



May 11, 2021

**A Commitment to Supplier Diversity at Grand Valley State University:**

Grand Valley State University strives to provide members of its community an inclusive environment and equitable opportunities for success.

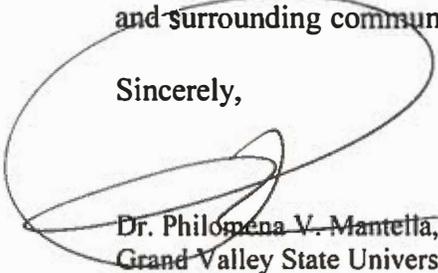
The Board of Trustees has charged the University to establish a robust vendor and supplier diversity program across the University, as outlined in the Board of Trustee's Policy 1.4. This program seeks to sustain a diverse pool of qualified suppliers to provide goods and services to our campus communities by expanding and extending opportunities to underserved businesses which includes minority, veteran, and women owned businesses locally, regionally, and from neighboring States. Grand Valley also prioritizes alumni-owned businesses.

With our commitment to inclusion, equity, and supplier diversity, every member of our University community and each unit with responsibility for University resources is expected to remain mindful and deliberate when sourcing for goods and services.

The Procurement Services Department is available to provide assistance to ensure each unit meets this obligation. Procurement Services is able to provide research on potential underserved, minority, veteran, and women owned businesses, as well as locally- and alumni-owned businesses, when sourcing for quotes or formal request for proposal (RFP) are needed. These processes will expand the supplier network to ensure a robust, competitive supplier network is maintained to achieve the best value for University expenditures. The University's purchasing policies and procedures can be found at [www.gvsu.edu/purchasing](http://www.gvsu.edu/purchasing).

Advancing our University's strategic priority for supplier diversity will enhance the vibrancy of our community while continuing to create an inclusive environment where students, faculty, staff and vendors are proud to attend, teach and conduct business. We must establish bold goals to grow our supply diversity program by spreading and sharing business opportunities and all taking this responsibility as a top priority in contracting and purchasing. We are better because we work together and, together, we can strengthen our University culture and climate and surrounding communities with a robust diverse supply chain.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Philomena V. Mantella, President  
Grand Valley State University

**Philomena V. Mantella**  
President