



C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Bobbi-Jo Meuleman, Director

STEP Grant Applications – Bonus Criteria

U.S. Small Business Administration's definitions of socially and economically disadvantaged:

Rural

- A rural area per the SBA is any area that is outside of a metropolitan statistical area with population below 50,000 plus adjacent territory does not have a high degree of social and economic integration as measured by commuting ties.

Woman Owned

- Not less than 51% unconditionally and directly owned and controlled by one or more women who are United States citizens

Veteran/Disabled Veteran

- A veteran is a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable. Not less than 51% unconditionally and directly owned and controlled by one or more veterans who are U.S. citizens.

Socially and Economically Disadvantaged

- Individuals who have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice or cultural bias within American society because of their identities as members of groups and without regard to their individual qualities; whose ability to compete in the free enterprise system has been impaired due to diminished capital and credit opportunities as compared to others in the same or similar line of business who are not socially disadvantaged. The socially and economically disadvantage individual must own not less than 51% of the firm. These include: Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian Pacific Americans, Subcontinent Asian Americans

Definitions of a New STEP client:

New defined as any of the following activities funded since 2011:

- Never been awarded a STEP International Market Access Grant or a STEP Financial Assistance Plan/Award to conduct your own project.
- Never participated in a STEP funded trade show organized by Idaho Department of Commerce and/or Idaho State Department of Agriculture.
- Never participated in a STEP funded trade mission organized by Idaho Department of Commerce and/or Idaho State Department of Agriculture

If you are unsure, please contact Tina Salisbury tina.salisbury@commerce.idaho.gov or 208-287-3164 to discuss.