

Resources For Starting A Small Business

My Own Business - <http://www.myownbusiness.org>

A non-profit organization that educates entrepreneurs by providing free coursework to foster success and prevent and mitigate human suffering and economic losses arising from preventable mistakes.

Is Franchising Right For Me? Workbook -

http://www.sba.gov/idc/groups/public/documents/sba_homepage/serv_sbp_isfforme.pdf

An online, interactive, self-paced workbook that walks a potential franchisee through all the facets of franchising.

The Franchise Registry - <http://www.franchiseregistry.com>

In a major effort to help small business owners, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) offers the Franchise Registry that will expedite the processing of loans to small business franchisees. In a partnership with FRANdata, the only objective information company that researches and reports on franchising, FranchiseRegistry.com is a site that allows franchisees to see which systems are participating in the program, SBA lenders to see details of the SBA approval, and franchisors to submit applications.

Business Owner's Toolkit - <http://www.toolkit.com>

With an emphasis on problem-solving dating back to 1995, *Business Owner's Toolkit*™ offers more than 5,000 pages of free cost-cutting tips, step-by-step checklists, real-life case studies, startup advice, and business templates to small business owners and entrepreneurs. The site also offers a monthly newsletter, up-to-date news topics, and Ask Alice!, a column that closely follows industry trends and provides trusted advice to inquiring site visitors.

American Franchisee Association (AFA) - <http://www.franchisee.org>

A national trade association of franchisees and dealers, the AFA works to improve the industry of franchising while protecting its members' economic investments in their businesses.

IRS -- Starting a Business - <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=99336,00.html>

This page provides links to basic federal tax information for people who are starting a business. It also provides information to assist in making basic business decisions.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) - <http://www.uspto.gov>

A comprehensive list of all the activities of the USPTO. All information about trademarks and patents—definitions, how to file, etc.—can be found on this website.

U.S. Copyright Office - <http://www.copyright.gov>

Find information about online copyright registration, key publications including informational circulars, application forms for copyright registration, links to the copyright law, a link to our online copyright records cataloged since 1978, our latest regulations, and more.

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Buzgate.org - <http://www.buzgate.org>

Buzgate.org is an award-winning public service initiative created to facilitate awareness, access, and use of free small business help offered by America's government and nonprofit small business assistance agencies on a local, regional, and national scale.

Small Business Readiness Assessment Tool - <http://web.sba.gov/sbtn/sbat/index.cfm?Tool=4>

This assessment tool is designed to help you better understand your readiness for starting a small business. It will assist you in evaluating skills, characteristics and experience—as they relate to your preparedness for starting a business. You will also receive, based on your score, a statement of Suggested Next Steps.

SBA's Start-Up Guide for Small Businesses -

http://www.sba.gov/smallbusinessplanner/plan/getready/serv_sbplanner_stguide.html

This small business guide is intended to serve as a roadmap for starting a business. It is both comprehensive and easy to use. It also includes numerous electronic links for additional information. Use this powerful interactive tool, with many supporting resources to help you start a successful business.

Hire Vets First—Small Business Ownership - <http://www.hirevetsfirst.gov/smallbizown.asp>

As a veteran, owning a business of your own can have a lot of advantages, but successful small businesses require a lot of hard work and upfront planning. This website offers programs and services that can help veterans start, manage, and grow a successful small business.

International Franchise Association (IFA)/VetFran - <http://www.franchise.org>

The Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative, known as "VetFran," was developed by International Franchise Association to help veterans transition to civilian life. A voluntary effort of IFA member-companies, it is designed to encourage franchise ownership by offering financial incentives to honorably discharged veterans.

Association for Service Disabled Veterans (ASDV) - <http://www.asdv.org>

ASDV is establishing greater economic participation for service disabled and prisoner of war veterans, plus the 80 million veteran family members in the U.S. ASDV has established programs and services that address the areas of legislative and legal advocacy, business development, healthcare, and information access.

Veterans Business Network (VBN) - <http://www.veteransbusinessnetwork.com>

VBN is a membership organization of veteran business owners, executives, and entrepreneurs. VBN helps members grow their businesses through member-to-member sales and preferential treatment from our business partners.

Business.gov - <http://www.business.gov/start/veteran-owned/>

Business.gov helps small businesses understand their legal requirements, and locate government services supporting the nation's small business community. Business.gov is an official site of the U.S. government.

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Military.com - <http://business.military.com/veteran>

Military.com helps leverage the power of 3.6 million veteran-owned businesses to help build and grow small businesses.

National Veteran-Owned Business Association/Vetpreneur - <http://www.navoba.com>

NaVOBA unites the nation's 3 million businesses owned by military veterans by providing a single voice to advocate important issues. Membership includes a one-year subscription to Vetpreneur magazine, devoted to military veterans who own a business.

The United States Association of Veterans in Business - <http://www.usavetbiz.org>

USAVETBIZ has been established to be a permanent presence of influence for veterans in business in the chambers of the Nation's commerce—and before the American public. The veterans enterprise movement is a compelling and driving force worthy of gaining national support and the greater attention of government, industrial institutions, and the various special interest groups that affect opportunity and business share in America.