



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20416

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

May 20, 2025

The Honorable Dan Sullivan
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Deb Fischer
448 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Sullivan, Murkowski and Fischer:

Thank you for your letter dated March 28, 2025, regarding the Small Business Administration's (SBA) 8(a) Business Development Program.

As you know, Sections 7(j)(10) and 8(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 636(j)(10) and 637(a)) authorized the 8(A) program and was created to help small, disadvantaged businesses in the marketplace. The businesses that participate in the program receive training and technical assistance designed to bolster their ability to compete effectively in the American economy. In addition, once they are 8(a) certified, businesses are eligible to receive set-aside federal contracting opportunities.

As these programs have grown, I believe that they all should be subject to rigorous review. That said, Executive Order 14151 does not apply to programs or activities that affect American Indians or Alaska Natives. Further, it would be unreasonable to read Executive Order 14151 as applying to American Indians and Alaskan Natives given that Tribes are separate sovereigns.

As a former member of the Senate, I understand the importance of transparency between the Administration and Members of Congress. As SBA continues to review all its programs, including 8(a), we will work to ensure all input is heard before any potential administrative modifications are made. If you or your staff have any questions or need future assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to the SBA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-6700.

Sincerely,

Kelly Loeffler
Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration