



## Dawson County, GA

### *Local Small Business Initiative*

#### **Purpose & Scope:**

Giving preference to local suppliers, even if it means spending a little more, can actually benefit a county's finances. Dollars spent locally generate additional economic activity even beyond the value of the initial contract as the local supplier in turn sources goods and services locally. Each additional dollar that circulates locally boosts economic activity, employment, and ultimately tax revenue. (1)

A study in Arizona found that using local independent suppliers for state contracts results in three times the economic benefit of bids fulfilled through national chains. (1)

**Local Small Business Initiative** (LSBI) is a Dawson County program designed to promote opportunities to Local Small Businesses located in Dawson County.

The **LSBI** program is designed to return as much taxpayer money to the local economy, in a relatively short time span, as possible while at the same time foster inclusiveness with the County's procurement activities and a goal to provide more opportunities for Dawson County businesses.

#### **Definition of Local Small Business:**

- Local Small Business shall mean a business which has its principal office located in and having a street address within Dawson County for at least six months immediately prior to the issuance of the quote/bid/proposal. Post Office boxes (to include mailing/shipping center addresses) are not eligible and shall not be used for the purpose of establishing a physical address.
- Must hold a valid business license required by the County and have no outstanding or unresolved fees, fines or penalties due to Dawson County.
- Not have more than twenty-five (25) employees, and of which at least 33% of those employees have their primary residence in Dawson County, or, if the business has no employees, the business shall be at least fifty-one (51%) percent owned by one or more persons whose primary residence in Dawson County.
- Have a banking relationship with a bank located in Dawson County.
- Average annual gross receipts of five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) or less over the previous three years.
- Must certify under oath to the above criteria upon submission for any bid, solicitation, or proposal to Dawson County.

**The LSBI Policy will not be applicable for the following types of purchases, bids, or solicitations:**

- Goods or services provided under a cooperative purchasing agreement or inter-local agreement;
- Purchases or contracts which are funded in whole or part by a governmental entity and the laws, regulations, or policies governing such funding prohibit application of preference;
- Purchases made or contracts let under emergency or non-competitive situations or for legal services;
- Projects over \$100,000.00.

**Affidavit:**

The County will accept an affidavit that a business meets the County's standards to be considered a Local Small Business. The County, in its sole discretion, may request additional information from the business to support its claim of being a Local Small Business. The Purchasing Department will be required to review the affidavit and request additional information as necessary to ensure the LSBI criteria are satisfied. The County will notify a business of acceptance of LSBI certification.

**How Incentive Works:**

Under any applicable solicitation or bid, vendors desiring to receive local preference under the LSBI Policy will be required to affirmatively demonstrate via affidavit that they satisfy all pertinent requirements. Any vendor who fails to submit the required affidavit shall be automatically excluded from LSBI consideration. Vendors shall submit the affidavit with each solicitation or bid proposal. The affidavit contemplated under this Policy is valid only for the submitted solicitation or bid, and must be reaffirmed and resubmitted for each subsequent solicitation or bid.

For any solicitation that is under \$100,000.00 the Local Small Business (as demonstrated via affidavit) that submits a responsive, responsible price, a local preference credit of 3%.

**Waiver:**

The application of local preference to a particular purchase, contract, bid, solicitation or category of contracts may be waived by the Dawson County Board of County Commissioners in its sole discretion. The promulgation of this Policy is not intended nor should it be construed as created a right or property interest in local preference or in the local preference credit.



# Dawson County Purchasing Department

78 Howard Avenue East, Suite 100, Dawsonville, GA 30534

(706) 344-3501 Office (706) 344-3504 Fax

## **LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY**

*Complete all areas below. Incomplete forms may be rejected. Submit by mail or fax to the below address.*

Legal Name of Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Physical Address: (if different) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Year business was established in Dawson County: \_\_\_\_\_

Business License Number issued by Dawson County: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Employees: \_\_\_\_\_

Average annual gross receipts for past three years: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Type: (corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship) \_\_\_\_\_

Does your business have more than one office in Dawson County: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, specify the location(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Is your business' principal base of operations in Dawson County: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Does your business have any locations outside of Dawson County: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, specify the locations(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Bank (branch in Dawson County): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the information which I have provided on this form is true and correct, that I am authorized to sign on behalf of the business set out above, and if requested by the County will provide, within 10 days of notice, the necessary documents to substantiate the information provided on this form.

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Authorized Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **Print Name**

Subscribed and sworn before me by: \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_, day of \_\_\_\_\_

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Notary Public**  
Seal