



**Fiscal Year 2025  
Certified Business Enterprise  
All Things Green Grants  
Request for Applications**

**January 20, 2025 through February 14, 2025 at 2:00 pm ET**

**How to use this document to guide your application process:**

This Request for Applications (RFA), alongside its corresponding Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), are the full set of instructions for applicants. **All applicants are encouraged to read the entire RFA and NOFA before applying.**

The sections of the RFA are outlined below:

- 1. Objective**—What DSLBD seeks to accomplish through the grant
- 2. Online Application Deadline**—Where and when eligible businesses must apply
- 3. Eligibility & Documentation**—Who can apply, and what documentation is required
- 4. Restrictions on Allowable Uses of Funds**—How funds can be spent
- 5. Competitive Application**—Guidance on the competitive application
- 6. Scoring Criteria**—How the review committee will score applications
- 7. Selection Process**—How DSLBD decides awardees
- 8. Award Information**—What happens if you are awarded a grant
- 9. Important Legal Disclaimers**—Important legal information

**1. Objective**

The District of Columbia (DC, D.C., or the District) Department of Small and Local Business Development (“DSLBD or the Department”) is excited to announce that it will begin accepting applications for the **Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2025 Certified Business Enterprise (“CBE”) All Things Green Grant Program**, beginning January 20, 2025.

CBE All Things Green Grant Program is a DSLBD initiative created to promote and support CBE involvement in the expanding green and environmentally sustainable infrastructure and energy markets. In partnership with DC’s Department of Energy and Environment (“DOEE”), DSLBD supports CBEs by

Look for Fiscal Year 2025 CBE All Things Green Grant Program information sessions at <http://bit.ly/DSLBDeventbrite>. Outside of an information session, **send all questions in writing to [business.opportunities@dc.gov](mailto:business.opportunities@dc.gov)**. *DSLBD will not take questions via telephone.*



providing training opportunities to prepare them for DOEE, DC Sustainable Energy Utility (“DCSEU”), and other green and environmentally sustainable procurement opportunities.

Marketing and back-office services are key building blocks to prepare CBEs for contracting opportunities. FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grants provide direct support to small, resident-owned, and/or disadvantaged CBEs pursuing DCSEU contracting opportunities or opportunities with similar “green” and/or environmentally sustainable goals.

DSLBD seeks:

A. Four (4) CBEs to provide direct marketing and back-office services for at least thirty-five (35) other CBEs through DSLBD’s **CBE Green Contract Services** program. Grantees will provide marketing and management consulting (e.g., proposal development, pricing, and accounting) and training in areas that would strengthen CBEs’ preparedness and competitiveness for green and environmentally sustainable infrastructure and energy-related procurement opportunities.

B. One (1) CBE, through DSLBD’s **CBE Green Pitch** program, to conduct a four-week cohort-based training program for other CBEs registered with DSLBD as small, resident-owned, or disadvantaged. The four-week cohort-based training program will help other CBEs enhance their green business models, culminating with the **CBE Green Pitch Competition**.

C. Up to nine (9) CBEs, registered with DSLBD as small, resident-owned, and disadvantaged and selected via the **CBE Green Business Support Lottery**, to use grant funds in support of their business operations and viability when pursuing contracts with DCSEU and similar entities in the green and sustainable infrastructure and energy industries.

D. One (1) CBE to plan DC’s **CBE Green Industry Rally Day** through the **CBE Green Event** Grant. The CBE Green Industry Rally Day is an annual event for CBEs to learn more about DOEE and DCSEU’s green and environmentally sustainable initiatives. The event will offer matchmaking sessions with DCSEU for contracting and networking opportunities.

Programs connected to each FY 25 CBE All Things Green grant will be held during the grant “Period of Performance,” beginning on or around the execution of the relevant grant agreement and ending September 30, 2025. DSLBD will refer interested CBEs to CBE Green Contract Services grantees so they may benefit from programming related to strengthening marketing and back-office services. CBE Green Contract Services grantees may propose strategies to recruit additional CBEs. DSLBD will also work closely with the CBE Green Pitch grantee to recruit CBE Green Pitch Competition participants.

To maximize CBE support in the green or environmentally sustainable infrastructure and energy industries, DSLBD intends to award a maximum of fifteen (15) grants with \$500,000 in total available funding for FY 25. CBEs may apply to all available awards in the CBE All Things Green Grant Program. However, applicants can only receive a total of one (1) award. Grantees can receive a CBE All Things Green award and still participate in the consulting and/or training programs offered by a CBE Green Contract Services grantee and/or attend the CBE Green Industry Rally Day.

More information about each grant is listed below:

**CBE Green Contract Services Grants:** DSLBD intends to award up to four (4) grants between \$50,000 to \$70,000 each from \$240,000 in available funding for FY 25.

**CBE Green Pitch Grant:** DSLBD intends to award one (1) grant of \$50,000 to the CBE who conducts the CBE Green Pitch training program, and award **CBE Green Pitch Competition** participants between \$1,000 and \$10,000 from the \$175,000 in total funding for FY 25.

**CBE Green Business Support Lottery Grants:** Via a randomized lottery, DSLBD intends to award CBEs registered with DSLBD as small, resident-owned, and disadvantaged nine (9) grants, ranging up to \$7,000, from \$59,500 in available funding for FY 25.

**CBE Green Event Grant:** DSLBD intends to award \$25,500 to one (1) CBE that will plan DC's CBE Green Industry Rally Day.

## 2. Online Application & Deadline

Apply at <https://www.zoomgrants.com/gprop.asp?donorid=2274&limited=5570>. To apply, CBEs must first create a Zoom Grants account at [ZoomGrants.com](https://www.zoomgrants.com).

DSLBD will only accept and score complete applications submitted through Zoom Grants. The Department will not accept application materials submitted outside Zoom Grants or after the FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant Program deadline.

*Zoom Grants is a third-party provider that offers customer assistance for login problems, difficulties with saving an application, and other IT-related application issues. Zoom Grants provides technical support Monday – Friday from 10 am - 7 pm ET. Reach out to Zoom Grants at any time during the application period if you have technical difficulties by emailing [Questions@ZoomGrants.com](mailto:Questions@ZoomGrants.com).*

Look for FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant Program information sessions at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1152515277219?aff=oddtcreator>. Outside of an information session, **send all questions in writing to [business.opportunities@dc.gov](mailto:business.opportunities@dc.gov). DSLBD will not take questions via telephone.** The last day to submit questions is **January 31, 2025 at 2:00 pm ET.**

**The final deadline to apply is February 14, 2025 at 2:00 pm ET.** DSLBD anticipates reviewing grant applications in February 2025 and notifying awardees in March 2025, but this timeframe may be subject to change.

## 3. Eligibility & Checklist

Only CBEs compliant with applicable District laws and regulations can apply for a FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant. Individuals applying on behalf of a CBE must be the CBE's owner(s), authorized member(s), or authorized employee(s) of the CBE. *Third parties cannot apply on behalf of a CBE.*

An applicant for a FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant must demonstrate:

- Active CBE status

- Active Department of License and Consumer Protection (DLCP) Business Licensure
- Corporate Registration File Number and Good Standing Status
- Compliance with DC Tax and Licensing laws
- Active Commercial General Liability Insurance Coverage
- Active Workers Compensation and Automotive Liability Insurance Coverage, if applicable
- Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form W-9
- Active registration as a DC Vendor with the Office of Contracts and Procurement (OCP)

### Failure to Demonstrate Eligibility

DSLBD will not consider applicants who do not meet eligibility requirements for a FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant. Applicants must submit all documents and attestations within Zoom Grants. False attestations may result in grant forfeiture and other penalties, as appropriate.

**CBEs applying for a FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant MUST submit the Eligibility Documents and Attestations outlined below.**

### Required Documents and Attestations for Eligibility

Required Items	Description
a) Active CBE Certification Number	The applicant’s CBE certification number must match the number listed on DSLBD’s website, located at <a href="https://dslbd.secure.force.com/public/">https://dslbd.secure.force.com/public/</a> .
b) Active DC Business License Number, issued by DLCP	The applicant’s license must be searchable in the DLCP Business License Search Tool ( <a href="https://scout.dkra.dc.gov">https://scout.dkra.dc.gov</a> ), or the applicant must provide proof of alternative licensure if DLCP licensing is not required for the CBE’s business type.
c) Corporate Registration File Number and Good Standing Status, as determined by DLCP’s CorpOnline database	The applicant must have a corporate registration file number that is active and in good standing (e.g., not expired, rescinded, or revoked), which can be verified at <a href="https://corponline.dkra.dc.gov">https://corponline.dkra.dc.gov</a> .
d) Office of Tax & Revenue (OTR) Compliant Certificate of “Clean Hands” (CCH), issued October 1, 2024, or later	Applicants can check their Clean Hands status and generate a CCH for free at <a href="https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/certificate-clean-hands">https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/certificate-clean-hands</a> .
e) Proof of Commercial General Liability Insurance (Certificate of Insurance). And, if applicable, proof of Workers Compensation and Automobile Liability Insurance	DSLBD cannot provide carrier recommendations. Grantees must have coverage during the entire Period of Performance. Once selected, grantees must name the District as an additional insured on its required policies.
f) FEIN	Available for free at <a href="https://irs.gov">https://irs.gov</a> . The last four digits of the FEIN must match the digits displayed on the relevant CCH.

g) IRS W-9 form for 2024 or later	Available at <a href="https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-w-9">https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-w-9</a> .
h) Attestation of Registration as a Vendor with the Office of Contracts and Procurement	Details available at <a href="https://ocp.dc.gov/page/vendor-registration-electronic-solicitations-ocp">https://ocp.dc.gov/page/vendor-registration-electronic-solicitations-ocp</a> . DSLBD will verify internally.

The above checklist covers ALL the required documentation used to determine an applicant’s eligibility. Applications that fail to provide complete and verifiable documents, information, and attestations **will not be considered**.

#### **4. Restrictions on Allowable Uses of Funds**

FY 25 CBE All Things Green grant funds must be expended during the Period of Performance and are solely for carrying out allowable uses, as dictated below and in the applicable grant agreement.

##### **Allowed Uses**

Grant funds may be used for any of the following:

1. Direct back-office support and related costs, including but not limited to staff time, materials, space for in-person meetings, or technology for virtual meetings.
2. Software supporting marketing and/or back-office services (e.g., accounting or project management software) for CBE program participants.
3. Marketing collateral or materials, programming, and other resources to support and inform CBEs pursuing green and environmentally sustainable infrastructure and energy-related opportunities.
4. Costs expended by the grantee to measure the impact of the grantee’s consulting and training sessions performed pursuant to the FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant Program.
5. Other costs proposed by the grantee which are expended during the Period of Performance, as approved by DSLBD in its sole discretion.

##### **Disallowed Uses**

Grant funds cannot be used for any of the following:

1. Financing or paying off pre-existing debt (i.e., credit card, lines of credit, loans, tax obligations, etc.), whether for business or personal use.
2. Expenses incurred outside the Period of Performance.
3. Expenses reimbursed by a separate grant disbursed by DC government to the awardee.
4. Personal or other uses unrelated to the purposes explicitly identified in the grant agreement.
5. Food (except for food expenses incurred while attending professional development conferences related to the Grant Program outside of the Washington, DC metropolitan area, or for the CBE Green Industry Rally Day and CBE Green Pitch Competition, in which the grantee(s) will expense food and beverages for the participants, attendees, and staff. The CBE Green Event grantee is prohibited from expensing food and beverages outside of the CBE Green Industry Rally Day. The CBE Green Pitch grantee is prohibited from expensing food and beverages beyond in-person training and pitch sessions).

6. Alcohol or alcohol-related paraphernalia (e.g., wine glasses, mixers, beer taps, etc.).
7. Payments to a professional fundraiser to raise funds for the Grantee.
8. Donations or charitable giving to nonprofit organizations.
9. Vehicle purchases or leases.
10. Real estate purchases.
11. Costs related to DC or federal government lobbying efforts.
12. Costs related to lawsuits against the District or federal government.
13. Any activity, good, service, or product deemed illegal by the District.
14. Any activity, good, service, or product deemed ineligible by DSLBD in its sole discretion.
15. Expenses incurred without prior DSLBD approval.

DSLBD will compare grantees' proof of grant fund expenditures against approved costs set forth in the applicable grant agreement and disallow costs that do not comport with program requirements. DSLBD will only approve the disbursement of grant funds to awardees who maintain required insurance coverage pursuant to this grant program for the entirety of the relevant period, which includes the Period of Performance.

## **5. Competitive Application**

The competitive portion of the application is divided into four (4) sections per individual grant program. Each section corresponds with the scoring criteria listed in Section 6 of the RFA. Please note that some questions provide applicants with an option to upload additional documentation in support of their response(s).

### **CBE Green Contract Services Grant**

#### **A. Explain how the proposed project provides critical support to CBEs pursuing green and environmentally sustainable procurement opportunities. (20 points)**

1. State whether your proposal covers marketing or management consulting (e.g., proposal development, pricing, and accounting) services.
2. Provide a brief description of your business's capabilities in providing marketing and/or management consulting services.
3. Which marketing and back-office support areas will your project provide, and how can your project accommodate the minimum requirement of thirty-five (35) CBE participants? Provide the average cost per CBE for your proposed project.
4. Explain how your program addresses barriers that CBEs may face when pursuing contracts related to green and environmentally sustainable initiatives, and how your proposed programming is critical for increasing DC CBEs' success rates in winning these procurement opportunities.

#### **B. Explain how the proposed program will fulfill projected timelines, expenditures, and goals. (20 points)**

1. Describe how you would use the CBE Green Contract Services Grant, if awarded. Detail your proposed expenditures in the chart using specific dollar amounts. You may apply for amounts between \$50,000 and \$70,000.
  - a. Subcontracting is reimbursable only if you are subcontracting with an active CBE. If subcontracting, you are required to provide a resume of the subcontractor, a description

of the subcontractor's past performance in green and environmentally sustainable initiatives, and an explanation of subcontractor's role in the project.

2. Provide a detailed work plan outlining each major activity listed in your proposal.
3. Describe your project's proposed CBE outreach and onboarding plan.
4. Explain your business's capacity to complete all its proposed tasks, including its ability to expend the proposed budget by September 30, 2025.

**C. Explain your business's past performance in the proposed support area. (20 points)**

1. Who will directly operate the proposed project? Please describe the operator(s)'s relevant experience and credentials. Resumes must be uploaded as additional documents.
2. Describe your business's past performance in providing back-office or marketing support for small businesses. Capability statements must be uploaded as additional documents.
3. Explain your business's expertise in green and environmentally sustainable procurement projects.

**D. Explain how your proposed project will promote equitable access to green and environmentally sustainable market opportunities for CBEs. (20 points)**

1. Explain how your project supports small, resident-owned, or disadvantaged CBEs, with a focus on broadening CBEs' equitable access to the above-referenced market opportunities.
2. How will your business track metrics to determine your program's effectiveness, outcomes, and lessons learned?

**E. Optional Additional Uploads (5 points)**

1. Applicants may submit a PowerPoint (or similar) presentation of no more than fifteen (15) slides demonstrating their proposals.
2. Applicants may submit up to three (3) letters of support of any kind, which can include coalition letters with multiple signatories.

**CBE Green Pitch Grant**

**A. Explain how the proposed project provides critical support to CBEs pursuing green and environmentally sustainable procurement opportunities. (20 points)**

1. Which support areas will the project address, and how do you plan to accommodate a CBE cohort ranging from thirty-two (32) to forty-eight (48) participants?
2. What will be the average cost per CBE for your proposed project?
3. What barriers do you believe CBEs face when pursuing contracts related to green and environmentally sustainable initiatives, and how will your proposed programming be critical for CBE success?

**B. Explain how your proposed program will fulfill projected timelines, expenditures, and goals. (20 points)**

1. Describe how you would use the CBE Green Pitch Grant, if awarded. Detail your proposed expenditures in the chart using specific dollar amounts. You may apply for any amount up to \$50,000.
  - a. Subcontracting is only reimbursable if you are using an active CBE. If subcontracting, you are required to provide a resume of the subcontractor, a description of the subcontractor's

past performance in the green and environmentally sustainable initiatives, and an explanation of the subcontractor's role in programming.

b. **Please note:** applicants must facilitate all trainings and, therefore, cannot subcontract that portion of the project.

2. Provide a detailed work plan outlining each major activity listed in your proposal.
3. Describe your proposed recruitment, onboarding, and outreach plan for CBEs. Your plan should ensure equitable participation across all eight (8) wards in DC.
4. Explain your business's capacity to complete all proposed tasks, including its ability to expend the proposed budget by September 30, 2025. Please identify the individual(s) that will be complete each deliverable, providing evidence of their relevant experience and credentials. Resumes must be uploaded as additional documents.

**C. Explain your business's past performance your proposed support area. (20 points)**

1. Describe and upload evidence of your business's past performance in the proposed support area (e.g., invoice(s), contract(s), letter(s) of recommendation, etc.).
2. Provide a sample presentation demonstrating your business's past performance in group trainings.

**D. Optional Additional Uploads (5 points)**

Applicants may submit up to three (3) letters of support of any kind, including letters from individuals or organizations with multiple signatories.

**CBE Green Event Grant**

**A. Explain your past performance in the proposed support area. (20 points)** If awarded the CBE Green Event Grant, grantee will be responsible for maintaining the CBE Green Industry Rally Day's budget, researching and booking the event's venue, coordinating with DSLBD staff, negotiating and executing vendor contracts, and designing and printing event materials, among other tasks. Subcontracting is only reimbursable if you are using an active CBE. If subcontracting, you are required to provide a resume of the subcontractor, a description of the subcontractor's past performance, and a description of the subcontractor's role in the event.

1. Describe the individual(s) that will be leading event planning efforts, providing evidence of their relevant experience and credentials related to event planning and coordinating with external stakeholders. Resumes must be uploaded as additional documents.
2. Provide a sample presentation of an event plan that accounts for one hundred (100) to one hundred fifty (150) participants and describes food, beverage, and venue rental logistics.

**B. Optional Additional Uploads (5 points)**

1. Applicants may submit a PowerPoint (or similar) presentation of no more than fifteen (15) slides demonstrating their full proposals.
2. Applicants may submit up to three (3) letters of support of any kind, including those from individuals or organizations with multiple signatories.



## **CBE Green Advance Business Support Lottery Grant**

**Applicants for the CBE Green Advance Business Support Lottery Grant must be listed as an Equity Impact Enterprise (EIE) in their CBE registration and attest that:**

1. The business did NOT receive a FY 24 CBE Green Business Support Lottery Grant.
2. The business is open and operating.
3. The business has actively sought and continues to pursue contracting opportunities with DCSEU and other similar entities.
4. The person completing this application is the business owner or an authorized representative applying with full knowledge of the business and its owner's approval.
5. The business will provide comprehensive documentation reflecting \$7,000 of qualified business expenditures, including full, bona fide receipts showing that the expenditures were made on or before September 30, 2025.
6. The business has not been reimbursed for the expenses submitted in connection to the FY 25 CBE Green Business Lottery Grant by another DC Government or other business grant; and, if awarded, the business will not request reimbursement for the expenses submitted in connection to the FY 25 CBE Green Business Lottery Grant from another grant source.
7. The business has completed all reporting requirements for all DSLBD and DC Government grant it previously received during the last two (2) years.
8. The entity has a business bank account that can receive grant funds via electronic funds transfer if awarded.
9. All information provided in the application is true and accurate.
10. The business is deemed an EIE.

## **6. Scoring Criteria**

The following criteria will be used to evaluate all eligible applications. Applicants are encouraged to review their proposals against these scoring criteria before submitting a final application.

- A. Will the proposed project provide critical support to CBEs pursuing green and environmentally sustainable procurement opportunities? (20 points)** *CBE All Things Green Grants are focused on providing advanced business support, contract services, marketing and/or management consulting (e.g., proposal development, pricing, and accounting), business pitch guidance via the CBE Green Pitch program, and a CBE Green Industry Rally to support the District's CBE community.*
- B. Is the proposed project realistic in its projected timelines, expenditures, and goals? (20 points)** *Projects will start after the execution of an awardee's grant agreement and must be completed by September 30, 2025. Can applicants implement the project and expend funds within the scheduled timeline? Grant funds may only be used to expense program-related costs that are incurred during the Period of Performance.*
- C. Has the applicant demonstrated reputable past performance in the proposed support area? (20 points)** *Providers should have documented and tangible experience in their proposed support area.*

- D. Will the applicant’s proposed program help CBEs gain access and achieve success in the green and environmentally sustainable infrastructure and energy industries? (20 points).** *Proposed programs should focus on helping CBEs gain access to and win procurement opportunities.*
- E. Will the project increase procurement opportunity access for small, resident-owned, or disadvantaged CBEs? (20 points).** *DSLBD supports equitable grantmaking and procurement access for CBEs.*

## **7. Selection Process**

DSLBD will select awardees through a competitive application process for the CBE Green Contract Services Grant, CBE Green Pitch Grant, and CBE Green Event Grant. A review panel, which may be composed of DSLBD partners, members of the public, and DC government employees, will review eligible applications received by the submission deadline and score them against the above criteria. DSLBD hopes to select a diverse set of awardees that will support DC’s CBE community by offering a wide array of direct services, including marketing, cost estimation, and procurement proposal development.

The DSLBD Business Opportunities program team will review the panel’s recommendations and report them to the Director of DSLBD, who will make the final determination of awardees.

DSLBD intends to select awardees through a lottery process for the CBE Green Business Support Lottery Grant. DSLBD will assign eligible applications with a number and then use a randomized lottery system to select recipients. The Director of DSLBD will finalize and announce the selected awardees.

## **8. Award Information**

### **A. Grant Award Notification**

DSLBD anticipates notifying awardees in March 2025. Applicants who are not awarded a FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant will be notified of their status no later than one (1) week following the initial notification to awardees.

### **B. Formal Grant Agreement**

Awardees must sign an individual grant agreement with DSLBD. For applicants who received a DSLBD grant in the past, awards will be contingent on compliance with applicable DC laws and may be contingent upon the completion of their previous grant’s reporting requirements. The selected applicant may forfeit funds if it (1) refuses to execute a grant agreement during the award process, (2) fails to execute the agreement by DSLBD’s deadline (March 21, 2025), (3) cannot meet post-award requirements for any reason, or (4) cannot make the appropriate and required attestations related to the Grant Program.

### **C. Additional Survey Assessment**

DSLBD may survey awardees following the execution of grant agreements. Grantees must comply with DSLBD’s surveying requests.

### **D. Grant Reporting**

Grantees must comply with ongoing reporting requirements pursuant to their respective grant agreement. Grantees must submit an approved budget outlining the expenditures made in connection

with the Grant Program, alongside appropriate documentation. DSLBD will only accept full, bona fide receipts, cancelled checks, and other verifiable evidence of payment as proof that a grantee made appropriate expenditures. Grantees may be required to return grant funds upon their failure to submit appropriate documentation of proper expenditures.

Grantees must prepare a final report by October 30, 2025 that includes, among other items, proof of appropriate expenditures and their program's impact.

#### **E. Disbursement (Payment)**

Disbursement terms shall be determined after the selection of awardees. Terms may require DSLBD's collection of additional documentation, such as additional proof of insurance, ACH payment documentation, or more.

Disbursement schedules will be outlined in the grant agreement. DSLBD expects most grants to be disbursed in a lump sum. The District will pay an invoice within thirty (30) days of receipt.

**Please note: FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant awardees must be fully registered as a vendor with OCP to receive payment via the District's Payment Automated Support System (PASS) and/or the District Integrated Financial System (DIFS). Grantees will receive payment once (1) the DSLBD Grant Coordinator creates and provides to the grantee the appropriate requisition number, and (2) the grantee successfully submits an invoice in the required system. If DSLBD issues payments using a third-party payor/servicer, DSLBD will collect and verify banking payment information from each grantee.**

#### **F. Modifications**

Final grant agreements may require addendums, amendments, or modifications. An awardee that cannot comply with final grant agreement terms and/or provide other requested materials by March 21, 2025 may be disqualified from their specific grant program, and DSLBD may award the grant to another applicant.

### **9. Important Legal Disclaimers**

This section includes DSLBD's legal disclaimers regarding the release of this RFA.

#### **A. Contingent**

Funding for this award is contingent on sufficient and continued funding from the District. Neither the RFA nor the corresponding NOFA commits the Department to issue an award.

#### **B. Application Acceptance**

DSLBD will not review applications that do not comply with all instructions listed in the RFA or NOFA. The Department reserves the right to accept or deny any or all applications if it determines it is in the best interest of the District. DSLBD may suspend or terminate an outstanding RFA or NOFA pursuant to its own grant making rule(s) or any applicable federal regulation or requirement.

Applications must be submitted through Zoom Grants. DSLBD will not accept applications submitted via hand delivery, email, mail, or courier service and will not review late submissions or incomplete applications.

### **C. Notice of Funding Availability**

DSLBD published the corresponding NOFA in the DC Register and the Office of Partnerships and Grant Services (OGPS) on January 17, 2025. The NOFA is available at <http://dslbd.dc.gov/>.

### **D. Conflicts**

In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions of the grant application and any applicable federal or local law or regulation, or any ambiguity related thereto, then the provisions of the applicable law or regulation shall control. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to ensure compliance.

### **E. Costs of Applications**

Neither DSLBD nor the DC government shall be liable for any costs incurred by an applicant in the preparation of any grant application(s) for a FY 25 CBE All Things Green Grant. All costs incurred in developing and preparing any grant application shall be the applicant's sole responsibility.

### **F. Reservation of Rights**

1. DSLBD reserves the right to issue addenda, amendments, and/or any other modifications after the issuance of the NOFA or RFA or rescind the NOFA or RFA. DSLBD will post addenda, amendments, or any other modifications in the online application (see Section 2). Applicants are responsible to review and adhere to any NOFA or RFA addenda, amendments, or modifications.
2. DSLBD may suspend or terminate an outstanding NOFA or RFA pursuant to any other applicable local, state, or federal regulation or requirement.
3. DSLBD may conduct pre-award onsite visits to verify information that an applicant submits in a grant application. The Department's access and ability to verify such information shall not be unreasonably withheld.
4. DSLBD serves as its own reference when evaluating applications; it is not required to consult with outside parties. Grant decisions may reflect applicants' performance in managing previous government grants.
5. DSLBD may negotiate with an awardee to finalize funding amounts or otherwise adopt revisions to an awardee's proposal as it relates to the Grant Program.