



September is National Cholesterol Education Month

Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance that your body needs, but when you have too much in your blood, it can build up on the walls of your arteries and form blockages. These blockages can lead to heart disease, heart attack, and stroke.

Seventy-one million American adults have high cholesterol, but only one-third of them have the condition under control.

Screening is the key to detecting high cholesterol. Because high cholesterol does not have symptoms, many people do not know that their cholesterol is too high. Your doctor can do a simple blood test to check your cholesterol level.

The National Cholesterol Education Program recommends that adults aged 20 years or older have their cholesterol checked every 5 years.



Small Business Administration News

SBA Reaches Contracting Goal

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced on Aug. 1 that the federal government reached its small business federal contracting goal for the first time in eight years, awarding 23.39% in federal contracts to small businesses. This has resulted in \$83.1 billion dollars of revenue for small businesses.

This is a proud achievement for the federal government and especially for small businesses. When small businesses win federal contracts, it boosts our nation's economy and is a win-win for America.

Further strides have been achieved in the government-wide scorecard. In 2013, small disadvantaged firms received 8.6 percent of all federal contracts, totaling \$30.6 billion dollars. The federal government exceeded its 3 percent contracting goal for small businesses owned by service-disabled veterans. These businesses received 3.4 percent of federal contracts, totaling more than \$12 billion dollars.

Alongside the announcement, the SBA released its FY 2013 Small Business Procurement Scorecard, which provides an assessment of each federal agency's yearly small business contracting achievement against its goal. Overall, the federal government received an "A" on SBA's government-wide scorecard.



Small Business: Think Strategically

If you ask any small business chief executive or business development executive competing in the federal market, he or she will tell you that finding a niche within the competitive spectrum has become increasingly difficult.

Despite the challenges, the current government contracting environment encourages small business participation. More than \$51 billion in 2013 contract obligations went to small business via set-aside contracts, and although the total dollar figure is declining, the percentage of total obligations is increasing.

Small business contracting continues to be a priority for contracting offices, which are under increasing scrutiny regarding small business utilization.

SBA Revenue-based Small Business Size Standards Increased

The federal government's definition of a small business is based on either the number of people that a company employs or the amount of revenue it earns annually. The number-of-employees or the gross-revenue standards are applied to individual North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes.

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To determine whether a company is a small business in the eyes of the government, one must first determine which NAICS code or codes apply to the business, and then see what size standard (employees or revenue) applies to each NAICS code. If a business has fewer employees or earns less annual revenue (averaged over the past three years) than the standard, then that business can represent itself to the federal government as a small business.

It has been more than five years since the SBA updated the revenue size standards for small businesses. As of July 14, the SBA is adjusting virtually all of its size standards that are based upon revenue to account for the years of inflation since the last adjustment. A total of 476 industrial categories will be affected by the update, including most service, construction, retail, agricultural, and transportation industries. The new size standards can be found at this website: http://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/Size_Standards_Table.pdf.

TSBDC Hold Lunch and Learn Session on Travel Regulations

Tennessee Small Business Development Center teaming with Strategic Consulting Solutions, Inc. held a Lunch and Learn Session on Aug. 21 at the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce. This training covered the Federal Travel Regulations, and was presented by Laura Davis, President of SCS. It was a great refresher course and you can access the FTR - <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21220>. The FTR is the regulation contained in 41 Code of Federal Regulations, Chapters 300 through 304, which implements travel policies for travel by federal civilian employees and others authorized to travel at government expense.

UCOR thanks all the small businesses that supported our work for a productive and successful Fiscal Year 2014.



During National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 to Oct. 15) we recognize the contributions Hispanic and Latino Americans have made to the United States and celebrate their heritage and culture.

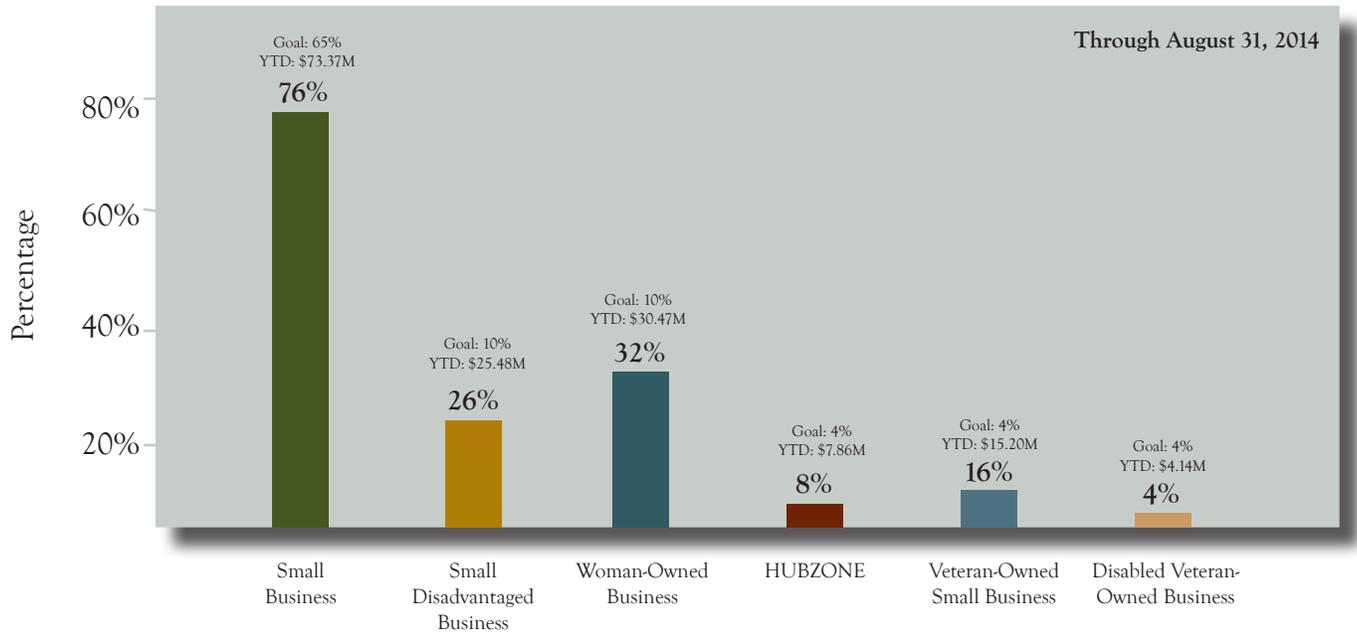
Hispanics have had a profound and positive influence on our country through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service. They have enhanced and shaped our national character with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their community.

Hispanic Heritage Month begins each year on Sept. 15, the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico, Chile, and Belize also celebrate their independence days during this period.

The term Hispanic or Latino refers to Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race. On the 2010 Census form, people of Spanish, Hispanic and/or Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or "another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin."

UCOR Small Business Statistics

Summary FY 2014: Percent of Subcontract Dollars Placed with Socioeconomic Firms



Inception to Date: Percent of Subcontract Dollars Placed with Socioeconomic Firms

