

VETERAN RESOURCE GUIDE

Small Business Administration (SBA):

- Offers Veteran-Specific Programs and Training:
 - *Boots-to-Business*:
 - Helps service members transition from active duty to civilian life.
 - Provides training on how disabled Veterans can start and grow their own small business.
 - Three-step training program that includes:
 - *The Entrepreneurship Track Overview* – a 10 minute introductory video showing the mandatory five-day Transition GPS course
 - *Introduction to Entrepreneurship* – two-day classroom offered as one of the three Transition GPS elective tracks
 - *Foundations of Entrepreneurship* – eight-week, instructor-led online course that offers in-depth instruction on the different aspects of a business plan and tips and techniques for starting a business
 - *Veterans Business Outreach Program (VBOP)*:
 - Provides entrepreneurial development services including business training, counseling, and mentoring.
 - Program has different workshops and sessions on pre-business plan workshops, concept assessments, business plan preparations, comprehensive feasibility analysis, entrepreneurial training and counseling, and mentorship.
 - *Veteran Woman Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship (V-WISE)*:
 - Training program in entrepreneurship and small business management
 - Helps women Veterans and female military spouses/partners learn business skills to turn a start-up business into a growing venture
 - August 21-23, 2015
 - \$75 for registration fee, includes: private hotel room for two nights, meals, books, materials, and online coursework
 - *Entrepreneurship for Veterans: Start → Finance → Grow*:
 - Speakers from U.S. Small Business Administration, Northeast Veterans Business Resource Center, and NH Procurement Technical Assistance Center
 - Will be discussing business resources, financing options, and Veteran contracting opportunities
- <https://www.sba.gov/>

Veteran Business Owners Initiative (VBOI):

- Assists Veterans facing physical and emotional challenges run successful business ventures.
- Supports business plan creation, running daily operations, provide a great support system, and hold biweekly meetings on business progress
- <http://veteranbusinessowners.org/>

- Programs:
 - *Business Gym*:
 - 18 module program that covers core business functions
 - Modules focused on: marketing, finance, legal, and business plan development
 - Provides mentoring and has guest speakers provide expertise in different areas of basic business systems
 - *VBOA*:
 - Private business networking group for Veterans who have completed the 18 module *Business Gym*
 - Helps keep business thriving and offers many opportunities, networking, and other numerous resources
 - *Venture Funding*:
 - After completing the *Business Gym* and getting voted into the *VBOA* Veterans become eligible for venture funding of two forms:
 - Empowerment Bank:
 - Private bank that is a non-profit organization
 - Provides Veteran entrepreneurs access to micro-loans
 - Commercial Lending:
 - Through networking the VBOI has great relationships with many Commercial banks
 - Helps get Veterans connected to a bank that is highly likely to fund their business

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs → Veteran Entrepreneur Portal (VEP):

- Helps small businesses access Federal Services
- VA Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) connects Veteran entrepreneurs to relevant 'best practices' and information
- Offers information on multiple steps for Veterans wanting to start their own business, including: financing, growing a business, other resources on Federal, state, and local programs and services
- Programs:
 - *Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP)*:
 - Offers up to 12 months of training assistance to unemployed Veterans who meet criteria
 - Training for programs of education can lead to a high demand occupation
 - *Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP)*:
 - Provides different types of training that can be used for degrees, certificates, correspondence, apprenticeship, vocational flight training, and more
- <http://www.va.gov/osdbu/entrepreneur/index.asp>

EBV National Program:

- Designed to leverage the skills, resources, and infrastructure of higher education to post 9/11 Veterans
- Provides experiential training in entrepreneurship and small business management

- Helps develop competencies in creating and sustaining an entrepreneurial venture
- <http://ebv.vets.syr.edu/>

The Veteran Corporation:

- Helps structure and facilitate collaborations between nonprofit and small business entities owned by Veterans
- Helps and educates Veterans in small businesses; including business projects and running desk initiatives
- Provides a gateway for entrepreneurs to access resources, programs, funding, and more
- <http://www.veteranscorp.org/>
- Programs:
 - *Vet to CEO Core Program:*
 - 8 week program called Entrepreneurship for Transitioning Warriors
 - Program presented in a seminar to classroom format
 - Helps Veterans develop a business plan
 - *Veterans with Disability Entrepreneurship Program:*
 - Helps Veterans attain their dreams of becoming entrepreneurs
 - Offers experiential training in entrepreneurship after an online pre-course
 - 8 day program with a follow up with Veteran entrepreneurs over 8 months
 - *Veterans Entrepreneurship Program:*
 - Provides entrepreneurial training and offers resources that will help turn business ideas into business models
 - Helps Veterans create their own companies and build sustainable ventures
- <http://www.veteranscorp.org/education-training/>

The Inc. Military Entrepreneurs Program:

- Helps Veterans by providing resources to military business owners by hosting Inc.'s annual Mentor Fair and Special Delegations
- Holds Programs Including:
 - *Inc. GrowCo Conference:*
 - Forum where entrepreneurs find answers to their questions, and find resources to help tackle their challenges
 - A Special Delegation of Inc. Military Entrepreneurs will be chosen to join other entrepreneurs who will share their stories, lessons learned, breaking barriers, and more
 - *The Inc. 500/500 Conference:*
 - Provides programming and networking that is designed to help connect to like-minded professions
- <http://www.inc.com/military-entrepreneurs>

Veterans Business Resource Center:

- Helps Veterans with understanding business plans, financials, marketing, sales, human resource management, and more
- Programs:
 - *Local Bootstrap Program:*

- 3 week fast paced class designed to help Veterans get their idea outs and flowing
- Combines the traditional business plan course with the Lean Canvas Business Model to help move Veterans through indecision, assessment of an idea and implementation
- Online Training:
 - *Small Business Administration Training Center:*
 - Combination of brief courses, videos and chat sessions to assist Veterans in navigating the small business process
 - *My Own Business:*
 - Dynamic website with videos, courses, and programs to assist Veterans continuously work through their small business
 - After Veterans have accessed the information they can discuss what has been learned with a VBRC counselor
- <http://www.vetbiz.com/>

Patriot Boot Camp (PBC):

- 3 day event designed to engage, inspire, and mentor Veteran entrepreneurs
- Provides free education, training, and mentoring
- Event:
 - Day 1-Veterans receive advice, recommendations, and gain in-depth knowledge about specific business areas
 - Day 2-Veterans meet one-on-one with business leaders and help build networks
 - Day 3-certain Veterans will be selected to showcase what they have learned during the 3 day event
- <http://patriotbootcamp.org/patriot-boot-camp-events/>

Military.com:

- Provides links and resources on information for Veterans interesting in running or expanding their small business
- Provides articles and newsletters with a multitude of information for Veteran entrepreneurs
- <http://www.military.com/>
- <http://business.military.com/veteran/transition-from-military/213/121083/the-veteran-entrepreneur>
- https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl

VetFran:

- Provides access and opportunities in franchising to Veterans
- Offers financial discounts, mentorship, and training to aspiring Veteran entrepreneurs
- Programs:
 - *Never Thought You Could be a Business Owner?*
 - Connecting Veteran-owned small businesses to corporate supply chains and franchising opportunities
 - International Franchise Association's VetFran program and the SBA are partnered together for this event

- Tuesday, May 5th from 6-8:30pm at TownePlace Suites Clinton at Joint Base Andrews, 7800 Ferry Ave, Clinton MD 20735
- Other Programs Including:
 - Veteran Job Fair
 - Service Academy Career Conference
 - And many more
- <http://www.vetfran.com/>

NaVOBA:

- Helps create opportunities for Veterans who are interested in becoming an entrepreneur and also assisting Veteran-owned businesses
- *Vetpreneur* magazine is dedicated to exclusively covering the Veteran-owned business movement
- NaVOBA and *Vetpreneur* is the voice of the Veteran business movement; connecting corporate America and journalism to help assist all Veteran entrepreneurs by providing numerous resources and information to Veterans
- <http://www.navoba.com/>

Vetpreneur Mentoring:

- Provides mentoring, guidance, and expertise to Veterans to help maximize the success in their existing business or starting up a new business
- <http://www.vetpreneurmentoring.com/>

Vetpreneurship Round-Up:

- Provides 100 different links to other sites that help Veterans who are interested in starting or expanding their small business
- <http://militaryonlinecolleges.org/veteran-entrepreneurship>