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Nearly 500 expected for the first Ohio Business and Career Expo

COLUMBUS (May 12, 2017) — Job seekers and business owners are invited to the first Ohio Business and Career Expo, which is being held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 17 at the Ohio Expo Center's Cardinal Hall, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus.

This free networking and learning opportunity is geared toward job seekers and business owners who are minorities, women, or otherwise socially and economically disadvantaged. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with recruitment and procurement officials from State of Ohio agencies, state universities and colleges, other government entities, construction firms, apprenticeship programs and more.

The purpose of the expo is to support the efforts of the State of Ohio and its partners to support equal employment opportunities and efforts to expand access to state contracts for small, minority- and women-owned businesses.

A total of 460 individuals have pre-registered for the event, including 290 business representatives and 170 job seekers. Walk-in participants are welcome.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. A welcome ceremony will be held from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Networking booths and workshops will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. In addition, the expo is hosting The Big Table discussions from 3 to 4 p.m. The discussions are part of conversations about improving the community that are being held throughout central Ohio on May 17 by the Columbus Foundation.

The event is free and open to the public. Parking is \$5.

The event sponsors are the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Ohio Department of Transportation and the Columbus Regional Airport Authority.

For more information, visit das.ohio.gov/ohiobizcareerexpo.