



MBE University

Maryland is Open for Business!

Conference Kick-Off – December 1, 2009 in Prince George’s County

MBE University is a **new** initiative under the O’Malley-Brown Administration for small, minority and women-owned businesses. MBE University is designed as a “Road Show” conference that travels to each of the State’s regions, and offers training and information on the tools necessary for successfully doing business with the State of Maryland as a minority or woman-owned business. This effort is hosted by the Governor’s Office in collaboration with the Office of Minority Affairs (GOMA), Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED), Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), Maryland Department of General Services (DGS), and the Governor’s Grant’s Office.

The MBE University Conference Kick-Off with Governor Martin O’Malley will take place on **Tuesday, December 1, 2009** in Prince George’s County, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Greenbelt Marriott. The second MBE University Conference will take place in Baltimore during early spring 2010, and the remaining regions to follow.

Participants will learn how to do business with the State as a MBE; respond to bid solicitations; how to become certified or expand existing certification; learn about upcoming bid opportunities, access to capital and the ARRA business connection, MBE related laws, and federal contracting, etc. MBE University’s private sector partners, **Pepco** and **Verizon**, will also host workshops on how to do business with their organizations.

BACKGROUND

Maryland is home to a rich and diverse community of nearly 250,000 minority and women-owned enterprises, many of which are located in Prince George’s County. These firms are a significant part of the engine that drives the State’s economy. To help minority and women-owned firms remain viable and prosperous, the O’Malley-Brown Administration is committed to promoting maximum inclusion in the State’s procurement process, as well as increasing awareness and access to opportunities and resources.

MBE University will aid in strengthening the success of minority and women-owned firms and build upon inclusion efforts that will provide an opportunity for all citizens to share in the State’s prosperity.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Minority and women-owned firms who are interested in doing business with the State of Maryland, Pepco, and Verizon.

REGISTRATION

The Conference is FREE and pre-registration is required. To register, [click here](#). For questions contact the Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs at 410-767-8232.