

## SWaM

### ***Small, Woman-owned and Minority-owned Businesses***

Currently here at Virginia Tech, we encourage discretionary spending with Small, Woman-owned and Minority-owned Businesses (SWaM). Many vendors fall into this category but simply are not certified with the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is our hope these vendors, especially local vendors, will certify. SWaM vendors help Virginia Tech achieve aspirational diversified vendor spending goals, which also supports common goals of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

#### **What qualifies you as Small or Woman-owned or Minority Owned Business?**

You only have to be one of these. [Click here.](#)

#### **Why should I certify?**

One of the core procurement values throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and Virginia Tech is to purchase from SWaM businesses. Virginia prefers to infuse money into its own economy statewide, which is why signing up for SWaM is so important. Benefits include stimulating the local economy, as well as creating new jobs. In addition, doing business with SWaM vendors is one of the University's strategic goals.

#### **What Events do you have for SWaM vendors?**

There are two major outreach events for SWaM vendors each year: SWaMfest, a professional development and networking event sponsored by all eleven state supported universities. Virginia Tech also hosts a separate SWaM vendor fair, which is attended by over 200 campus buyers who are looking to meet new businesses. These events are an opportunity to network and market your brand.

#### **What exactly is SWaM?**

[Click here.](#)

#### **What are some frequently asked questions about SWaM?**

1. What documents should I submit?
2. Do I need to notarize my application?
3. When will I receive my certification?
4. What happens after I submit my Swam certification application?
5. Why must I provide a copy of my business' income tax return?

[Click Here.](#)

**How do I certify?**

[Click here.](#) Scroll to bottom.

**What if I have specific questions?**

Feel free to email procurement here at Virginia tech

Hokiemart@vt.edu

**In addition, there are trained professionals available to help.**

Email: sbsd@sbsd.virginia.gov

Phone: 1 (804) 786-6585 Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm

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