

an SDB, or that the firm's SDB application contained false or misleading information.

§ 124.1016 Can SBA re-evaluate the SDB status of a firm after SBA certifies it to be SDB?

(a) SBA may initiate an SDB determination whenever it receives credible information calling into the question a firm's eligibility as an SDB, including an adverse determination from a DOT recipient of the firm's status as a DBE. Upon its completion of an SDB determination, SBA will issue a written decision regarding the SDB status of the questioned firm.

(1) If SBA finds that the firm does not qualify as an SDB, SBA will decertify the firm as an SDB, and immediately remove the firm from the list of qualified SDBs. The firm may appeal SBA's decision to OHA consistent with the provisions of § 124.1008(f) and part 134 of this chapter.

(2) If SBA finds that the firm continues to qualify as an SDB, the determination remains in effect for three years from the date of the decision under the same conditions as if the concern had been granted SDB certification under § 124.1008.

(b) An SDB firm must report within 10 days to the AA/SDBCE any changes in ownership and control or any other circumstances which could adversely affect its eligibility as an SDB.

§ 124.1017 Who may protest the disadvantaged status of a concern?

(a) In connection with a requirement for which the apparent successful offeror has invoked an SDB evaluation adjustment or an SDB set-aside, the following entities may protest the disadvantaged status of the apparent successful offeror:

(1) Any other concern which submitted an offer for that requirement, unless the contracting officer has found the concern to be non-responsive or outside the competitive range, or SBA has previously found the protesting concern to be ineligible for the requirement at issue;

(2) The procuring activity contracting officer; or

(3) SBA.

(b) In connection with an 8(d) sub-contract, or a requirement for which the apparent successful offeror received an evaluation adjustment for proposing one or more SDB subcontractors, the procuring activity contracting officer or SBA may protest the disadvantaged status of a proposed subcontractor. Other interested parties may submit information to the contracting officer or SBA in an effort to persuade the contracting officer or SBA to initiate a protest.

(c) An interested party seeking to protest both the disadvantaged status and size of an apparent successful SDB offeror must submit two separate protests, one as to disadvantaged status pursuant to this subpart, and one as to size pursuant to part 121 of this title. An interested party seeking to protest only size of an apparent successful SDB offeror must submit a size protest to the contracting officer pursuant to part 121.

§ 124.1018 When will SBA not decide an SDB protest?

(a) SBA will not decide a protest as to disadvantaged status of any concern other than the apparent successful offeror.

(b) SBA will not normally consider a post award protest. SBA may consider a post award protest in its discretion where it determines that a protest decision after award would have a practical effect (e.g., where the contracting officer agrees to terminate the contract if the protest is sustained).

(c) SBA will not decide an untimely protest (see § 124.1020(c)).

(d) SBA will not decide a non-specific protest or one that does not present credible evidence that the protested concern's circumstances have materially changed since SBA certified it as an SDB, or that the protested concern's SDB application contained false or misleading information (see § 124.1021).

(e) An interested party may appeal SBA's dismissal of a protest for lack of specificity, timeliness, or a basis upon which SBA will consider a protest to SBA's Deputy Associate Deputy Administrator for Government Contracting and Minority Enterprise Development (DADA/GC&MED) pursuant to § 124.1024.