

VENDOR GUIDE

Successfully Identifying Business Opportunities from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

This is a “how-to” guide for businesses wishing to pursue opportunities under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the Recovery Act). The sources cited include all procurements and not just those funded by Recovery Act funds although notices about procurements may include notes if Recovery Act funds are being used.

Local governments vary in how they publish their bids. To locate county and city web sites for further information, you can use the MyFlorida.com portal (www.myflorida.com) and go to the “Find an Agency” tab.

What is the Recovery Act?

The Recovery (known to some as “Stimulus”) Act is a federal law that provides federal funds designed to create and preserve jobs, stimulate economic development and provide help for people affected by the recession.

What are the strategies for success in finding business opportunities?

There is no magic solution, but here are some strategies:

For Commodities and Contractual Services

Register with MyFloridaMarketPlace (<http://dms.myflorida.com/mfmp>), the online procurement system for state government for services and commodities. On the home page, select the “Vendors” page and then “Vendor Toolkit” for full information on doing business with the state.

Check the state’s Vendor Bid System (http://vbs.dms.state.fl.us/vbs/main_menu) or the Vendors link on the MyFloridaMarketPlace web site. Companies can register and receive alerts related to upcoming procurements by state agencies, state courts, state legislature, state universities, community colleges and water management districts. As a registered vendor, you can designate which commodities about which you want to be notified of open bids.

For Transportation Projects

A listing of the ARRA transportation projects is available at:

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/economicstimulus/> . This list includes projects that will be advertised by the Florida Department of Transportation and projects that will be advertised by local cities and counties.

The Florida Department of Transportation advertisements for construction of road and bridge projects can be accessed at: http://www.dot.state.fl.us/cc-admin/Letting_Project_Info.shtm. Click on the drop down under “Letting Dates” to see the advertisements by letting date.

Professional Services (engineering, architecture, surveying and mapping, planning, and ROW acquisition) advertisements are viewable at:

<http://www2.dot.state.fl.us/procurement/results/advreslt.htm>

Design Build projects (combining design and construction) are viewable from:

<http://www2.dot.state.fl.us/procurement/ads/advdbld.htm>

Check with local governments for how they publish their bids.

For Real Estate Construction and Leasing

Construction-related opportunities are published in Section XII of the Florida Administrative Weekly (<https://www.flrules.org/Default.asp>). You can register as a subscriber and get notification alert emails when new notices are published which match your interests.

Design and construction firms, architects and engineers, and general contractors can find out about procurements underway by the Department of Management Services Division of Real Estate Development and Management at:

http://dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/real_estate_development_management/building_construction/provider_opportunities

To register space that you want to make available for leasing by a state agency, see:

http://dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/real_estate_development_management/facilities_management/lease_management

Check with local governments for how they publish their bids.

Other Sources of Information

Check the Federal Business Opportunities Site, a one-stop virtual marketplace for vendors to find opportunities by all federal government agencies at FebBizOpps.gov, at <https://www.fbo.gov/>.

Check the **FlaRecovery.com** web site (<http://flarecovery.com/>) often for news about new programs and funding releases in Florida that may result in business opportunities.