations in the U.S.

- Offer each covered employee a compliant health plan at no charge to the employee-no later than the first of the month after 30 days.
 - Health plan compliance review and answers to HCAO Minimum Standards questions contact Max Gara, Department of Public Health, (628) 271-7517 or Maxwell.Gara@sfdph.org







HCAO's Three Options- Slide 2 of 2

OPTION 2- Available for work performed in the CCSF, SFO, or San Bruno Jail

Pay **HCAO Fee Rate** per employee, per hour to SF General Hospital

OPTION 3- Only available to employees who do NOT work in the CCSF, SFO, or San Bruno Jail

Pay the fee amount directly to employee





- Payments capped at 40 hours per week
- > Rates adjusted every July 1st
- > 7/1/2025-6/30/2026: \$7.50 per



hour



MCO and HCAO Declaration Forms

- To contract with the City and County of San Francisco, both the MCO and HCAO
 Declaration Forms are required for contracts that are \$25,000 or more.
- By completing the Declaration Forms, you are agreeing to comply with the ordinances when the ordinances apply to your firm.
- A Department can not request a waiver or exemption for the Declaration requirement.



Compliance Reminders and Resources

OLSE Website: www.sf.gov/olse
MCO Webpage: https://sf.gov/mco
HCAO Webpage: https://sf.gov/hcao

- Provide employees MCO & HCAO Notices/Posters/Know Your Rights Forms
- MCO and HCAO Webinars, Rules and Regulations, FAQs, etc.
- All posters, forms, more information





Office of Labor Standard Enforcement (OLSE) San Francisco City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 430 San Francisco, CA 94102

Phone: (415) 554-7903 Email: MCO@sfgov.org

HCAO@sfgov.org



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Email our team: oewd.procurement@sfgov.org

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