

Memorandum of Cooperation
Between
Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce (TAAACC)
And
The Texas Education Agency

This Memo of Cooperation Agreement (Memorandum) is entered into for the time period March 30, 2017 to March 30, 2019, or until (one or) both parties agree not to (continue or) renew the Memorandum by and between the Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce (TAAACC), an outreach affiliate and the Texas Education Agency (TEA), for the purpose of creating a relationship that will encourage and assist the development of participation by Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) in contracting opportunities within the state of Texas. TAAACC and TEA will cooperate in the dissemination of information regarding procurement opportunities extended to HUB vendors in an attempt to increase the level of HUB contractual agreements. WHEREAS TEA and TAAACC enter into this Memorandum effective March 30, 2017.

The Texas Education Agency and TAAACC agree to the following:

Outreach Initiatives:

1. TAAACC will solicit its respective member chambers in an effort to identify and develop a listing of African American businesses that meet the qualifications of the state of Texas HUB program but are not currently certified. TAAACC will encourage these African American business firms to obtain HUB certification. TAAACC will also provide a listing of members that are currently certified as HUB firms.
2. The lists will be submitted to the Texas Education Agency and the TEA HUB Coordinator will communicate electronically with TAAACC to provide purchasing and HUB vendor information that could be used to help improve HUB participation.
3. TEA through the Comptroller's Office, will assist TAAACC members to become certified HUB firms. TEA will provide TAAACC with information regarding existing or potential opportunities and will provide information and presentations to TAAACC regarding the TEA's HUB program and the bidding process to maximize their opportunity to do business with the state.
4. TAAACC will promote this initiative by providing ongoing advocacy, publicizing success stories and serving as the point of contact for their member chambers. TAAACC will work with TEA on suggestions and recommendations for improving HUB utilization. As a sign of good faith and to serve as a role model, TAAACC will request that their executive officers go through the HUB certification process
5. TEA will provide TAAACC bid award information semi-annually in accordance with agency procedures.

6. TEA HUB Program staff will serve (if and when appropriate) as resources for TAAACC Economic Development Committee related to ongoing HUB Program issues.
7. TEA will provide TAAACC with a roster of procurement contacts (resource guide).
8. TEA will participate in chamber-related functions throughout the state in accordance with its strategies and budget allocation.
9. TEA will provide workshops through TAAACC chamber members on "How to do Business with TEA" and other procurement and HUB related workshops as staff time and budgets allow.
10. TAAACC will encourage HUB certified members to bid as a prime and as a subcontractor in the TEA competitive procurement process.

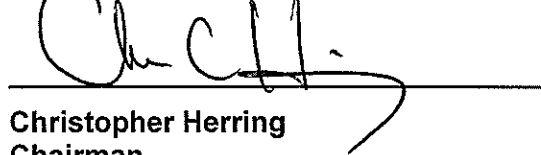
Education of Businesses:

The Texas Education Agency will continue to provide education to TAAACC chambers regarding business opportunities and how to access them at chamber functions, quarterly board meetings and annual conventions.

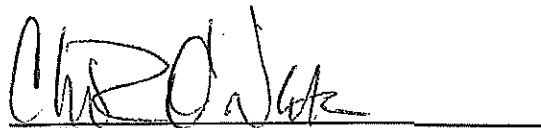
Report of Memorandum of Cooperation Agreement:

TEA will develop an annual report to be distributed, which includes summaries of the activities and accomplishments of this Memorandum.

**TAAACC
Texas Association of African
American Chambers of Commerce**



**Christopher Herring
Chairman
Texas Association of African
American Chambers of Commerce**



**Charles O'Neal
President
Texas Association of African
American Chambers of Commerce**

Texas Education Agency



**Mike Morath
Commissioner of Education
Texas Education Agency**

Date: March 30, 2017