

Being certified as an MBE or WBE business takes some time and some work, but business owners who have recently gone through the process have praised the BDD team at St. Louis Lambert International Airport for working with them and making the process efficient and straightforward.

Marquis Thompson is owner of Leila Electric, an electrical contractor based in Florissant.

After being in business for about seven years, he decided to seek MBE certification and was approved by the airport in just a few months. He thought the process was simple and fair, and he credited BDD staff for helping him understand the certification process.

"They ask for your basic information and your assets. They make sure that when they have jobs you have the equipment and the ability to complete them," Thompson said. "I haven't done work with them yet, but I hope the certification makes some positive changes for my business while also helping the airport."