



Exploring the Veteran Entrepreneur Portal

Issue:

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in partnership with Department of Commerce (DOC) BusinessUSA, announces the relaunched **Veteran Entrepreneur Portal (VEP)** <http://www.va.gov/osdbu/veteran>, an online platform designed to help Veterans through every step of entrepreneurship. Built with Veterans in mind, VEP offers quick access to the best in business resources and programs for Veterans who are starting and expanding a business, discovering financing opportunities, identifying financial resources, and much more.

Discussion:

About the Partnership

A harmonious partnership between VA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) and DOC BusinessUSA resulted in the design, development, and relaunch of the VEP Web site to create a simple, unified customer experience for Veteran business owners.

Since the VEP relaunch, VA has experienced a **78%** increase in Veterans visiting the Portal and generated **1,713%** more Veteran visitors to BusinessUSA.gov.

What is BusinessUSA?

BusinessUSA.gov is a centralized, one-stop online platform that makes it easy for businesses to access government services to help them grow. BusinessUSA implements a 'no wrong door' approach by using technology to quickly connect businesses to the services and information relevant to them –regardless of where the information is located or which agency Web site they access.

BusinessUSA collects, organizes, and makes available the very best in business resources spread across government. Federal agencies

continue to add resources to BusinessUSA to encompass the full range of business programs and services for various audiences.

How to Access VEP

Visit the [Veteran Entrepreneur Portal](#) and select any topics that are of interest. VEP is divided into the following two parts:

- **Powered by BusinessUSA** is a quick-search resource locator or user-interface wizard with focused results on many federal, state, and local programs for Veteran business owners.
- **Powered by OSDBU** provides Veteran-Owned Small Businesses direct access to agency-specific resources including doing business with VA , VA verification, subcontracting and partnerships, outreach programs, training and employment opportunities, events, and much more.

Starting a business involves many key decisions – and VEP provides information to help Veteran business owners plan, prepare, and operate. VEP is where Veterans begin exploring the potential for business, industry collaborations, contract awards, and federal contracting – among other business topics.

Visit <http://www.va.gov/osdbu> for more information about VA Small and Veteran Business Programs.

VA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

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