

# Black Business Survey Frequently Asked Questions

## **Can you complete the survey if you are not Black or of African descent?**

We are asking that only business owner that identify as Black or of African descent complete the survey. Although if your business partner is Black or African descent and owns at least 50% of the business, then the business may be listed.

## **How is a person determined to be Black?**

For the purposes of this survey, a Black business owner is an individual that self-identifies as Black or of African descent.

## **Who are the organizations the assisting with conducting the survey and compiling the information?**

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Office of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE), in partnership with Chicago State University (CSU) and the Chicago Urban League (CUL) this initiative in order to better assist Black business owners.

## **Who will control the information gathered from the survey?**

All information collected will be gathered and protected by CSU, CUL and OMEE. However, once the information has been analyzed by the research team the report will be made public in aggregate form by the State of Illinois.

## **Will my information be made available to third party entities?**

The survey will be anonymous for each participant and no personal information will be provided through the survey.

## **Does the business have to have a main office in the State of Illinois?**

The main office of the business participating in the survey must be located within the State of Illinois.

## **Where can I get more information regarding the survey?**

You can visit the website at ..... or contact Matt Simpson at [Matthew.Simpson@illinois.gov](mailto:Matthew.Simpson@illinois.gov), Dean Derrick Collins at [dcolli25@csu.edu](mailto:dcolli25@csu.edu) or Kelly Evans at [KEvans@chiul.org](mailto:KEvans@chiul.org).

## **Will individuals in the survey have an opportunity to review the information gathered during the survey?**

The report will be made public in aggregate form for all concerned parties to view the information.

## **Does the survey cost the participant any money?**

No. The survey does not have a cost.

## **Will the participants completing the survey be compensated?**

There will be no compensation for participants.

## **Are any of the entities conducting this survey being compensated or receiving inducement to participate in this survey?**

No. The entities involved in the survey have not been and will not be compensated.

## **Are any businesses obligated to complete the survey?**

No. The survey will be completed on a volunteer basis.

## **What happens if the business owner decides that they do not want to participate during or after completing the survey?**

At any point during the survey or after the survey is complete, the participant can remove themselves from the process.