# BUILDING FOR GROWTH

# Accelerating Profitable Growth for BIPOC- and **Woman-Owned Construction Contractors**



Building for Growth (BFG) is a tuition-free, virtual executive education program that helps BIPOC- and woman-owned construction contractors build capacity and develop sustainable growth strategies that position their businesses to secure contracts and increase revenues and profits. The BFG program launched its inaugural cohort in 2022, which served 54 construction businesses from 19 states. 91% of the businesses in the inaugural cohort were BIPOC-owned and 53% were woman-owned.

The BFG program is led by **Steve Lamar**, Founder and CEO of Forward Planning & Solutions, who brings 20+ years of experience in supplier diversity, construction, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

> In 2023, ICIC is running two BFG cohorts: a Spring cohort (starting April 25th) and a Summer cohort (starting July 26th).

"The BFG program gave me the essential tools and connections to help grow my revenue and expand my team. Through the program, I connected pro bono with construction

lawyers who helped me add and refine clauses in my contracts to minimize risk. Building meaningful, lifelong relationships with the fellow BIPOC and woman entrepreneurs in my cohort was invaluable, and I would strongly encourage growing construction firms to apply for the program and become part of the BFG family."

#### **WANONA SATCHER**

CEO & Founder, Mākhers Studio, Atlanta, GA 2022 BFG Program Alum

# Why Enroll in BFG?

The BFG program will help you:

- Build your backlog: hone your growth strategy and connect with a diverse group of general contractors and corporate purchasers of subcontracting services
- Access capital: refine your pitch for capital and get direct input from bankers
- Increase your bonding capacity: create and refine your bonding application with direct feedback from bonding experts

### **How to Get Involved**

BFG's 2023 cohorts will be limited to ~50 businesses each. and applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until all seats are filled. We encourage you to apply early while openings remain.

To be eligible for the BFG program, your company must be:

- An independent, for-profit corporation in the construction industry
- At least 51% BIPOC- or woman-owned
- Have annual revenues of \$1MM-\$10MM and/or be on course to reach or exceed \$2MM within the next 3 years

### **NOMINATE**

Know of any businesses that are a good fit for the BFG program? **NOMINATE** them to participate at: https://bit.ly/BFGnominate

Does your business fit this profile? **APPLY TODAY at:** https://bit.ly/BFGapply

For questions about the BFG program, contact us at BFG@ICIC.org or set up a meeting at: https://calendly.com/building-for-growth/





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## **BFG Program Structure**

The virtual program combines 18 online weekly classes, dedicated technical assistance, and long-term mentorship. The program comprehensively covers all key elements needed to be a successful construction firm.



**MODULE 1:** Strategy Development



MODULE 2: Finance **Fundamentals** 



**MODULE 3:** Marketing. Networking & Certifications



**MODULE 4:** 

Access to Capital



**MODULE 5:** Bonding, Safety and Insurance



**MODULE 6:** Competing for Contracts



Contract Negotiation and Construction Law



**Building Long-Term Capabilities** 

To view a detailed program curriculum visit: https://bit.ly/BFGcurriculum

"The program really helped my brother and I structure a more formidable business. One of our key takeaways from the program

was focused around strengthening your financial foundation. The program gave us the capacity to present our business in the best possible manner and secure investments that will assist us in growing our business."

#### **RANDALL POWELL**

Co-Founder & CEO, Infinite Horizons, Jamaica, NY 2022 BFG Program Alum

## **What Makes BFG Unique?**

As a participant in BFG, you'll gain access to:

- Partnerships: get broad exposure to industry partners, including financial and bonding institutions, municipalities, and large prime contractors
- Peer-to-peer B2B networking: join a vibrant cohort of BIPOC- and woman-owned contractors to build and enhance your peer network
- Individual experts/practitioners: classes will be taught by construction industry practitioners and experts in their respective fields (e.g. the bonding course will be taught by an agent from a surety company)
- Technical assistance: apply practical solutions and growth strategies to your business in real-time

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