



AGENDA

- Welcome & Introductions
- Background
- Project Overview
- Pre-Submittal Questions
- Submittal Requirements
- Timeline
- Questions





BACKGROUND

In 2019, the **South Carolina Department of Commerce** (Commerce) established the **Targeted Rural Strategies Program** to support identified rural counties with improving their economic competitiveness. The **Coordinating Council for Economic Development** (CCED) allocated \$2.5 Million for "targeted rural strategies" projects within each of the 13 identified counties, known as **Rural Initiative Grants** Program.

In December 2022, CCED established the **Growing Rural Communities Grant Program**, in an effort to expand the community and economic development efforts established through the Rural Initiative Grants
Program. CCED allocated \$4 Million to encompass all twenty-four Tier III and Tier IV Counties.

In March 2024, CCED voted to support Rural Development's **Strategic Planning Initiative** aimed at creating strategic plans for local economic development agencies. This initiative is scheduled to commence July 1st, the beginning of the new fiscal year.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The **South Carolina Department of Commerce** (Commerce) is embarking upon a transformative **Rural Strategic Planning Initiative** as part of its **Rural Development Program**. This initiative aims to address the unique challenges faced by rural communities across the state of South Carolina and explore strategies to enhance both the quality of life and economic growth within these regions. To achieve this goal, Commerce will collaborate with experienced strategic planning and community development consultants who will play a pivotal role in evaluating the effectiveness of various strategies. The consultants will delve into key areas such as housing, transportation, culture, art and history, community services, business recruitment, entertainment, asset inventory, public safety, land use, zoning, infrastructure, parks and recreation, and tourism. Through a comprehensive and inclusive approach, this initiative seeks to foster sustainable development, empower local communities, and create a roadmap for a vibrant and prosperous rural South Carolina.





SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

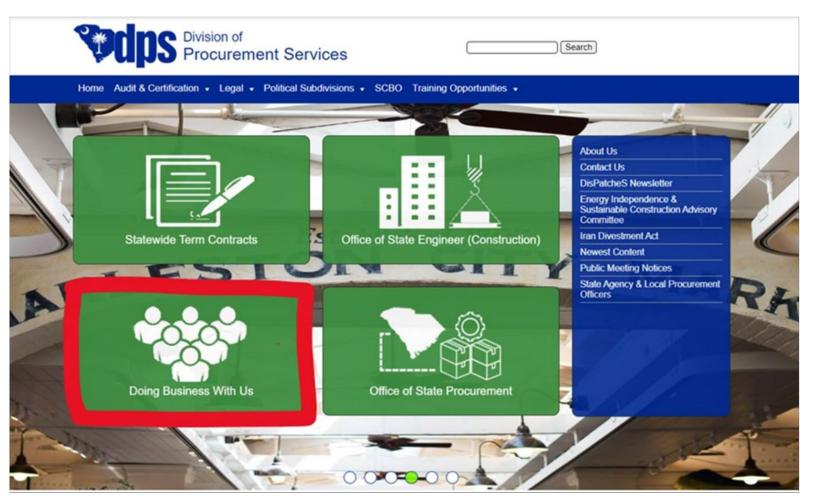
Deadline: Monday, May 6th at 3:00 PM, EST

- Include all information on form SE-210
- Five (5) printed copies and one (1) electronic
- Must register to become a state vendor
- See next slide for vendor registration information





SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS



IMPORTANT!!!

VENDOR REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY

To obtain a state vendor number, visit www.procurement.sc.gov and select Doing Business with Us. Then select Vendor Registration. Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation email of your login and password and a second email of your assigned state vendor number. Vendors must keep their vendor information current.

- If you are already registered and know your User ID & Password, you can update your information by selecting Update Vendor Registration.
- If you need to update information but do not have your User ID/Password, you must complete a new vendor registration and On Step 9 – Messages to Administration indicate "Update vendor number" with your existing 10-digit vendor number.

Registration may take up to 45-60 days, so please register as soon as possible.

 If you have submitted your vendor registration and haven't heard back, please contact Joyce Straiter at <u>jstraiter@sccommerce.com</u> so she can follow up on your request. Please include your registration confirmation email notification.

Website: www.procurement.sc.com



TIMELINE

May 29th April 22nd May 6th May 8th May 14th May 30th **Pre-Submittal Submittal Selection Notify Selected Conduct Interviews Notice of Selection Conference -Deadline Committee** Firms for 10:00 AM, EST 3:00 PM, EST Meeting **Interviews**



