

Doing Business Accountability

What is the purpose of the Doing Business Data Form (DBDF)?

To collect accurate, up-to-date identification information about organizations that have business dealings with the City of New York in order to comply with Local Law 34 of 2007 (LL 34), a campaign finance reform law. LL 34 limits municipal campaign contributions from principal officers, owners and senior managers of entities doing business with the City and mandates the creation of a Doing Business Database to allow the City to enforce the law. The information requested in this DBDF must be provided, regardless of whether the organization or the people associated with it make or intend to make campaign contributions. No sensitive personal information collected will be disclosed to the public.

Why have I received this DBDF?

The real property acquisition, disposition or lease you are proposing on or entering into is considered a business dealing with the City under LL 34. No covered transaction will be entered into unless this form is completed. Other types of transactions that are covered by LL 34 include contracts for goods, services and construction; concessions; franchises; grants; economic development agreements; pension investment contracts and land use actions with the City. Certain real property transactions are not covered by LL 34, in particular those offered by competitive sealed bid or public auction.

What individuals will be included in the Doing Business Database?

The principal officers, owners and certain senior managers of organizations listed in the Doing Business Database are themselves considered to be doing business with the City and will be included in the Database.

- **Principal Officers** are the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Chief Operating Officer, or their functional equivalents. See the DBDF for examples of titles that apply.
- **Principal Owners** are individuals who own or control 10% or more of the organization. This includes stockholders, partners and anyone else with an ownership or controlling interest in the entity.
- **Senior Managers** include anyone who, either by job title or actual duties, has substantial discretion and high-level oversight regarding the solicitation, letting or administration of any real property transaction with the City. At least one Senior Manager must be listed on the Data Form will be considered incomplete.

As of January 2018, the DBDF must report organizations, as well as individuals, that own 10% or more of the entity. A DBDF with such a certification, filed as a full (never filed before) or as a change form, must be submitted before an entity can then file a DBDF that indicates no changes since the previous form. Contact DBA at 212-298-0600 or at doingbusiness@mocs.nyc.gov to inquire if DBA has received such a form.

I have already completed a Doing Business Data Form, do I have to submit another one?

Yes. An organization is required to submit a DBDF each time it enters into a transaction considered a business dealing with the City. However, the DBDF has both a Change option, which requires only information that has changed since the last DBDF was filed, and a No Change option. No organization should have to fill out the entire DBDF more than once.

If you have already submitted a DBDF for one transaction type (such as a contract or land use action), and this is the first time you are completing a DBDF for a real property transaction type, please select the Change option and complete Section 4 (Senior Managers) for this real property transaction.

Will the personal information on the DBDF be available to the public?

No. The names and titles of the officers, owners and senior managers reported on the DBDF will be made available to the public, as will information about the organization itself. However, personal identifying information, such as home address and date of birth, will not be disclosed to the public, and home address will not be used for communication purposes.

I provided some of this information in PASSPort; do I have to provide it again?

No. Unlike PASSPort, you can complete a form that certifies there are no changes since the previous certification or Doing Business Data Form. To request a report of all officers, owners and managers currently certified in the Doing Business Database please contact Doing Business Accountability at 212-298-0600 or doingbusiness@mocs.nyc.gov.

No one in my organization plans to contribute to a candidate; do I have to fill out this DBDF?

Yes. All organizations are required to return this DBDF with complete and accurate information, regardless of the history or intention of the entity or its officers, owners or senior managers to make campaign contributions. The Doing Business Data Form must be complete so that the Campaign Finance Board can verify whether future contributions are in compliance with the law.

How does a person remove him/herself from the Doing Business Database?

When an organization stops doing business with the City, the people associated with it are removed from the Database automatically. However, any person who believes that s/he should not be listed may apply for removal. Reasons that a person would be removed include his/her no longer being the principal officer, owner or senior manager of the organization. Organizations may also update their database information by submitting an update form. Removal Request and Update forms are available online <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/mocs/resources/forms.page> or by calling 212-298-0600.

How does an entity and its officers, owners and senior managers remain listed on the Doing Business Database?

- **Leasing to the City:** generally from the time of application to the start of the lease or renewal, plus one year.
- **Leasing from the City:** generally from the submission of a proposal through the end of the lease, plus one year
- **Property sale or purchase:** generally from the submission of the proposal through the end of the lease, plus one year.
- **Unsuccessful proposers:** generally until an awardee has been selected.

This list does not cover land use approvals under NYC Charter §§195, 197-c and 201. For information on these or other transactions types, contact Doing Business Accountability.

What are the campaign contribution limits for people doing business with the City?

Contributions to City Council candidates are limited to \$250 per election cycle; \$320 to Borough President candidates; and \$400 to candidates for citywide office. Please contact the NYC Campaign Finance Board for more information at www.nyccfb.info, or 212-306-7100.

The DBDF is to be returned to the City office that issued it.

If you have any questions about the Doing Business Data Form please contact Doing Business Accountability at 212-298-0600 or doingbusiness@mocs.nyc.gov.