



U.S. Department of War



# SMALL BUSINESS BILL OF RIGHTS

## WHAT IS THE SMALL BUSINESS BILL OF RIGHTS?

The Small Business Bill of Rights helps small businesses understand their rights when working with the Department of War (DoW). It consolidates existing federal protections and points businesses to help when issues arise.

### Established by Congress to:

- Promote transparency and fairness
- Improve customer service and issue resolution
- Encourage more small businesses to compete



## WHO IS THIS FOR?

### The Small Business Bill of Rights is for:

- Small businesses currently working with the DoW
- Businesses interested in DoW prime or subcontracting opportunities
- Companies exploring entry into defense markets

# WHAT RIGHTS DOES IT COVER?

The Bill of Rights is organized into four key areas that reflect the most common concerns small businesses face when working with the DoW.

## 1. Advocacy and Assistance

You have the right to:

- Support from the DoW Office of Industrial Base Growth and Small Business Professionals
- Timely payment, including interest on late payments
- Clear entry points for learning how to do business with the DoW
- Transparent outreach to contracting officials and end users

## 2. Fairness in Contracting and Agreements

You have the right to expect:

- Transparent posting of opportunities and forecasts
- Maximum practicable small business participation
- Justification and notice when contracts are bundled or consolidated
- Early involvement of small business advocates in acquisition planning

## 3. Small Business Priorities and Protections

You have the right to:

- Priority consideration for small business set-asides
- Access to mentoring, technical assistance, and cybersecurity support
- Protection of intellectual property
- Meaningful pre- and post-award debriefings

## 4. Raising Concerns and Resolving Issues

You have the right to:

- Raise concerns about restrictive or burdensome requirements
- Challenge unfair solicitations or subcontracting practices
- Seek timely, good-faith review and resolution of issues

# HOW TO RAISE A CONCERN


If you believe your rights were not upheld, submit a concern using the **DoW Business Resolution Submission Form**.

**SUBMIT HERE:**

**[business.defense.gov/Small-Business-Bill-of-Rights](https://business.defense.gov/Small-Business-Bill-of-Rights)**

Submissions are reviewed by DoW contracting and small business professionals.

Learn more about the **Small Business Bill of Rights:**

 [business.defense.gov/Small-Business-Bill-of-Rights](https://business.defense.gov/Small-Business-Bill-of-Rights)

