

THE BUSINESS CASE FOR VETERANS

Veterans have the motivation, character, discipline and skills needed to succeed as small business owners and entrepreneurs. Are you a transitioning Service member thinking about business ownership as a post-service vocation? Wondering what it takes and what you can do now to prepare? Enrolling in Boots to Business, the entrepreneurship career track of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) is one step you can take now.



NEARLY 1 IN 10

According to the U.S. Census, about 2.4 million or nine percent of all U.S. small businesses are veteran-owned.



Veterans are 45 percent more likely to be self-employed than non-veterans.

INNOVATIVE DELIVERY & PARTNERSHIP

To deliver Boots to Business and support transitioning Service members and veterans, SBA collaborates with its Resource Partners (Veterans Business Outreach Centers, Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers and SCORE), the Department of Defense and other federal agencies and local military installations. SBA also partners with the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University on program curriculum development, course materials and instruction.

Beyond Boots to Business, SBA's network of partners offers continued training and technical assistance to more than 100,000 veterans every year in all areas of business ownership with an emphasis on access to capital and federal contracting opportunities.



The Operation Boots to Business: From Service to Startup entrepreneurship education program is provided through the coordinated efforts of the SBA and the following valued partners.



LEARN MORE AT
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OPERATION BOOTS to BUSINESS

from service to startup



AN ENTREPRENEURSHIP
EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM
FOR SERVICE MEMBERS PROVIDED BY THE
U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

ABOUT BOOTS TO BUSINESS

Boots to Business is an 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.

766 Million

in lending supported by SBA in 2014 to over 2,300 veteran-owned small businesses.

100,000+

Veterans and service-disabled small business owners counseled or trained by SBA in 2014.

20,000+

Service members and spouses participating in Boots to Business since 2013 launch.

THE PROGRAM CONSISTS OF 3 PARTS:

THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRACK OVERVIEW

An informational video shown during the core TAP course introduces entrepreneurship as a post-service career option.

INTRODUCTION TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP TWO-DAY COURSE

A two-day course offered as a TAP training track for those interested in learning more about the opportunities and challenges of business ownership. It is instructed by subject matter experts and practitioners from the SBA and its partner network.

FOUNDATIONS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP COURSE

After completing the Introduction to Entrepreneurship class, transitioning Service members and their spouses can elect to further their study through an instructor guided high-touch eight-week online course taught by professors from a consortium of accredited universities led by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University. By dedicating a minimum of 10 hours per week to connected and independent study, participants work through the fundamentals of developing an actionable business plan.

After completing Boots to Business, transitioning Service members will have the tools and knowledge they need to identify a business opportunity, draft a business plan and launch their enterprise.

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SUCCESS IN THE MAKING

Boots to Business is a worldwide program. The standardized curriculum enhanced by the experience, expertise and tailored approach of the SBA partner network ensures that every transitioning Service member has access to training and the resources they need in their local communities to start and operate small businesses, achieve post-service career success and strengthen the Nation's economy.



OVER 165

Boots to Business is offered at over 165 military installations around the world.