NYS MWBE
ESF Networking Event
November 5, 2015
9 am to 3:30 pm

Morning Session:

9:00 -9:30  Bridge to Success Loan Program (for M/WBEs)-
Rafael Salaberrios, Empire State Development *
El-Java Williams Abdul-Qadir, Director, Program Coordinator @
SSIC

9:30 -10:00  Education Workshop (for SUNY & ESF staff) - Pamela
Swanigan, Key Strategies to Increase MWBE Participation

10:00-12:00  Networking Sessions (for all attendees) – Opportunity to meet
with regional vendors and view display of product offerings

12:00-12:30  Speakers:
  o Joseph Rufo, Vice President for Administration
  o Pamela Swanigan, Director of University-wide MWBE
    Program

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Afternoon Session:

1:00 -3:00  Networking Sessions (for all attendees) – Opportunity to meet
with regional vendors and view display of product offerings

3:00-3:30  Education Workshop (for ESF staff) - Pamela Swanigan, Key
Strategies to Increase MWBE Participation
*See details on page 2

**Bridge to Success Loan Program**

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*Title: Managing Director, Job Development Authority and Senior Director, Community Economic Development Department*

As its most important goal, **New York State’s Bridge to Success Loan Program** helps NYS certified MWBEs get access to mobilization funds to help them become successful in bidding on the over **$1 billion** in contract opportunities now available in NYS.

Many small firms and Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs) lack the short-term working capital necessary to execute on State contracts, and some banks are reluctant to provide credit to these firms given the short term nature of the capital needs and the size and experience of many small businesses. In addition, State contract payment cycles frequently take longer than what is financially feasible for these firms. These situations pose a significant barrier in securing State contracts.

NYS’s Bridge to Success Loan Program is capitalized with up to $20 million. This program has been established to help NYS Certified MWBEs get the capital they require to grow their businesses. In the last 7 months, the Bridge to Success loan program has approved in excess of **$4.7 million** in small business loans to NYS MWBE contractors.

This session will provide excellent information on how to access these funds as a source of financing to expand your business.