

Montgomery County, MD - Veterans Network Directory

Business Assistance and Entrepreneurship

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This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs. To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: DHHSWebsite@montgomerycountymd.gov, 240-777-1246 (V), MD Relay 711.

Veteran Owned Small Business and Maryland State Procurement

- Effective October 1, 2015, each Maryland state agency must structure its procurement procedures to try to achieve an overall minimum of 1% of its total dollar value of procurement contracts to be made up directly or indirectly from veteran-owned small businesses. See [The Board of Public Works](#) for more information.
- To qualify, veteran-owned businesses must be verified by the Center for Validation and Evaluation of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. For more information on verification [visit vetbiz](#).
- Once your business is verified by Center for Validation and Evaluation, you should register your business on eMaryland Marketplace, the State of Maryland's internet-based procurement system. Registration is free and is available at [eMaryland Marketplace](#). The eMarylandMarketplace help line is 410-767-1492.
- Once your business is registered on eMaryland Marketplace, you will have access to all State, county and municipal procurement notices. Within eMaryland Marketplace, you can monitor procurement notices that include veteran-owned small business goals. Those notices will include information on the date/time/location of the prebid conference. It is a good idea to attend prebid conferences to network with prime contractors who may be looking for qualified veteran businesses to include in their bids.

Boots to Business

Michael Schoeneck
E-mail: meschoen@syr.edu

315-443-4783 (V)

Entrepreneurial education and training program offered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) as part of the Department of Defense's Transition Assistance Program (TAP). The curriculum continuum includes steps for evaluating business concepts, the foundational knowledge required to develop a business plan and information on SBA resources available to help access start-up capital and additional technical assistance. Active duty military members (and their partners / spouses) separating from service may elect to participate in the entrepreneurship training track. There are no registration fees or tuition associated with the program.

Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans (EBV)

Katherine Frontino, EBV National Program Coordinator
Syracuse University
E-mail: ebvinfo@syr.edu
<http://ebv.vets.syr.edu/>

315-443-8791 (V)

Educational program providing training in entrepreneurship and small business management, to post-9/11 veterans with a service-connected disability, including National Guard and Reserve, and their family members,. EBV is a program specifically for veterans, and is designed to develop competencies in the many steps and activities associated with creating and sustaining an entrepreneurial venture. The program is offered by ten business schools across the U.S. This program is entirely without any cost to the veteran.

Military Personnel and Service-Disabled Veterans No-Interest Loan Program – Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs

E-mail: mdveteransinfo@mdva.state.md.us

<http://veterans.maryland.gov/military-personnel-and-veteran-owned-small-business-no-interest-loan-program/>

NOTICE: Due to expanded eligibility and increased interest, the program has received a growing number of applications. As a result, the program has temporarily discontinued accepting new loan requests until existing applications are processed and the availability of funds is reevaluated.

The Department of Business and Employment Development in consultation with the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs provides a no interest loan to the following categories:

- A business owned by a military reservist or National Guard member who is called to active duty.
- A small business employer of a military reservist or National Guard member who is called to active duty.
- A business employing a service disabled veteran to make the place of employment accessible, or for other necessary expenses incurred as a result of the disability.
- A service disabled veteran who needs funding to make the home, automobile or place of employment accessible, or for other necessary expenses incurred as a result of the disability.

National Center for Veteran Institute for Procurement (VIP)

www.nationalvip.org

This program trains veteran service-disabled and veteran-owned small businesses to succeed in the federal contracting market. VIP provides comprehensive training to owners, principals, and c-level executives of veteran-owned businesses nationwide over a 27-hour, 3-day period, residential program at no cost to veterans. The program takes place at the Bolger Center in Potomac Maryland. Enrollment is open for VIP START (designed for companies wanting to enter the federal market and become procurement-ready) and VIP GROW (designed for veteran owned businesses who are already in the federal space to increase their ability to win government contracts).

Office of Veterans Business Development – Small Business Administration (SBA)

Region III

1150 First Avenue Suite 1001

King Of Prussia, PA 19406

www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/ovbd

610-382-3092 (V)

Offers a number of programs and services to support and empower aspiring and existing veteran entrepreneurs and military spouses. SBA provides training and mentorship, access to capital, preparation for opportunities in federal procurement, and cultivation of connections within commercial supply chains and disaster relief assistance. Each year, SBA serves over 200,000 veterans, service disabled veterans and military spouses across the United States and at military installations around the globe. Serving Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, DC, and West Virginia.

V-WISE (Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship)

Meghan C. Florkowski, Program Manager

E-mail: mconroy@syr.edu

<http://whitman.syr.edu/vwise/>

315-443-4629 (V)

Enables women Veterans to find their passion and to learn the business-savvy skills to turn their ideas of businesses into growth ventures. Participants complete a 15-day online learning experience and attend a three-day training. Graduates are connected to ongoing support and community-building opportunities focused on small business creation and growth. Open to all female veterans, active duty female service members and female partners/spouses of active duty service members and veterans.

Veteran Entrepreneur Portal – Department of Veterans Affairs

www.va.gov/osdbu/veteran/vep.asp

Information about starting a business, franchising opportunities, accessing capital, employment opportunities, and more.

Veteran Fast Launch Initiative – SCORE

www.score.org/content/veteran-fast-launch-initiative

Free or significantly discounted resources for starting businesses, such as computer software and business services (provided by major corporate partners); training in how to start and how to grow a successful/profitable business; and SCORE's mentoring program where Fast Launch participants will be assigned a knowledgeable and highly experienced mentor to guide them every step of the way.

VeteransCorp.org

www.veteranscorp.org

Help facilitate collaborations between veteran-owned small businesses, providing a gateway for entrepreneurs to access resources, programs, funding and more. Also acts as a clearinghouse for soliciting and distributing small business information to the general public.

VetFran

www.vetfran.com

Helps returning service members access franchise opportunities through training, financial assistance, and industry support. Includes over 500 IFA franchisor member companies offering financial incentives, training and mentoring to veterans interested in small business ownership and/or a career path in franchising.