Reliable Environmental Services is a new business at just over a year old. Owner Leon Burke earned his MBE certification in FY2017. His company works in environmental consulting, including site assessments, onsite air monitoring and building inspections that focus primarily on hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead. Burke said he was satisfied with the certification process and that it was completed faster than he anticipated.

“There are many companies that do what I do, so I have to do something to set myself apart. Being certified as a minority-owned business does that,” Burke said. “I want to participate in that section of the market, especially being a new business. It gives your business credibility when you’re competing against a lot of other firms.”