



# Procurement Diversity Quarterly Connection

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## Director's Note

Greetings,

Today, I want to encourage you to take time out of your busy schedules to recharge: enjoy the weather, get some movement in, and spend time with the people you care about.

In the upcoming months, our goals include growing outreach and educational efforts and measuring the effectiveness and impact in the communities we serve. We want to ensure we continue integrating a diverse supplier base into our procurement process. With that said, we want to ensure you are recharged and ready to go!

If you have any ideas or resources that could be of value or know any new businesses that may be interested in doing business with the university, please feel free to reach out; I would love to hear from you.

As always, we look forward to working together as one on these ideas and plans because we all know, we can achieve more by working together.

Sharla

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## In the Spotlight - Institute of Government and Public Affairs (IGPA)

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SYSTEM  
INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Institute of Government and Public Affairs (IGPA) is the place where world-class research and policy meet. IGPA connects scholars from the University of Illinois System with legislators, civil servants, and key decision makers in Springfield, throughout the Land of Lincoln, and beyond. IGPA provides objective, data-driven analysis through written reports, testimony at public hearings, in-person meetings with policymakers, and more.

IGPA prides itself on providing opportunities to women- and minority-owned businesses wherever possible. The department retained a woman-owned graphic design business as its chief graphic designer who has been affiliated with IGPA for more than 14 years.

Last year, IGPA contracted with Next Generation Technology, LLC, a KRS102 Sheltered Market IT Consulting vendor, for its website

redesign project. Being on a tight timeline, IGPA wanted to complete the bulk of spending on the redesign within the 2021 fiscal year.

The staff needed to take the complex site in a new direction to make it bolder, more functional, and in tune with new objectives to reach not only policymakers but also to connect with scholars throughout the system and to help them lift their public policy work in new ways.

"We also wanted to provide the opportunity to a diverse business to help increase diversity spend at the university. It was great to find out that we already had a pool of diverse vendors vetted and capable to do the job," Associate Director Jim Paul mentioned.

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## IGPA Program & Events



Edgar Fellows Program

NEW Leadership Illinois

## In the Spotlight

### IGPA (continued)

Next Generation Technology greeted IGPA team with a can-do attitude from the very beginning. They presented a bold proposal with an ambitious yet realistic scope of work, and they beat the competition by a significant amount. "The NextGen team has been amazing to work with. They have presented a new and flexible design that will enable IGPA to tailor content to meet our need and achieve our goal. They have met every challenge along the way with a professional approach and rapid results," stated Paul.

"The people of Illinois have made an incredible investment in the University of Illinois System, and our work helps return that value by supporting research-driven policymaking that improves people's lives. Next Generation Technology is helping IGPA make this so," Paul finished.

To learn more about what IGPA does, please visit <https://igpa.uillinois.edu/>.

**On behalf of the University of Illinois System, OPD would like to say "thank you" IGPA for working collaboratively to utilize a diverse firm embodying the spirit of the supplier diversity program.**

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## Policy Updates & Reminders

### Business Enterprise Program (BEP) Goal Changes

Public Act 101-0657, which was signed into law by the Governor on March 23, 2021, affects the Business Enterprise Program (BEP) and the University's responsibilities under the BEP Act as well as the Illinois Procurement Code. Changes include an increase to the State's overall BEP goal from 20% to 30% excluding construction contracts. In support of increasing diversity participation, University leadership decided to increase its construction goals to 30% at UIUC and UIS as well as on its Professional Service Consultants (PSC) contracts. Secondly, the law requires a "commitment to diversity" to be one of three components in evaluating all RFPs representing 20% of the technical points. The evaluation factors will be communicated by the CPO-HE in the near future.



### Renewals

Currently, under Section 575/8i of the BEP Act, the Office of Procurement Diversity (OPD) reviews all existing contracts at least six (6) months prior to renewal to determine if:



- the contract goal is being met by the prime;
- the contract goal should be increased based on market conditions and availability of certified firms;
- for contracts with no existing goal, a contract goal can be established. If so, OPD shall encourage the prime to amend the contract to include the contract goal and to complete a utilization plan.

Public Act 101-0657 adds Section 20-60(f) to the Illinois Procurement Code and provides that no vendor shall be eligible for renewal of a contract when that vendor has failed to meet the goals agreed to in the vendor's BEP Utilization Plan unless the State agency/university has determined that the vendor made a good faith effort towards meeting the contract goals and has issued a waiver or that vendor is otherwise excused from compliance by the chief procurement officer in consultation with the university.

For details, please visit <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/101/101-0657.htm>.

OPD is responsible for completing the new BEP Goal Waiver Request Form effective immediately.

### IPHEC2140 to Replace KRS102 Sheltered Market IT Consulting Contracts

Please note that the KRS102 IT Award expires June 30 and will be replaced with IPHEC2140 for all Higher Education institutions to utilize. Selected firms can be found on the Higher Education Procurement Bulletin [https://www.procure.stateuniv.state.il.us/dsp\\_notice.cfm?Uni=IPHEC&PN=IPHEC2140](https://www.procure.stateuniv.state.il.us/dsp_notice.cfm?Uni=IPHEC&PN=IPHEC2140).

## Business Opportunities - Small Business Subcontracting Plans

The federal government has detailed regulations requiring contractors to treat small businesses fairly and provide maximum opportunity for their participation in federal contract work (FAR 19.7 – The Small Business Subcontracting Program).

For certain federal contracts, the sponsor will require a Small Business Subcontracting Plan (SBSP). This plan outlines specific goals for subcontracting to various types of small businesses and details the process for reaching those goals and reporting progress. Types of small business include:

- Small business
- Veteran-owned small business
- Service-disabled veteran-owned small business
- HUBZone small business
- Women-owned small business

Federal law requires a subcontracting plan if the value of contract exceeds a set dollar amount—currently \$750,000. This amount is known as the “simplified acquisition threshold.”<sup>1</sup>

### What do departments need to do?

1. If the sponsor or Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA) Award Negotiator notifies you that your contract needs a SBSP, review your contract to understand the reporting requirements (i.e. FAR 52.219-8 and 52.219-9). SPA will assist when it is time to report.
2. Develop your SBSP. The Award Negotiator will obtain a SBSP template for you from the sponsor. For assistance completing the SBSP template and identifying small businesses, the department/PI should contact the Office of Procurement Diversity (OPD) at [procurementdiversity@uillinois.edu](mailto:procurementdiversity@uillinois.edu).
3. Visit the [SPA website](#) to learn more.

### How can small businesses participate on these contracts?

1. Register to do business with the federal government at [SAM.gov](http://SAM.gov). The Small Business Administration (SBA) will need your information from SAM.gov in order to connect your business with [certify.SBA.gov](http://certify.SBA.gov).
2. Certify your business with [SBA](#) to be included in the [Dynamic Small Business Search \(DSBS\)](#), a powerful search engine managed by SBA and used to learn about prospective vendors for these types of university and other government contracts.

## Events

### BEP Training & Event Calendar

<https://www2.illinois.gov/cms/events/SitePages/List.aspx>

## Vendors on the Scene



Creative Technologies -  
Audio Visual

**Volunteer Supply Industries**  
**Roderick Young**  
[ryoung@volsupplyltd.com](mailto:ryoung@volsupplyltd.com)

Facilities Suppliers - Electrical

**Industrial Electric Supply**  
**Jessica A. Garmon**  
[JADavis@TheWillGroup.com](mailto:JADavis@TheWillGroup.com)



Marketing

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**Media Link**  
**Natalie Linville-Mass**  
[natalie@medialinkinc.com](mailto:natalie@medialinkinc.com)

## Business Finance Resources

**[Advancing the Development of Minority Entrepreneurship \(ADME\)](#)** is a community investment program developed to strengthen Illinois’ start-up and small business community ecosystem by tapping into the potential of minority business owners and entrepreneurs.

**[Advantage Illinois](#)** provides Illinois businesses and entrepreneurs with access to the capital to start new companies and expand existing business. Comprised of programs to spur institutional lending, includes Capital Access Program and Participation Loan Program.

**[Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#)** works with lenders to provide loans to small businesses. The agency doesn’t lend money directly to small business owners. Instead, it sets guidelines for loans made by its partnering lenders, community development organizations, and micro-lending institutions. The SBA reduces risk for lenders and makes it easier for them to access capital. That makes it easier for small businesses to get loans.