



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **RTD and Colorado Minority Business Office rolls out online training platform for small businesses**

*New resource helps entrepreneurs compete for public contracts across Colorado*

**DENVER (April 13, 2026)** — The [Regional Transportation District \(RTD\)](#), in partnership with the [Colorado Minority Business Office \(MBO\)](#) within the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, is introducing a training module on the Colorado Business Learning Platform, a new online training resource created by MBO to help small and disadvantaged businesses navigate and compete for government contracts.

The training module, developed by RTD's [Small Business Opportunity Office \(SBO\)](#), offers on-demand courses that guide entrepreneurs through the RTD procurement processes, certification pathways, and strategies for competing for public sector work. Content is available in English and Spanish to better serve Colorado's diverse business community. The launch comes as public agencies across the state expand infrastructure investment, therefore increasing opportunities for businesses to participate in government contracting.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our communities. Ensuring they have access to the tools and knowledge needed to compete for public contracts is essential," said RTD Small Business Opportunity Office Manager Alexis Serrano Castro. "The Colorado Business Learning Platform reflects our commitment to creating equitable pathways for local, small, minority-owned, women-owned, disadvantaged, and other businesses to participate in transportation projects and contribute to Colorado's growing economy."

"The Colorado Minority Business Office is committed to expanding opportunities for entrepreneurs across Colorado," said Azarel Madrigal, Director, Colorado Minority Business Office. "Through our partnership with RTD, the Colorado Business Learning Platform will provide entrepreneurs with the knowledge and resources they need to strengthen their businesses, access new opportunities, and grow within Colorado's public contracting ecosystem."

#### **Course Content**

The Colorado Business Learning Platform's first course, "Doing Business with RTD," introduces users to RTD's contracting processes and small business programs. Modules include:

- Overview of RTD's Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program
- Step-by-step guidance on registering as a vendor with RTD
- Information on SBE certification and how it supports participation in RTD contracts

Additional courses will be added over time.

#### **How to Access the Learning System**

The Colorado Business Learning Platform is available online as of April 13. Users can click "Sign In" to create an account and access the course titled, "Doing Business with RTD."

#### **ABOUT RTD**

The [Regional Transportation District](#) (RTD) was created in 1969 by the Colorado General Assembly to develop, operate and maintain a mass transportation system that now benefits more than 3.1 million people in the Denver metro area. With a service area of 2,342 square miles, RTD provides transit services in all or part of eight counties and more than 40 municipalities. The transportation agency's services are delivered via 126 bus routes, six light rail lines, four commuter rail lines and paratransit mobility options.

**English:** <https://coloradobusinesslearning.auzmor.com/>

**Spanish:** <https://educacionnegocioscolorado.auzmor.com/>

### **About RTD's Small Business Opportunity Office**

The Small Business Opportunity Office (SBO) supports small, disadvantaged, minority-owned, and women-owned businesses seeking contracting opportunities with RTD. Through outreach, technical assistance, and strategic partnerships, SBO helps build a more inclusive transportation industry while supporting economic development across the Denver metro region.

For more information, visit: <https://www.rtd-denver.com/doing-business-with-rtd/dbesbe>

Contact: [sbo@rtd-denver.com](mailto:sbo@rtd-denver.com)

### **About the Colorado Minority Business Office**

The Colorado Minority Business Office (MBO), part of the [Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade \(OEDIT\)](#), works to expand economic opportunity for minority, women, and veteran entrepreneurs. The office connects businesses to resources, technical assistance, and partners across the state.

For more information, visit: <https://oedit.colorado.gov/minority-business-office-of-colorado>

Contact: [mbo@state.co.us](mailto:mbo@state.co.us)

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