



BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION



(RPDE)TM

Recognized Public Development Entity –
(RPDE)TM

RPDETM Accreditation Guide

The Business Development Association Accreditation Center

Recognized Public Development Entity (RPDE™) Guidebook

General Introduction

What is the RDPE™ Accreditation?

The Recognized Public Development Entity (RDPE™) is an institutional-level accreditation issued by the Business Development Association (BDA) to public sector entities—including ministries, government departments, public agencies, and semi-governmental organizations—that have demonstrated a systemic commitment to advancing business development practices, policies, or ecosystems.

This accreditation is not related to training programs, academic alignment, or commercial activities. It specifically honors institutions that support the BDA BoCK™ framework through strategic planning, public-sector innovation, institutional reform, or large-scale community or economic development programs.

Why BDA Created RDPE™

BDA launched RDPE™ to highlight and celebrate the essential role of public institutions in enabling national and regional ecosystems for professional development and business innovation. Governments and their agencies are often catalysts for structural change—whether through legislation, funding, or development strategies—and RDPE™ aims to formally recognize these enabling environments.

How RDPE™ Differs from Other Accreditations

RDPE™ is not for training providers or nonprofit actors. It is for public entities that embed business development principles at the policy, strategic, or implementation level. Unlike CSIS™, which recognizes community impact, RDPE™ focuses on macro-level, institutional development roles.

What Qualifies as a Public Development Entity?

Entities eligible for RDPE™ include:

- National or regional government ministries
- Independent public authorities or commissions
- Government-funded development agencies
- Intergovernmental task forces on innovation or economy
- Semi-public organizations with statutory mandates in development

Examples of initiatives may include:

- National strategies for SME development
- Public policies supporting entrepreneurship ecosystems

- Government programs advancing female or youth economic inclusion
- Innovation centers or business hubs funded by public agencies
- Regulatory reforms aligned with global development standards

Benefits of RDPE™ Accreditation

For the Public Entity

- Global recognition of leadership in enabling business development
- Strengthening national positioning in innovation and policy reform
- Enhanced credibility when engaging with international donors and development agencies

For the Broader Ecosystem

- Acts as a reference model for institutional excellence
- Inspires replication of successful public-private frameworks
- Contributes to national competitiveness and development rankings

For Public Sector Branding

- Permission to use the RDPE™ seal in public communications
- Inclusion in BDA's list of recognized government partners
- Eligibility for speaking roles at BDA global forums and summits

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for RDPE™ accreditation, a public entity must:

- Be officially recognized as a public or semi-public institution under national legislation
- Have a clearly defined mandate in development, innovation, or economic support
- Provide documented evidence of at least two strategic initiatives aligned with business development outcomes (in the past 3 years)
- Show engagement with the BDA BoCK™ values (accessibility, innovation, ethics, systemic transformation)

Evaluation Dimensions

Evaluation Domain	Description	Max Score
Strategic Development Alignment	How well public programs align with long-term business development	25
Institutional Impact & Influence	Breadth of stakeholders and regions affected	20
Innovation & Policy Leadership	Demonstrated leadership in reform or new models	20
Systems Thinking	Integration across departments, ministries, or levels	15
Global Benchmarking Alignment	Use of international models, standards, and comparative learning	10
Transparency & Governance	Evidence of ethical, inclusive, and transparent practices	10
Total		100

Minimum Required Score: 75 points

Application Process

1. Submit the RDPE™ Application Form
2. Provide supporting documentation (strategies, policies, white papers, program reports)
3. BDA Governance Panel conducts comprehensive evaluation
4. Clarification phase if necessary
5. Decision issued within 1–2 weeks

Accreditation Outcomes

- **Full Accreditation:** All standards met or exceeded
- **Conditional Accreditation:** Approved pending clarifications or follow-up data
- **Deferred Decision:** Returned with advisory recommendations; resubmission allowed

All recognized entities receive:

- RDPE™ Certification and official letter of recognition
- Listing in BDA's Global Government Partner Registry
- Invitation to contribute to BDA policy dialogues and advisory groups

Post-Accreditation Commitments

- Submit an annual brief summarizing ongoing development activities
- Participate in at least one BDA-led knowledge forum per year
- Share case studies and results when applicable for global benchmarking

Fees & Validity

- Application Review Fee: €0 (public institutions are exempt)
- Accreditation Fee: €4500 (one-time)
- Validity: 2 years
- Renewal Fee: €1500

Logo Usage

Approved Use:

- Policy reports, ministry websites, stakeholder briefings
- Presentations to regional or international partners

Not Approved For:

- Commercial marketing
- Affiliated private-sector branding

Frequently Asked Questions

Can municipalities apply?

Yes, if they have a development or economic empowerment office.

Does RDPE™ require site visits?

Not mandatory, but high-level interviews may be conducted online.

Can RDPE™ be renewed indefinitely?

Yes, if ongoing commitment and outcomes are demonstrated.

Testimonials

"RDPE™ positioned our agency as a leader in policy innovation." – General Manager, National Enterprise Authority

"This accreditation gave our initiatives new international visibility." – Director, Public Development Commission

For inquiries: www.bda-global.org/certifications/recognized-public-development-entity-rpde/



BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Copyright Notice

© 2025 Business Development Association (BDA). All Rights Reserved.

This document and its contents, including text, graphics, and branding, are the intellectual property of the **Business Development Association (BDA)**. Unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or modification of this guidebook, in whole or in part, is strictly prohibited without prior written permission from BDA.