



Texas A&M Research Foundation  
Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP)  
Small Business Concerns Diversity Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Texas A&M Research Foundation (TAMRF), Integrated Ocean Drilling Program, Branch Office, that Small Businesses, Small Disadvantaged Businesses, HUBZone Businesses, Women-Owned Businesses, Veteran and Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses and Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions (collectively Small Business Concerns) shall have the maximum practicable opportunity to provide goods and services to the TAMRF for use by the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP).

We are dedicated to encouraging the participation of all Small Business Concerns in a manner that is consistent with effective and economic procurement activities. TAMRF's business practices, procurement policy and staff involvement demonstrate TAMRF's commitment to encourage diversity among its vendors.

The TAMRF/IODP Procurement Branch supports this commitment by utilizing known small business concerns in solicitations, when practicable. In addition, all IODP personnel that have procurement responsibility are accountable and responsible for seeking out new small business opportunities for future solicitations.

Michelle Strickland has been appointed as the IODP Small Business Administrator. The Small Business Administrator has the overall responsibility for implementing the approved Small and Small and Disadvantaged Business Subcontracting Plan. Some of the Small Business Administrator's functions are to:

1. Establish a Small Business Program to train all TAMU/IODP staff and TAMRF/IODP procurement staff who are expected to participate in the Program.
2. Provide advice, information and source availability.
3. Ensure that solicitations are designed to permit the maximum practicable participation of Small Business Concerns.
4. Identify and contact Small Business Concerns and coordinate inquiries from them, as required, regarding IODP procurement opportunities.

The Small Business Administrator can be reached at (979) 845-9320, or by email at [strickland@iodp.tamu.edu](mailto:strickland@iodp.tamu.edu). TAMRF is committed to assisting small business concerns and looks forward to being a part of fostering their economic growth. Small Businesses can make significant contributions by assisting us in meeting our objectives and are an important part of our local community and economy. We strongly and enthusiastically support this Program and we challenge each of you to plan your procurements in a manner to encourage participation of Small Business Concerns.

Mr. Richard G. McPherson  
Vice President, TAMRF  
Integrated Ocean Drilling Program

Dr. Paul J. Fox  
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Integrated Ocean Drilling Program

**Integrated Ocean Drilling Program/JOI Alliance**

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