

WHO ARE WE?

An organization of 90 engineering and professional service firms in the State of Maryland

WHO DO WE REPRESENT?

Over 7,000 employees including:

Engineers	Scientists
Architects	Technical Specialists
Land Surveyors	Planners

CONTACT INFORMATION

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QUALIFICATIONS BASED SELECTION (QBS)

Both federal and Maryland state procurements use a Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) method to procure professional design services for their projects.

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

In the interest of public safety, both the federal and state government long ago mandated Qualifications Based Selection as the method to select architects and engineers. Federal and state funds are used by many local jurisdictions for infrastructure projects. Some of these jurisdictions are using a low bid system to select design services related to these initiatives.

Action Required

Encourage all local jurisdictions in Maryland to use the QBS process to select professional design firms when federal or State funds are used to pay for the services.

WHY ARE THESE CHANGES IMPORTANT?

- Qualifications Based Selection leads to higher quality services on public infrastructure projects. Quality professional engineering services are in the best interests of public safety.
- QBS ensures that the most qualified team is selected for the work.
- It provides for consideration of all teams based on past performance.
- Selecting the most qualified firm likely results in better design and construction savings.

WHY A LEGISLATIVE INTEREST?

- Important issue among Architectural/Engineering Firms.
- State legislators can encourage local jurisdictions to advertise through a QBS process.