

City and County of San Francisco

A Step by Step Guide to Becoming an Approved Supplier

- Business Tax Registration
- 12B Equal Benefits Ordinance Declaration
- Optional 14B Local Business Enterprise Certification
- Troubleshooting Tech Issues (Pop-Ups, Log-In Issues, PeopleSoft Navigation, Clearing Your Cache)



Topic		
Purpose of this Article	To provide step-by-step directions to help Registered Bidders become Approved Suppliers	
Audience	Registered Bidders that want to become Approved Suppliers	
Author	Kevane Wong	
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Related Content	"Complete Your Business Tax Registration", "File a 12B Equal Benefits Ordinance Declaration", "File an Optional 14B Local Business Enterprise Certification"	
Outline	See outline in the job aid	

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PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

<u>Purpose</u>

This document provides steps and information to help business entities that have already become Registered Bidders and that want to become Approved Suppliers to the City & County of San Francisco. If your business already has a Supplier account, you should not be creating a new Supplier account in the system. If you are unsure if your business already has a Supplier account, then you should contact User Support at 415.944.2442 for assistance.

Key Background Information

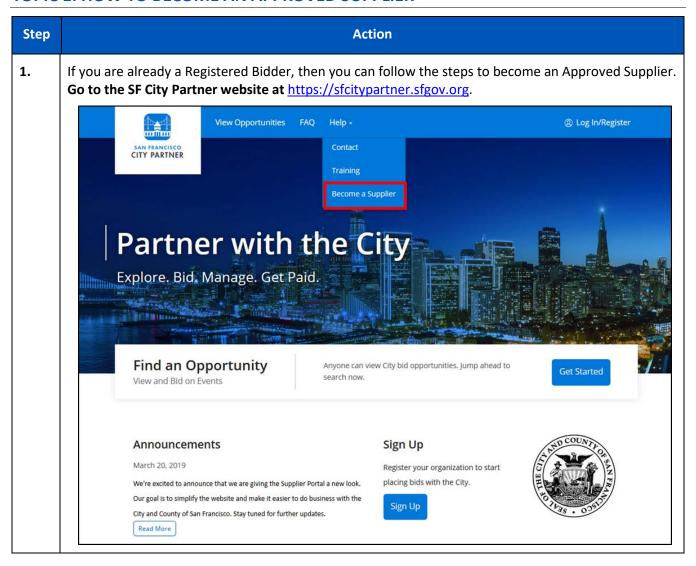
Becoming a Supplier to the City & County of San Francisco is a two-tier process.

- Registered Bidder: The first step to begin working with the City is a short registration process in order
 to become a "Registered Bidder". Being a "Registered Bidder" will allow your business to view and bid
 on contracts (however your business cannot be <u>fully awarded</u> a City contract until it goes through the
 steps required to become an Approved Supplier).
- Approved Supplier: Although "Registered Bidders" can view and bid on City business, in order to be fully awarded a City contract, a Registered Bidder will have to go through the Business Tax Registration and 12B Declaration processes required to become an "Approved Supplier". The time to complete these can vary, and we strongly recommend that you start these processes as soon as possible to expedite your contract wins.

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TOPIC 1: HOW TO BECOME AN APPROVED SUPPLIER

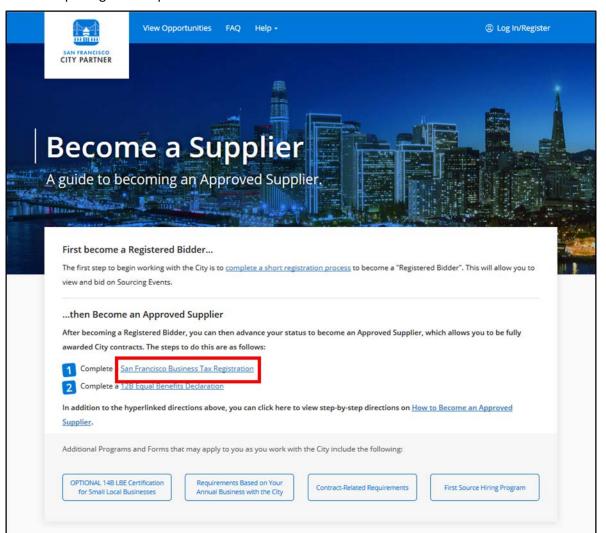


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2. Click on the "Help" pulldown menu and click on "Become a Supplier". This will bring to the screen shown below. There are two main parts to becoming an Approved Supplier:

- Completing a San Francisco Business Tax Registration, and
- Completing a 12B Equal Benefits Declaration form.



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San Francisco Business Tax Registration:

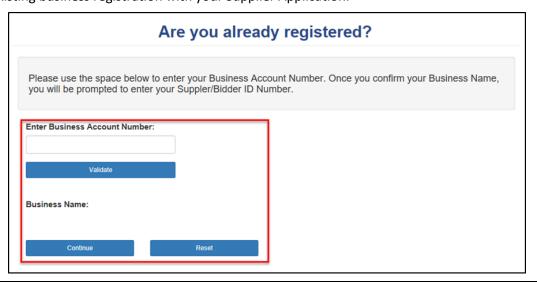
3. You should first attend to your Business Tax Registration Certificate with the Treasurer & Tax Collector's office. Click on the San Francisco Business Tax Registration hyperlink, which will bring you to the screen shown below (at https://newbusiness.sfgov.org/vendor/).

CCSF Supplier - Business Registration Business Registration is required for all entities that conduct business in SF and determines your tax responsibilities. Upon establishment of your business, you will receive a Business Account Number (BAN) and a Business Certificate (to be posted in your location). In some cases, suppliers may not be required to register. To become a supplier, please visit: http://sfoitypartner.sfgov.org. You must have a Bidder/Supplier ID Number to complete this form. Use this form to: 1. Determine if your business needs to register in San Francisco. 2. Register your business and/or link your existing business account to your Bidder/Supplier ID Number. 3. Declare that you do not need to register as a business in San Francisco. Are you already registered? Are you a registered business with a Business Account Number (or Business Registration Certificate)? If so, use the link provided to If you are not registered as a business: Please answer "Yes" or "No" to the questions below to determine if you are required to register as a business with the Office of the Treasurer & Tax Collector. Does this business: ○ No Operate as an Independent contractor within San Francisco. no Conduct business in SF for any part of seven (7) days during the fiscal year, including use of streets. . Perform work or render services within San Francisco for all or part of any seven days during one fiscal year. No - Solicit business within San Francisco for all or part of any seven days during one fiscal year. Ne · Maintain a fixed place of business within San Francisco. No • Exercise corporate or franchise powers within San Francisco. No · Own or lease real or personal property within San Francisco for business purposes. No Regularly maintain a stock of tangible personal property for sale in San Francisco. No. • Employ or loan capital on property within San Francisco. ο γ_{Ne} ο Liquidate businesses when the liquidators hold themselves out to the public as conducting such business. No Receive more than \$500,000 in total gross receipts in the City during the tax year

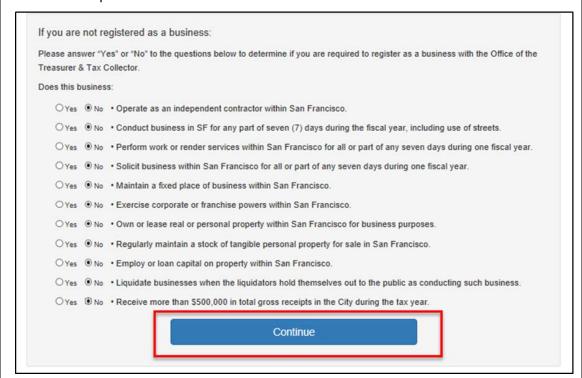
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4. If your organization has already completed its Business Tax Registration with the Treasurer & Tax Collector's office, then click on the "Click here to enter your BAN and Bidder/Supplier ID Number" hyperlink. You will then be taken to the screen shown below. Follow the steps on this screen to link your existing business registration with your Supplier Application.



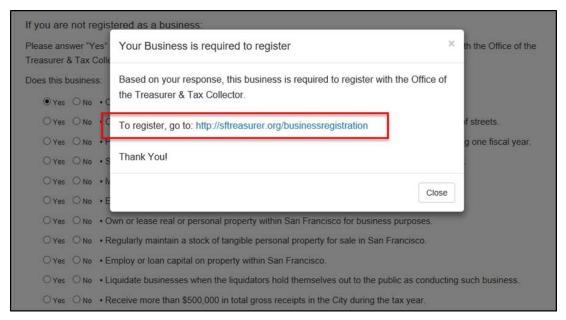
- 5. If your business has not registered with the City before or if it needs to renew an existing registration, then answer the list of questions on the screen.
 - 5A. If your answer is "No" to all of these questions, the "Continue" button will appear. Click the "Continue" button and an "In-Lieu of Business Registration" form will appear that you will need to complete and submit.



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If you responded "Yes" to any question in the list, you will be required to register with the Office of the Treasurer & Tax Collector for a San Francisco Business Tax Registration certificate. In this case, *click* on the http://sftreasurer.org/businessregistration link shown below and follow the directions on the screen.



Once your Business Tax Registration has been processed and entered into the PeopleSoft system, your Bidder ID will be converted to a Supplier ID and you will receive a notification with your new Supplier ID Number. At this point you will be listed as a Supplier in the PeopleSoft system. Your log-on should remain unchanged but should now direct you to your business' Supplier account (and not your old Bidder account). However, you will still need to be verified as complying with the 12B Administrative Code to be fully awarded any contracts.

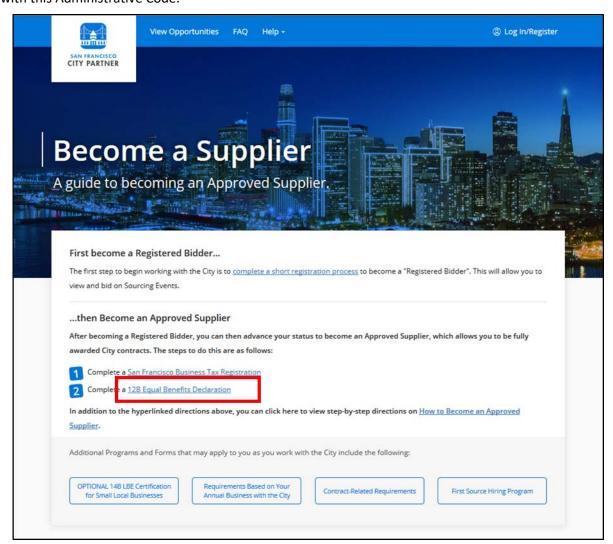
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12B Equal Benefits Ordinance Declaration:

7. Next, you will need to submit your 12B Declaration. Chapter 12B of the San Francisco Administrative Code (the Equal Benefits Ordinance) requires firms that provide goods or services to the City and County of San Francisco to administer benefits equally to employees with domestic partners and employees with spouses. This declaration is part of the process of verifying that your business complies with this Administrative Code.

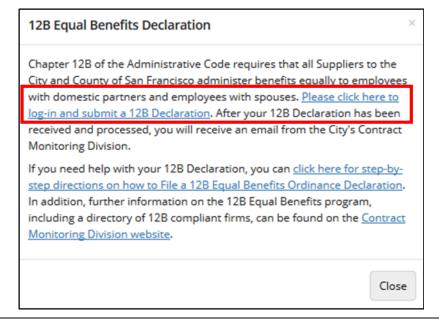


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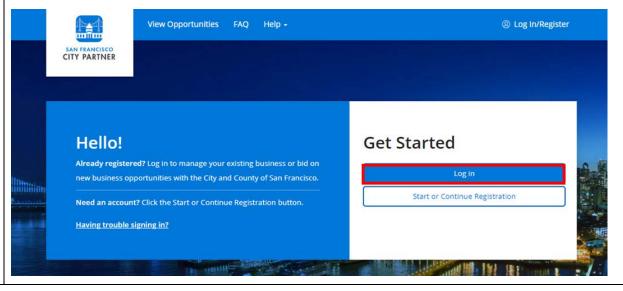


8. From the Become a Supplier page on the SF City Partner website, click on the 12B Equal Benefits

Declaration hyperlink. Then, in the pop-up box shown below, click on the Please click here to log-in and submit a 12B Declaration hyperlink.



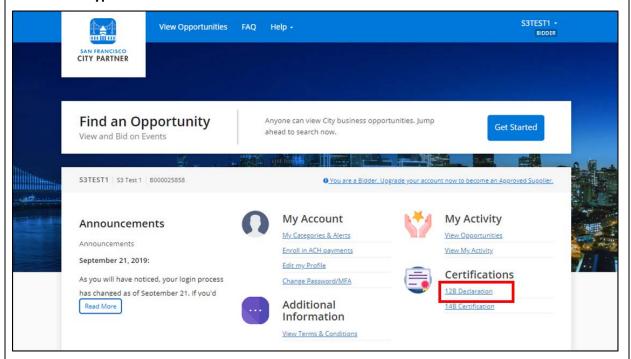
9. You'll then be taken to the log-in page shown below. Click Log in to start the log-in process. Please look to the "How to Log In to the SF City Partner Website" job aid for details on this process.



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10. After you have logged into the system, you'll land on the main Workcenter page. Click on the 12B Declaration hyperlink.



11. Click on the Add a New Value tab and choose "Bidder" in the Declaration Type Field (the SetID field should already say "SHARE" and the Declaration Number field should already say "NEXT"). Then click "Add" and you will be brought to the 12B Compliance Declaration page, which is shown in the following four screens.

12B Declaration	
Find an Existing Value Add a New Value	
SetIDSHARE Declaration Number NEXT	
Declaration Type Bidder Supplier ID	
Bidder ID _***********************************	
Add	

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NEXT Bidder

"Bidder Number"

"Bidder Name"

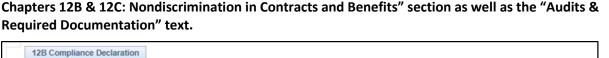
Declaration Number

Declaration Type Bidder ID

Declarant Name



In the top part of the 12B Declaration (shown below), be sure to review the "S.F. Administrative Code 12. Chapters 12B & 12C: Nondiscrimination in Contracts and Benefits" section as well as the "Audits &



S.F. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTERS 12B & 12C: NONDISCRIMINATION IN CONTRACTS AND BENEFITS

The Equal Benefits Ordinance prohibits the City and County of San Francisco from contracting with vendors that discriminate in the provision of benefits between employees with domestic partners and employees with spouses, and between the domestic partners and spouses of such employees.

- · Domestic Partners are same-sex and opposite-sex couples registered with any state or local government domestic partner registry authorized to perform such registrations
- · Domestic partnerships and marriages may only be verified to the same extent and in the same manner. For example, waiting periods to qualify for benefits must be the same for domestic partners and spouses. Domestic partner registry certificates must be recognized as fully equivalent to marriage certificates

AUDITS & REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

The City and County of San Francisco regularly audits firms to verify that declaration responses and supporting documentation provided are complete and accurate. For a detailed description of compliant documentation, click here for the Chapter 12B Equal Benefits Documentation Guide.

To be certified under Chapters 12B & 12C you must submit proper documentation confirming that your firm has already fully implemented equal benefits for employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners, and between the spouses and domestic partners of such employees.

The following documentation must be submitted to complete this declaration:

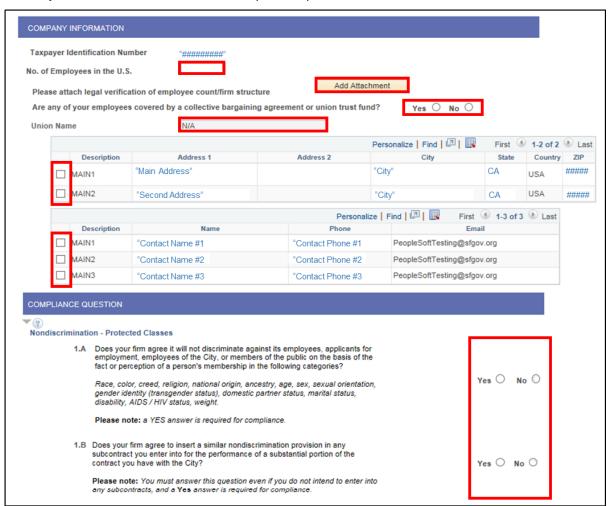
- Most recent legal verification of employee count/firm structure, for example, a W-3 Form, DE 1 Form, DE 9 Form or an annual San Francisco Payroll Expense Tax Statement. (Please redact confidential employee information.)
- · A copy of a memorandum that has been distributed to your firm's employees detailing the firm's compliant nondiscrimination and domestic partner benefit policies. Click here to download a sample 12B Compliant Memorandum to Employees.

Note: The memorandum is not a substitute for fully compliant incorporation of domestic partner language in your firm's benefit policies. You may also be required to provide benefit documentation to verify that your firm does not discriminate in the provision of benefits. Such documentation may include your employee handbook. confirmations from your insurance, union and/or retirement documents. Failure to offer benefits in accordance with the San Francisco Chapter 12B Equal Benefits Ordinance may result in suspension of your firm's compliance status, financial penalties and/or the inability to contract with the City and County of San Francisco.

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- 13. In the "Company Information" and "Compliance Question" sections (shown above), fill in the following:
 - No. of Employees in the U.S. Enter the number of employees your business has. Enter zero if you are an individual providing services to the City (with no additional employees).
 - Add Attachment: You will need to upload legal verification of your employee count and firm structure. This legal verification can include a W-3 Form, DE-1 Form, DE-9 Form, or an annual San Francisco Payroll Tax Statement.
 - Are any of your employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement or union trust fund: Select
 Yes or No for this question. If yes, specify the Union Name in the box provided.
 - Select a default address location and contact:
 - In the Address section, put a checkmark in front of one of your addresses to designate it as the default location.
 - In the Contact section, put a checkmark in front of one of your contacts to designate that person as the default contact.
 - Compliance Question: Answer the compliance questions.



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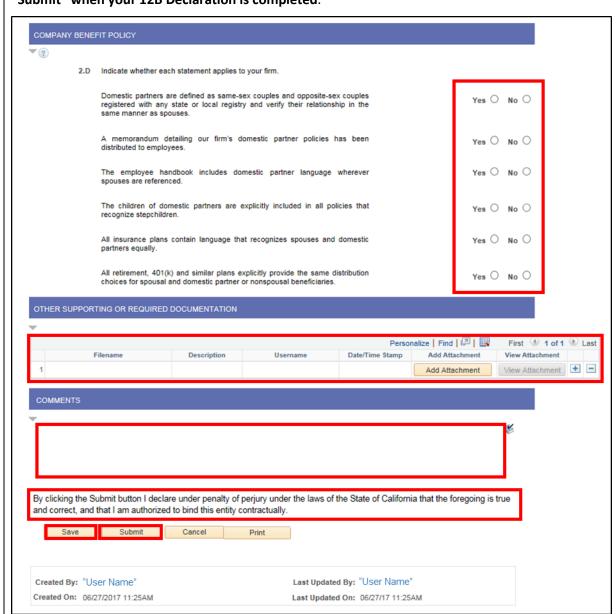


14. In the "Benefits Question" section (shown above), answer the questions and click on the appropriate Type of Benefit options. Check all the benefits that apply. Use the "Other" lines to add in any additional benefits that are not specified. BENEFITS QUESTION Nondiscrimination - Equal Benefits for (i) Employees with Spouses and (ii) Employees with Domestic Partners and (iii) Employee's Spouse or Domestic Partner 2.A Does your firm provide or offer access to any employee benefits? Yes O No O (If your firm does not have any employees, answer NO) 2,B If you answered YES to 2.A, are all of the benefits equally available to Yes O No O employees with domestic partners and employees with spouses? (If your firm does not have any employees, answer NO) Questions 2A and 2B should be answered YES even if your employees pay some or all of the cost of spousal or domestic partner benefits Check all benefits that apply to your answers above and list in the "Other" line any additional benefits not already specified. Note: some benefits are provided to employees because they have a spouse or domestic partner, such as bereavement leave; other benefits are provided directly to the spouse or domestic partner, such as dependent life insurance. Available To Domestic Type of Benefit Employee Spouse Partner Health Insurance Dental Insurance Vision Insurance Pension Retirement Bereavement Leave Family Medical Leave Parental Leave Employee Assistance Program Relocation and/or Travel Discounts/Facilities/Events Credit Union Child Care Dependent Life Insurance Short-Term/Long-Term Disability Insurance Accidental Death & Other Other Union

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Answer the questions in the "Company Benefit Policy" section (shown above). The "Other Supporting or Required Documentation" can be used to upload additional supporting documents for your 12B Declaration. The "Comments" section can be used to add additional information. Note the agreement language. If you need to save your progress and return later, you can click on the "Save" button. Click "Submit" when your 12B Declaration is completed.



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After you have submitted your 12B Declaration, the system will generate a Declaration Number (as shown above). Now, if you navigate to the 12B Application page and click on the "Find an Existing Value" tab, you can search for this Declaration Number. You will now need to wait for the City's Contract Monitoring Division to process and approve your 12B Declaration. They will send you an email when they have completed their 12B processes.



- More information on the 12B Equal Benefits program, can be found on the Contract Monitoring Division website at http://sfgov.org/cmd/12b-equal-benefits-program).
- 18. If you have any questions about the 12B process, you should reach out directly to the Contract Monitoring Division (CMD) at 415.581.2310. The CMD Contact page at https://sfgov.org/cmd/contact (shown below) will also show a list of CMD personnel and their individual contact info.



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OPTIONAL - 14B Local Business Enterprise Certification:

19. OPTIONAL - The 14B Local Business Enterprise (LBE) Certification is available to small businesses with a headquarters in San Francisco or the PUC Regional Service area. For information about the LBE criteria for eligibility, go to https://sfgov.org/cmd/LBE-certification-0.

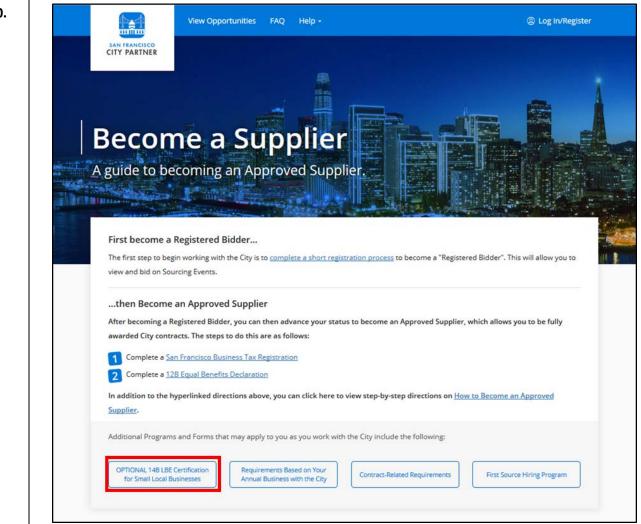
Please note that businesses that do not qualify for 14B status should NOT fill in a 14B certification form. For full information about the 14B Local Business Enterprise (LBE) ordinance, go to the Contract Monitoring Division website at https://sfgov.org/cmd/14b-local-business-enterprise-ordinance.



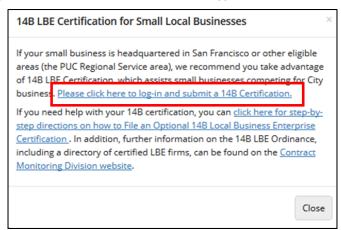
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20.



From the Become a Supplier page on the SF City Partner website, **click on the OPTIONAL 14B LBE Certification for Small Local Businesses hyperlink**. Then, in the pop-up box shown below, click on the **Please click here to log-in and submit a 14B Certification** hyperlink.

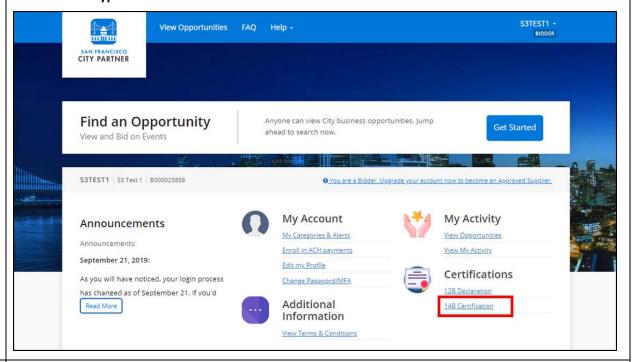


21. If you have not logged in already, you will need to log-in. Please look to the "How to Log Into the SF City Partner Website" job aid for details on this process.

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22. After you have logged into the system, you'll land on the main Workcenter page. Click on the 14B Certification hyperlink.



On the 14B Certification Application page, click on the Add a New Value tab and choose "Bidder" in the Applicant Type Field (the SetID field should already say "SHARE", the Application Number field should already say "NEXT", and the Bidder ID field should already show your Bidder Account number). Then click "Add" and you will be brought to the 12B Compliance Declaration page, which is shown in the following four screens.

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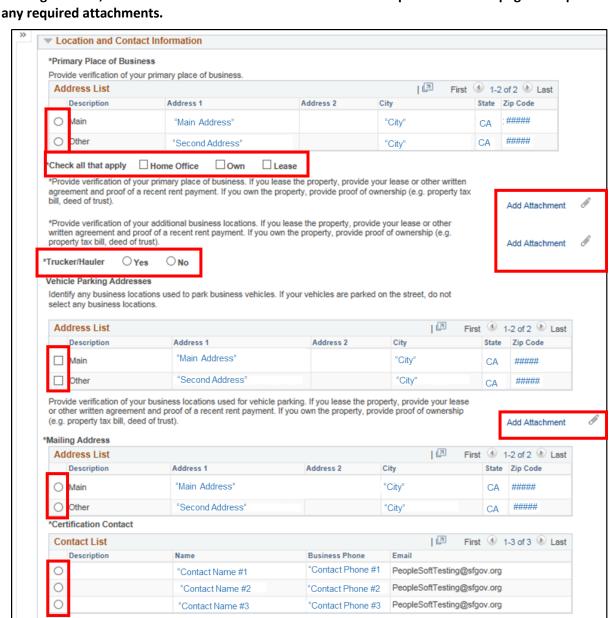


24. In the top part of the 14B Certification Application, mark down the Application Type, answer the questions on the page, upload related attachments when indicated. 14B Certification Application Applicant ID "Bidder ID#" **Applicant Name** "Company Name Application Number NEXT Applicant Type Bidder Application Status Draft Initial Certification *Application Type *Please select the statement that accurately represents your organization. My company has a primary place of business located in San Francisco. My organization is a Nonprofit Enterprise and has a primary place of business located in San Francisco. My company has a primary place of business outside of San Francisco, but within the "SFPUC Water System Service Area" and is seeking to participate in PUC Hetch Hetchy projects. O Yes Please indicate whether your business is a San Francisco Green Business. O No Add Attachment Provide a copy of your Green Business Program Recognition Certificate. *Business Type *Provide verification of your business type as applicable. Partnerships, provide your partnership agreement. Corporations, provide your Articles of Incorporation. LLCs, provide your Articles of Organization. Non-profits, provide your IRS determination letter confirming 501(c)(3) exemptions status and your most recently filed California Attorney Add Attachment General Registration Renewal Fee Form (RRF-1). Incorporation/ **Commencement Date** State Incorporated

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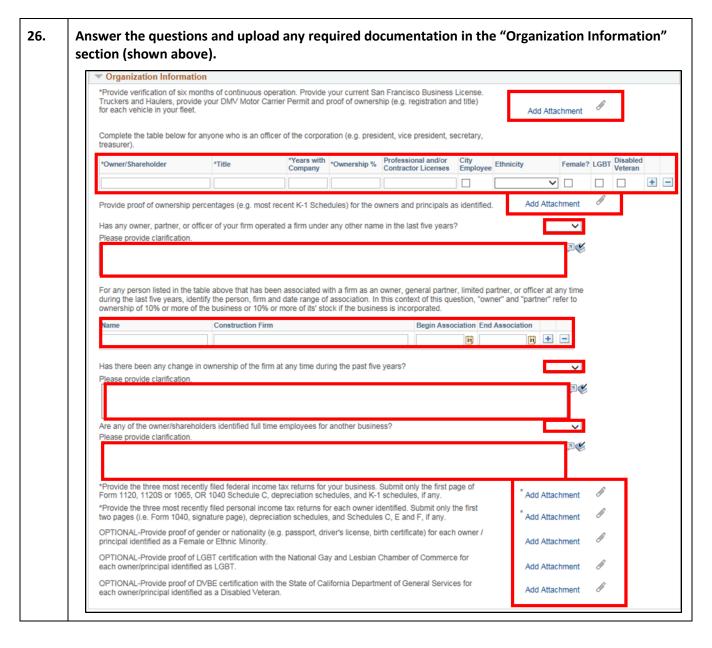


25. In the "Location and Contact Information" part of the 14B Certification Application (shown above), use the checkboxes to indicate the default Primary Place of Business, Vehicle Parking Address, Mailing Address, and Certification Contact. Also answer the two questions on the page and upload any required attachments.



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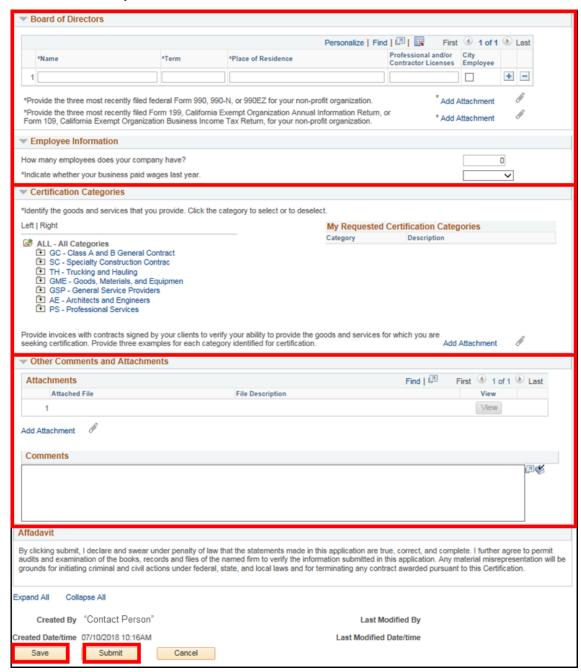
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27. Answer the questions and upload any required documentation in the "Board of Directors" and "Employee Information" sections (shown above).

In the "Certification Categories" section, open up the applicable folders on the left-hand side of the page to find and click on the categories that relate to the goods and services your business provides. As you click these categories, you should see them become listed on the right-hand side of the page. Upload related documentation.

Use the "Other Comments and Attachments" section to upload any additional files and give additional commentary.



If you need to save your progress and return later, you can click on the "Save" button. Click "Submit" when your 14B Certification form is completed.

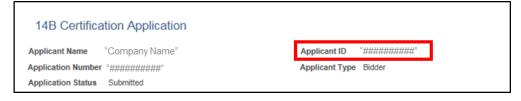
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28.



After you have submitted your 14B Certification, the system will show a pop-up box indicating that your application has been submitted. The system will now generate an Application ID Number (as shown below) for your 14B Certification Application. Now, if you navigate to the 14B Certification page and click on the "Find an Existing Value" tab, you can search for this Application ID Number. You will now need to wait for the City to process and approve your 14B Certification. They will send you an email when they have completed their 14B processes.



29. Questions?

If you have any questions related to the PeopleSoft system, contact User Support at 415.944.2442 or via email at sfgov.org.

If you have any questions about the 14B criteria for certification, please contact the Contract Monitoring Division (CMD) at 415.581.2310, via email at lbecert@sfgov.org, or in person at 30 Van Ness, Suite 200; San Francisco.

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APPENDIX: TROUBLESHOOTING TECH ISSUES

Managing Pop-Up Blockers

1. The SF City Partner Portal and the PeopleSoft system use pop-up windows, which will be an issue if your system is not set up to allow these popups. Please change the settings in your browser to allow popups or add this website (epufspi-bifrost.sfgov.org) to your browser's list of "trusted sites".

Log-In Issues

The Department of Technology manages log-on assignments and passwords. If you are having connection or log-on issues with the PeopleSoft system, contact the Department of Technology Help Desk at 628.652.5000 or at DTIS.helpDesk@sfgov.org (their home page is at http://sfgov.org/DT). Examples of connection issues include a "network error" message in your internet browser. An example of a log in issue is if you do not have a valid password or user name.

If you have never had a User Profile set up in the system (i.e. you've never had log-on access to the system), then you should first contact the Administrator(s) at your business who has been granted the rights to be able to set up User Profiles in our PeopleSoft system. If you do not know who this would be or if no one has been set up as an administrator, then contact the systems User Support desk at 415.944.2442 or at sfgov.org for help.

Basic PeopleSoft Navigation

3. Timing Out in the System

Once you have logged into the system, each browser tab that is open will have a timer that will log you out of the system after 20 minutes of inactivity. So, for example, if you logged in using Internet Explorer and have 3 different tabs (windows) open, each one will have a timer running and each can log you out after 20 minutes of no activity on that individual tab.

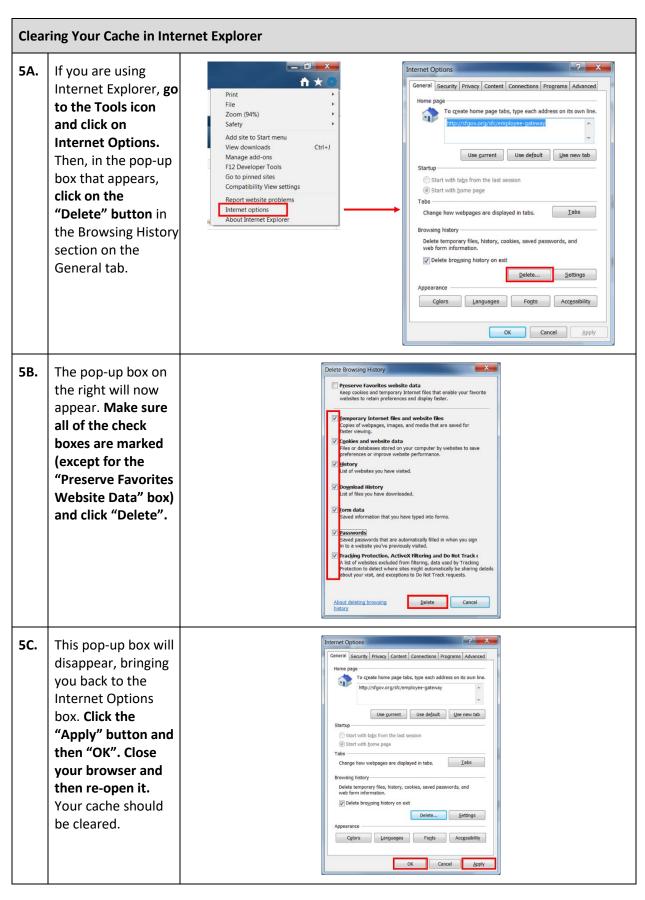
Although a pop-up will give you a warning, this will often not be seen, causing this log-out issue. In order to avoid this issue, we recommend closing browser tabs that you are no longer using so that these unused tabs do not log you out.

Clearing Your Cache in Web Browsers

4. Our system supports all major browsers, including Internet Explorer, Chrome, and Firefox. If you have having issues with one browser, you may want to see if another browser will work better. Sometimes the issue is related to old data in your browsing history that is interfering with the system. In order to fix this, you may need to clear your cache. To clear your cache, follow these instructions:

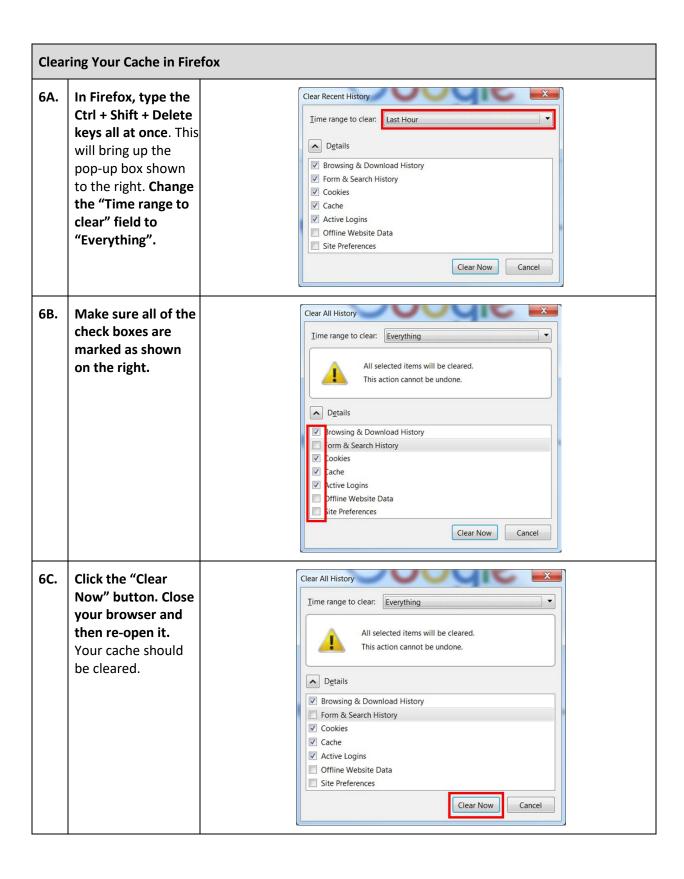
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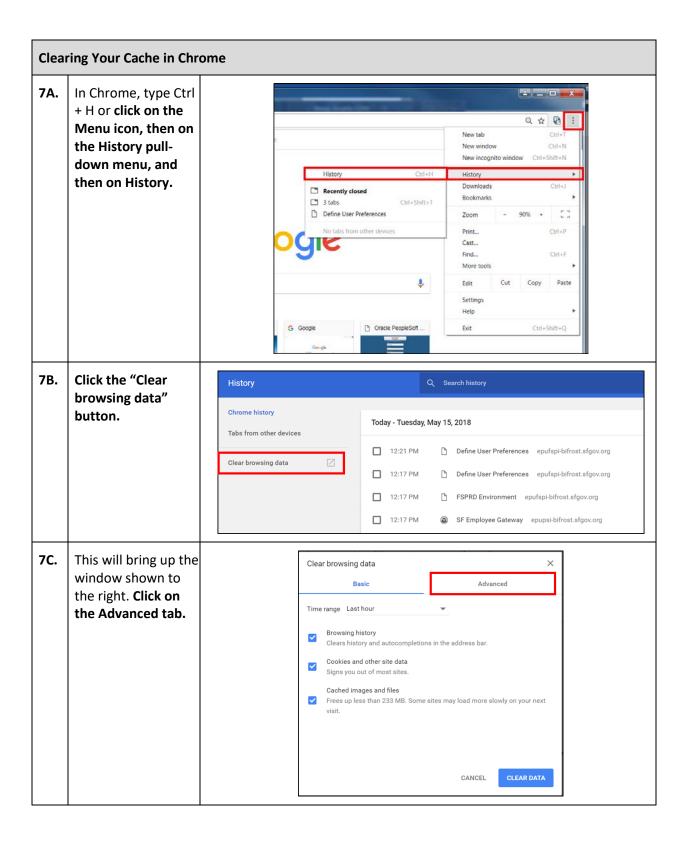
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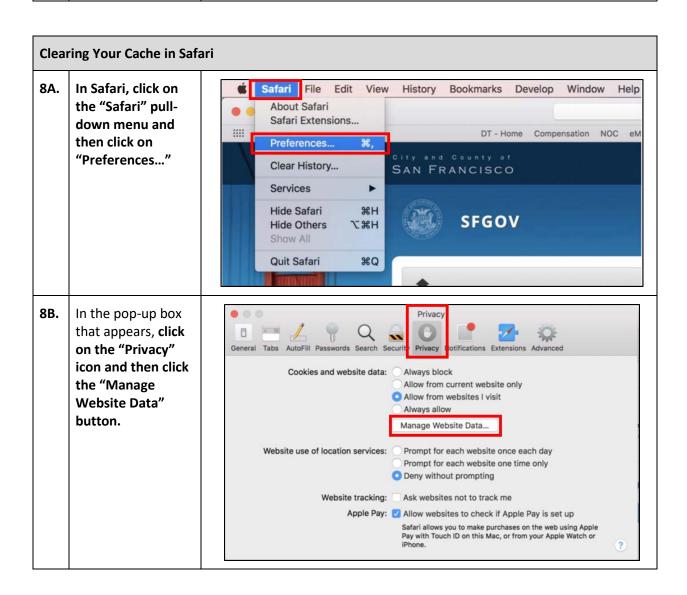


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be cleared.

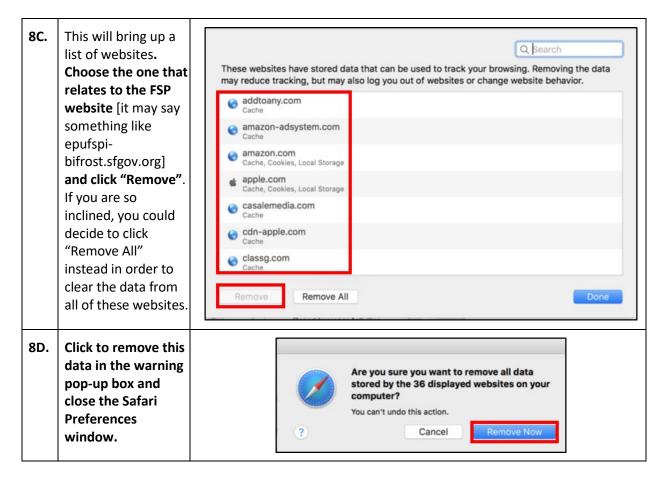


7D. Change the pull-Clear browsing data down menu to Psst! Incognito mode (Ctrl+Shift+N) may come in handy next time. show "the Obliterate the following items from the beginning of time beginning of time" the past hour ■ Browsing history – 3 items and make sure your the past day the past week Download history boxes are marked the last 4 weeks Cookies and other site and pl as shown. ✓ Cached images and files - 1 Click the "Clear ✓ Passwords – none browsing data" Autofill form data – none Hosted app data button. ✓ Content licenses Close your browser and then re-open it. Your cache should



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