SBA Information Notice

TO: All SBA Employees and SBA Sureties

CONTROL NO.: 5000-873990

SUBJECT: SBA Form 994 Update and Corresponding Capital Access Financial System (CAFS) Enhancements

EFFECTIVE: February 13, 2026

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is announcing the issuance of the revised SBA Form 994, Application for Surety Bond Guarantee Assistance and corresponding Capital Access Financial System (CAFS) enhancements, released in September 2025.

SBA Form 994 collects information regarding organizational structure, certifications or designations as recognized by SBA, history of SBA services or assistance, Principal information including partners, equity holders and decision makers and contract information. The form is completed by the small business concern and submitted by its Surety. CAFS is the electronic application system Sureties use to transmit SBA 994 information and certified documents to SBA.

CAFS ENHANCEMENT

The CAFS enhancement ensures that fields selected in **Part I: BUSINESS INFORMATION Section 14-Application** correspond with the guarantee percentage determination as described in 13 CFR 115.31 Guarantee percentage. Information collected in **Part II: MANAGEMENT INFORMATION** will no longer determine the guarantee percentage. SBA Form 994 states that the information collected in Part II: MANAGEMENT INFORMATION is collected for statistical purposes only. It has no bearing on the credit decision.

Additionally, textual changes were made to this section of the form including adding an “is not” selection field.

PART I: BUSINESS INFORMATION

Section 14. Applicant

☐ is ☐ is not: an SBA 8(a) Certified Contractor as defined in 13 CFR Chapter 1, Part 124.

SBA Form 1353.3 (4-93) MS Word Edition; previous editions obsolete

Must be accompanied by SBA Form 58

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☐ is ☐ is not: an SBA Certified HUB Zone Contractor as defined in 13 CFR Chapter 1, Part 126.

☐ is ☐ is not: a Veteran-Owned Small Business as defined in 13 CFR Chapter 1, Part 115.

☐ is ☐ is not: a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business as defined in 13 CFR Part 115.

☐ is ☐ is not: a Federally recognized Tribal Entity or Native American small business as defined in 13 CFR Chapter 1, Part 124.109.

☐ is ☐ is not: a socially and economically disadvantaged small business as defined in 13 CFR Chapter 1, Part 124.103 and 124.104.

SBA FORM 994 REVISION

The revised SBA Form 994 will include a Manufacturing (incl. fabrication) project type selection ensuring that contract and small business data is captured CAFS. This data collection form enhancement will assist SBA with efficiently tracking Made in America contracting.

PART III: CONTRACT INFORMATION

Section 5. Project Type:

☐ Construction ☐ **Manufacturing (incl. fabrication)** ☐ Service

☐ Supply ☐ Other Click or tap here to enter text.

Additionally, in Section 15 respondents must record the obligee's street, city, county, state and zip code information.

OTHER MINOR TECHNICAL OR TEXT UPDATES

PART II: MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- Direct and indirect ownership, including Employee Stock Owner Plans, must be reported.
- Trust Tax Identification Number must be recorded, if applicable.
- Respondents must provide street, city, county, state and zip code information.

PART V: INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATIONS ON CITIZANSHIP AND CHARACTER AND OTHER MATTERS

- The sentence structure for individual certifications was edited for clarity.
- ESOP is added to individual certifications as a reportable owner.

This second version of SBA Form 994 dated July 2024 will expire on July 31, 2027.

Application for Surety Bond Guarantee Assistance | U.S. Small Business Administration
For applications currently in process, SBA Sureties may continue to use the previously approved version. 60 days after this notice, SBA will only accept the renewed version of the form.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to SuretyBonds@sba.gov.

Jermaine Perry

Director, Office of Surety Guarantees.

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