

*Other minority institutions of higher learning* means an institution determined by the Secretary of Education to meet the requirements of 20 U.S.C. 1067k.

*Small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans* means a small business concern as defined in Public Law 106-50, Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999.

*Small disadvantaged business* means a small business concern owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals that meets the requirements of 13 CFR part 124, subpart B.

*Women-owned small business* means a small business concern that meets the requirements of 15 U.S.C. 637(d)(3)(D).

**919.7003 General policy.**

(a) DOE contractors eligible under 48 CFR 919.7005 may enter into agreements with businesses certified by the SBA in the 8(a) Program, other small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small businesses, HBCUs, other minority institutions of higher learning, and small business concerns owned and controlled by service disabled veterans to provide those firms appropriate developmental assistance to enhance the capabilities of Proteges.

(b) Costs incurred by a Mentor to provide developmental assistance, as described in 919.7011, are allowable only to the extent that they are incurred in performance of a contract identified in the Mentor-Protege Agreement and are otherwise allowable in accordance with the cost principles applicable to that contract.

(c) Headquarters Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) is the DOE Program Manager for the Mentor-Protege Program.

**919.7004 General prohibitions.**

DOE will not reimburse the costs of a Mentor in providing any form of developmental assistance to a Protege except as provided in 919.7003(b).

**919.7005 Eligibility to be a Mentor.**

To be eligible for recognition by DOE as a Mentor, an entity must be performing at least one contract for DOE.

**919.7006 Incentives for DOE contractor participation.**

(a) Under cost-plus-award fee contracts, approved Mentor firms may earn award fees associated with their performance as a Mentor. The award fee plan may include provision for the evaluation of the contractor's utilization of 8(a) firms, other small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small businesses, HBCUs, other minority institutions of higher learning and small business concerns owned and controlled by service disabled veterans. DOE may evaluate the Mentor's performance in the DOE Mentor-Protege Program under any Mentor-Protege Agreement(s) as a separate element of the award fee plan.

(b) Mentors shall receive credit for subcontracts awarded pursuant to their Mentor-Protege Agreements toward subcontracting goals contained in their subcontracting plan.

**919.7007 Eligibility to be a Protege.**

(a) To be eligible for selection as a Protege, a firm must:

(1) Be a small business certified under Section 8(a) of the Small Business Act by SBA, other small disadvantaged business, a women-owned small business, HBCU, or any other minority institution of higher learning, or a small business concern owned and controlled by service disabled veterans;

(2) Be eligible for receipt of government contracts;

(3) Have been in business for at least two (2) years prior to application for enrollment into the Mentor-Protege Program; and

(4) Be able to certify as a small business according to the Standard Industrial Code for the services or supplies to be provided by the Protege under its subcontract with the Mentor.

(b) A prospective Mentor may rely in good faith on written representations by a prospective Protege that the Protege meets the requirements in paragraph (a) of this section.

**919.7008 Selection of Proteges.**

(a) A Mentor firm is solely responsible for selecting one or more Protege entities from firms eligible under 48 CFR 919.7007.