Lowe's





## THE INITIATIVE

"The creation of this new grant program is intended to promote readiness and accelerate the success of diverse businesses in the retail industry by offsetting the cost of certification forminority business enterprises engaged in our supplier diversity efforts. Through this program, we can assemble a wide rangi of talents, perspectives, and creativity and create a more equitable inclusive marketalace."

— Jonathan Hall, Director of Belonging, Neiman Marcus Group Neiman Marcus Group (NMG) and the Heart of Neiman Marcus Foundation believe that when we empower our next generation, cultivate a culture of Belonging, and invest in a sustainable future, the world will be a better place. Our efforts to identify, connect and assist in the growth of certified diverse brand partners and vendors who align to our retail or non-retail strategies - which focus on diverse enterprises that are at least 51% owned, controlled and operated by African-Americans; Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; Hispanic Americans; Native Americans; and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons – is part of that commitment. To support these efforts, NMG and its foundation the Heart of Neiman Marcus Foundation is creating the NMSDC + Neiman Marcus Group Supplier Diversity Certification Reimbursement Grant in partnership with the National Minority Supplier Diversity Council (NMSDC).

## REIMBURSEMENT FLIGIBILITY





Eligibility to participate in the NMSDC + Neiman Marcus Group Certification Reimbursement Program requires that you and your company meet the following criteria:

- The business must be at least 51% owned, controlled, and operated by a U.S. Citizen who identifies as:
  - o African American/Black
  - o Asian-Indian
  - o Asian or Pacific Islander
  - o Hispanic or Latin American
  - o Native American
- Must be an independent for-profit enterprise and physically located in the U.S. or its trust territories.
- NMSDC will prioritize existing and former brand partners or business vendors of Neiman Marcus and/or Bergdorf Goodman as well as those actively engaged in the procurement process with NMG Spend Management.
- Must be obtaining certification for the first time, certification renewals will be the responsibility of the active MBE.
- The grant's beneficiary must comply with the Company's Non-Discrimination Policy and Supplier



WHY NMSDC CERTIFICATION MATTERS Being certified by NMSDC means that you've been recognized as one of the more than 15,000 highperforming companies across the United States that have completed what's widely considered to be the most rigorous MBE qualifying process. That matters because more than 1,700 local and national corporate members depend on certified MBEs and the integrity of NMSDC's certification.

Corporate members count on the national organization and affiliate regional councils to be their trusted partners in helping to develop and connect MBEs with them to advance their companies' commitment to economic equity, strengthen communities, and create employment opportunities for people of color while also furthering corporate diversity and inclusion initiatives and optimizing supply chain resilience.

ABOUT NMSDC

For the last 50 years, the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) has been connecting and advocating for the inclusion of minority businesses. That's because we believe every business deserves an unbiased chance. And it's why our goal of ensuring representation and economic equity for minority business enterprises (MBEs) of all sizes is at the heart of everything we do.

Our strength is in our network of 15,000+ certified MBEs, 1,700+ national and local corporate members, and 23 regional affiliate councils that, together, serve as the growth engine for Asian-Indian, Asian-Pacific, Black, Hispanic, and Native American MBEs. That same network also serves as the engine for the impact that activates the commitment of our corporate members nationwide through development, engagement, and connection opportunities with NMSDC and its regional affiliates.

## REIMBURSEMENT PROCESS





After completing and submitting the form below, you will receive an email confirmation that your reimbursement request has been received and is being reviewed.

NMSDC will follow up shortly thereafter with another email notifying you of one of the following outcomes:

- You are eligible for the reimbursement program and are being connected to the appropriate regional affiliate council to begin the certification process.
- You are eligible for a different reimbursement program for which NMSDC determined you qualify and are being connected to the appropriate regional affiliate council to begin the certification process
- You can move forward with certification but are not eligible for certification reimbursement.
- You are not eligible for reimbursement or certification.

Once your certification is approved with the regional affiliate council and you receive your certification, you will then be provided with a link to the NMSDC form you will need to submit for your reimbursement.

SUBMISSION FORM

Owner First Name	Owner Last Name
Company Legal Name	Year Company Formed
	YYYY
Job Title*	
Company Street Address*	Unit / Suite Number

State/Region\* Postal Code\* Office Phone Number Owner Mobile Number\* (###) ###-#### (###) ###-#### Owner Email\* Company Website URL Are you a retail business?\* Are you a current Brand Partner or Business Vendor of NMG?\* • Yes • Yes No Are you a for-profit business physically headquartered in the US?\* Are you currently in an open RFP or have a pending contract/purchase order with NMG?\* No No Do you have an internal Supplier Diversity Program?\* As the majority owner, are you a U.S. citizen?\* • Yes Yes No No As the majority business owner (51%), what is your ethnicity? African American/Black Asian American Pacific Islander Hispanic/Latinx Native American How did you hear about this program?\* NMG Associate Press release Social media Other ■ By checking this box, I understand that NMSDC will review this information to determine if I am eligible for the NMSDC Certification Reimbursement and that Neiman Marcus Group will also receive information on companies who submit for the program. By clicking submit below, I understand that submission of this form does not guarantee certification or reimbursement.

Submit

^ Scroll to Top



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Contact

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