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Federal Business Resources

- **Center for Women Veterans (CWV)**
  - CWV’s mission is to monitor and coordinate VA’s administration of health care, benefits, services, and programs for women Veterans. We serve as an advocate for cultural transformation and to raise awareness of the responsibility to treat women Veterans with dignity and respect. - [https://www.va.gov/womenvet/](https://www.va.gov/womenvet/)

- **Direct Access Program (DAP)**
  - DAP offers unique opportunities for Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSBs) to build partnerships, maximize networking, and gain access to Procurement Decision Makers through structured, screened, and periodic events. Examples of activities which may occur at a DAP event include Business Opportunity Sessions, Networking Roundtables and education sessions. - [https://www.va.gov/OSDBU/outreach/dap/index.asp](https://www.va.gov/OSDBU/outreach/dap/index.asp)
  - VetBizPortal
    - Visit the DAP event page [www.vetbiz.va.gov/events](http://www.vetbiz.va.gov/events) to see the list of upcoming events.

- **Doing Business with VA**
  - VA has contracting and procurement activities within its nationwide network of hospitals, clinics, regional offices, Veterans benefits, Veterans Integrated Service Networks, data processing centers, and national cemeteries that require a broad spectrum of products and services. - [http://www.va.gov/osdbu/library/dbwva.asp](http://www.va.gov/osdbu/library/dbwva.asp)

- **Education and Training**
  - VA OSDBU educates and trains Veteran-owned and other small businesses on various topics specific to doing business within the federal and commercial marketplaces. - [https://www.va.gov/osdbu/outreach/soc/training.asp](https://www.va.gov/osdbu/outreach/soc/training.asp)

- **Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR)**
  - The FAR is the primary regulation for use by all executive agencies in their acquisition of supplies and services with appropriated funds. The FAR also contains standard solicitation provisions and contract clauses and the various agency FAR supplements. - [https://www.gsa.gov/policy-regulations/regulations/federal-acquisition-regulation-far](https://www.gsa.gov/policy-regulations/regulations/federal-acquisition-regulation-far)

- **FAR Smart Matrix**
  - Searchable and filterable interactive tool to view or research information within the FAR. - [https://www.acquisition.gov/smart-matrix](https://www.acquisition.gov/smart-matrix)

- **Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)**
  - MBDA is the only federal agency solely dedicated to the growth and global competitiveness of minority business enterprises. MBDA invests in a national network of MBDA Business Centers, Specialty Centers, and
Grantees. Our programs offer customized business development and industry-focused services to provide greater access to capital, contracts and markets. - [Minority Business Development Agency (mbda.gov)]

- **OSDBU Council**
  - The Federal Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Interagency Council (OSDBU Council) is an informal organization of Federal small business program officials that exchanges and discusses information on acquisition methods, issues and strategies; small business program initiatives and processes; and small business-related outreach events. This interaction enables respective agencies to increase their utilization of small businesses as prime and subcontractors to meet their annual requirements for goods and services. The Council also maintains an event listing with engagement opportunities with each Federal agency in one place. - [https://hallways.cap.gsa.gov/app/](https://hallways.cap.gsa.gov/app/) [gateway/federal-osdbu-directors-interagency-council]

- **Pathfinder**
  - Pathfinder is a virtual concierge to streamline procurement and innovation. Website aims to transform customer experience for those seeking to sell to or innovate with VA. Pathfinder focuses on engaging in collaborative relationships with other small or large business to establish collaborate offerings, mentorships and sub-contracting opportunities. - [https://pathfinder.va.gov/](https://pathfinder.va.gov/)

- **OSDBU Media Library**
  - Access the latest resources for the Veteran small business community with videos, publications, factsheets, and more. - [Media Library - Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization](https://www.va.gov/osdbu/about/contacts.asp#sbl)

- **Small Business Liaisons (SBL)**
  - VA SBLs are located nationwide to offer advice to Veteran-owned and other small businesses on doing business with VA. - [https://www.va.gov/osdbu/about/contacts.asp#sbl](https://www.va.gov/osdbu/about/contacts.asp#sbl)

- **Strategic Outreach and Communications Team (SOC)**
  - SOC connects Veteran-owned and other small businesses interested in doing business with VA to resources, education, and training. - [https://www.va.gov/osdbu/outreach/soc/index.asp](https://www.va.gov/osdbu/outreach/soc/index.asp)

- **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)**
  - Created in 1953, SBA continues to help small business owners and entrepreneurs pursue the American dream. SBA is the only cabinet-level federal agency fully dedicated to small business and provides counseling, capital, and contracting expertise as the nation’s only go-to resource and voice for small businesses. - [https://www.sba.gov/about-sba](https://www.sba.gov/about-sba)

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o **Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)**  
  - Find assistance and counseling in your area to start, run, or grow your business. - [https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/small-business-development-centers-sbdc](https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/small-business-development-centers-sbdc)

o **SBA Government Contracting Assistance**  
  - Get assistance with different programs available to small businesses who qualify (Loan Payments, Disaster Assistance, Covid Relief, HUBZones, Women-Owned Small Businesses (WOSB), 8(a), and Mentor-Protégé) - [https://www.sba.gov/about-sba/organization/contact-sba](https://www.sba.gov/about-sba/organization/contact-sba)

o **SBA Office of Advocacy**  
  - The SBA Office of Advocacy is the independent voice for small business within the federal government, the watchdog of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and a source of small business statistics and research. Advocacy advances the views and concerns of small business before Congress, the White House, federal agencies, federal courts, and state policymakers. - [https://advocacy.sba.gov/](https://advocacy.sba.gov/)

o **Subcontracting Network (SubNet) System**  
  - SubNet is the SBA Subcontracting Network System that bridges the gap between businesses seeking small business subcontractors and small businesses seeking subcontracting opportunities by facilitating the matching of small businesses with subcontracting opportunities. [http://www.usaspending.gov/](http://www.usaspending.gov/)

o **8(a) Business Development program**  
  - The federal government's goal is to award at least 5% of all federal contracting dollars to small disadvantaged businesses each year. - [https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/8a-business-development-program](https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/8a-business-development-program)

- **VA Forecast of Contracting Opportunities**  
  - This forecast represents VAs best estimate of procurement opportunities during fiscal year 2023. The information is published for planning purposes only and is not an invitation for bids, a request for proposals, or a commitment by VA to purchase products or services. Each acquisition is based on the best information available at the time of publication and may be revised or canceled. - [https://www.vendorportal.ecms.va.gov/eVP/fco/FCO.aspx](https://www.vendorportal.ecms.va.gov/eVP/fco/FCO.aspx)

- **VA Verification and Vendor Information Pages (VetBiz Portal)**  
  - The VetBiz Portal is a gateway to information and services within VA OSDBU. Whether you are a VOSB, Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB), other small business, large business, acquisition professional, or someone who is interested in learning more about OSDBU’s services, the VetBiz Portal ensures quick and easy
access to information, resources, and applications. - https://www.vetbiz.va.gov/

- **VA OSDBU Acquisition Support Team (AST)**
  o AST represents VA's best estimate of procurement opportunities during the current and forthcoming fiscal years. The information is published for planning purposes only and does not represent an invitation for bids, a request for proposals, or a commitment by VA to purchase products or services. - https://www.va.gov/osdbu/acquisition/.

- **VA Technology Transfer**
  o The mission of the VA Technology Transfer Program (TTP) is to facilitate the commercialization of VA inventions to benefit Veterans and the American public. - https://www.research.va.gov/programs/tech_transfer/default.cfm
  o VA Technology Brief

- **VA OSDBU Procurement Readiness Resources**
  o VA OSDBU procurement readiness resources that discusses loan options and how to execute your internal processes to get you up to speed to compete in the Federal marketplace. - Vet Talk Procurement Readiness Series on the VA OSDBU YouTube channel.

- **Veteran Entrepreneur Portal (VEP)**
  o VEP is designed to save you time with direct access to the resources necessary to guide every step of entrepreneurship. - http://www.va.gov/osdbu/entrepreneur/

- **WVOSBI**
  o WVOSBI is the first program of its kind in the federal government. WVOSBI's mission is to equip, empower and educate women Veteran entrepreneurs for success and economic opportunities. - https://www.va.gov/OSDBU/WVOSBI.asp

**Policy**

**Executive Order 13985**


**The McNamara-O’Hara Service Contract Act**

- This ACT requires contractors and subcontractors performing services on prime contracts in excess of $2,500 to pay service employees in various
classes no less than the wage rates and fringe benefits found prevailing in the locality, or the rates (including prospective increases) contained in a predecessor contractor’s collective bargaining agreement. -
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/service-contract-act-wage-classifications -

Collaborative Relationship, Mentor Protégé, Subcontracting, Networking, and Education Opportunities

- **EMMA**
  - EMMA is Maryland’s new online procurement platform used to connect the vendor community with contracting opportunities from state, county, and local government entities. -

- **Federal Aviation Administration**
  - Explore contract opportunities, business opportunities, and the Small Business Office with the FAA. -
  https://www.faa.gov/about/business_opportunities

- **Female Founders Association**
  - A network dedicated to fostering the development of female entrepreneurs. The Female Founders Association seeks to build an active and supportive community of women entrepreneurs and startup founders. -
  https://femalefounders.org/

- **Lean In Network**
  - The Lean In Network is one of the largest networks for helping women find their niche and build their strengths in a variety of disciplines. To join, find your “circle” at the national and local level and immediately connect to hundreds of businesswomen, female politicians, women in tech, and more in this diverse organization. Fostering Women’s Leadership & Workplace Inclusion | Lean In

- **Office of Veterans Business Development Resources**
  - Useful resources from the Office of Veterans Business Development. -
  Office of Veterans Business Development Resources (sba.gov)

- **Pathfinder**
  - A VA platform to focusing on engaging in collaborative relationships with other small or large business to establish collaborate offerings, mentorships and sub-contracting opportunities. -
  https://pathfinder.va.gov/
- **SBA Mentor Protégé Program**
  - The SBA Mentor-Protégé Program is a program that provides small businesses (the “protégé”) the opportunity to gain capacity and win government contracts by partnering with experienced government contractors (the “mentor”). - [https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/sba-mentor-protège-program](https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/sba-mentor-protège-program)

- **Subcontracting Network (Subnet) System**
  - SubNet is the SBA’s Subcontracting Network System that bridges the gap between businesses seeking small business subcontractors and SB seeking subcontracting opportunities by facilitating the matching of SB with subcontracting opportunities. [http://www.usaspending.gov/](http://www.usaspending.gov/)

- **U.S. Women’s Chamber of Commerce (USWCC)**
  - The USWCC gives voice to the collective strength of women in the U.S. economy. Using a platform of influence, innovation, and opportunity, we work with and for our members to grow successful businesses and careers. - [https://www.uswcc.org/](https://www.uswcc.org/)

- **Veteran In Business (VIB) Network**
  - VIB Network is on a mission to provide education, training, resources, and outreach to help Veterans in business succeed. The VIB Network is a nonprofit 501(c)3. - [https://www.vibnetwork.org/about-us/](https://www.vibnetwork.org/about-us/)

- **V-WISE**
  - Operated by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University (IVMF). Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration and the generous philanthropic support of corporate and foundation partners nationwide. - [https://ivmf.syracuse.edu/programs/entrepreneurship/start-up/v-wise/](https://ivmf.syracuse.edu/programs/entrepreneurship/start-up/v-wise/)

- **Women Entrepreneurs (WE) NYC**
  - A networking group for women entrepreneurs with a number of programs, mentors, and events specifically in the New York City area, but has resources useful for women business owners anywhere. WE NYC recently opened their own crowdfunding initiative called WE Fund Crowd. Similar to GoFundMe or Kickstarter, is designed specifically for women entrepreneurs looking for funding. - [https://we.nyc/](https://we.nyc/)

- **WomenOwned**
  - WomenOwned provides the information, tools, networking opportunities and advise that helped hundreds of thousands of women succeed in business. - [https://womanowned.com/](https://womanowned.com/)
Advocacy Programs/ Centers

- **National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC)**
  - The NMSDC is the longest-operating business growth engine for the broadest group of systematically excluded communities of color (Asian-Indian, Asian-Pacific, Black, Hispanic, and Native American), and our impact goes far beyond supply chain. It’s about upward mobility for the emerging majority of Americans, an equal shot at participating in the American experiment of free-market capitalism and entrepreneurship. Our work is about correcting the unequal access to wealth-building opportunities. - [https://nmsdc.org/about-nmsdc/](https://nmsdc.org/about-nmsdc/)

- **National Women’s Business Council (NWBC)**
  - The NWBC was created under Title IV of H.R. 5050, the Women’s Business Ownership Act of 1988, as amended (U.S.C. § 7105, et seq.). Authored by Congressman John LaFalce (D-NY) and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan, H.R. 5050 established NWBC, which operates in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). - [https://www.nwbc.gov/](https://www.nwbc.gov/)

- **SBA Office of Advocacy**
  - The SBA Office of Advocacy is the independent voice for small business within the federal government, the watchdog of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and a source of small business statistics and research. Advocacy advances the views and concerns of small business before Congress, the White House, federal agencies, federal courts, and state policymakers. - [https://advocacy.sba.gov/](https://advocacy.sba.gov/)

- **Veteran Women Chamber of Commerce (VWPC)**
  - The U.S. Women’s Chamber of Commerce uses a platform for influence, innovation, and opportunity to help members grow successful businesses. - [https://veteranwomencoc.com/home-1](https://veteranwomencoc.com/home-1)

- **WE NYC**
  - A networking group for women entrepreneurs with a number of programs, mentors, and events specifically in the New York City area, but has resources useful for women business owners anywhere. WE NYC recently opened their own crowdfunding initiative called WE Fund Crowd. Similar to GoFundMe or Kickstarter, is designed specifically for women entrepreneurs looking for funding. - [https://we.nyc/](https://we.nyc/)

- **Women Veteran’s Rock**
  - Advocacy Campaign is a coalition of Women Veteran Organizations and Women Advocacy Organizations Supporting Women Veterans and Military Families with: Housing; Employment; Education; Financial Stability; Health & Wellness. Our mission is Engaging and Empowering
America’s Women & Girls in Military Families to excel in their post-military/civilian lives. - https://womenvetsrock.org/

Veteran Business Associations

- **National Veteran-Owned Business Association (NAVOBA)**
  - NaVOBA is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and two-thirds of NaVOBA’s Board of Directors seats are held by corporations to ensure its alignment with the needs of corporate supplier diversity programs. NaVOBA’s VBE/SDVBE certifications directly mirror those of the MBE and WBE certifications and ensures that any certified VBE/SDVBE is at least 51% owned, operated and controlled by one or more U.S. military veterans. - https://www.navoba.org/

- **National Veteran Small Business Coalition**
  - NVSBC is a nationally recognized non-profit organization that provides training, networking, and advocacy for Veteran small business entrepreneurs in the federal market to ensure they are Procurement Ready and have enhanced access to opportunities to start, operate, sustain, and grow competitive and strong businesses serving Federal agencies and other government contractors. - https://nvsbc.org/mission/

- **U.S. Veteran Business Alliance**
  - The U.S. Veteran Business Alliance aims to be the partner of choice for all U.S. veterans, ensuring success in their businesses by providing advocacy, guidance, and resources to support veteran entrepreneurs in establishing, maintaining, and growing successful businesses. - https://gousvba.org/

- **Veterans and Military Business Owners Association (VAMBOA)**
  - VAMBOA is your non-profit veteran business trade association that promotes and assists Veteran Business Owners, Service Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses (SDVOB) and Military Business Owners. - https://vamboa.org/

- **Women Veteran Business Coalition**
  - The Coalition brings together diverse stakeholders to provide a strong, collective voice to advocate in Congress and federal agencies for policies that will strengthen businesses owned by women veterans. - https://womenvetbizcoalition.org/about-us

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Contracting and Procurement Assistance

- **FAR Smart Matrix**
  - FAR Smart Matrix Provides Interactive Access to Contractor Requirements and Clauses - [Smart Matrix | Acquisition.GOV](https://www.acquisition.gov)

- **National Women Business Owners Corporation (NWBOC)**
  - NWBOC is the first national certifier of WBEs and provides national certification for women and Veteran-owned companies - [https://nwboc.org/](https://nwboc.org/)

- **APEX Accelerators (formerly known as PTAC)**
  - Formerly housed within the Defense Logistics Agency, Apex Accelerators will now be part of the DOD’s Office of Small Business Programs. APEX Accelerators mission is to “serve as the axis for existing and new business to strengthen the defense industrial base by accelerating innovation, fostering ingenuity, and establishing resilient and diverse supply chains,” but, the assistance is not solely for contractors working with the DOD.
  - APEX Accelerators can be very helpful for those companies that are just starting out in the federal contracting business, that are looking to expand their footprint, or that want some free advice on business development. They can also provide referrals to many other resources out there. - [https://www.apexaccelerators.us/#!/](https://www.apexaccelerators.us/#!/)

- **SCORE**
  - Score provides confidential business advice through our network of 10,000 volunteer business experts. [https://www.score.org/find-mentor](https://www.score.org/find-mentor)

- **SBA Certification**
  - [https://certify.sba.gov/](https://certify.sba.gov/)

- **Small Business and Local Initiatives Support Corporation**
  - [https://www.lisc.org/our-initiatives/small-business/](https://www.lisc.org/our-initiatives/small-business/)

- **Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR)**
  - VAAR is the set of rules that specifically govern requirements exclusive to VA prime and subcontracting actions - [VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) - Office of Acquisition and Logistics (OAL)](https://www.acquisition.gov)

- **Veteran Owned Business Project**
  - A comprehensive, user friendly member network directory of small, medium and large businesses owned by Veterans, active-duty military, reservists and military spouses. Get your company’s free profile and be seen by millions of fellow Veterans, government agencies, prime/sub-contractors, corporate purchasing departments and everyday consumers. - [https://www.veteranownedbusiness.com/](https://www.veteranownedbusiness.com/)

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• **WOSB Federal Contracting program**
  o WOSB Federal Contracting program helps to provide a level playing field for women business owners, the government limits competition for certain contracts to businesses that participate in the program. - [Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contracting Program (sba.gov)](https://www.sba.gov/год)

**Women Business Centers**

Find your local Women Business Centers through the Small Business Administration here [https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find?type=Women%E2%80%99s%20Business%20Center&pageNumber=1](https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find?type=Women%E2%80%99s%20Business%20Center&pageNumber=1)

• **ACE Women’s Business Center**
  o The mission for the ACE Women’s Business Center is to empower women, minorities, and low-to-moderate income entrepreneurs through financial education and training. -[https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/?type=Women%27s%20Business%20Center&pageNumber=1](https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/?type=Women%27s%20Business%20Center&pageNumber=1)

• **Catalyst Center for Business & Entrepreneurship: Women’s Business Center**
  o Catalyst is a global nonprofit working with some of the world’s most powerful CEOs and leading companies to build workplaces that work for women. Proven solutions to remove barriers and drive change. Partners with 800+ Supporter organizations to help them make positive change in their organizations. -[https://catalystcenter.org/programs/womens-business-center/](https://catalystcenter.org/programs/womens-business-center/)

• **Center for Women’s Entrepreneurial Leadership**
  o The Center for Women’s Entrepreneurial Leadership educates and empowers women to create social and economic impact through industry and innovation as we research and enlighten the global community about the importance of female leadership for prosperity and human progress. - [Center for Women’s Entrepreneurial Leadership | Babson College](https://www.babson.edu/)

• **Old Dominion University (ODU) Institute for Innovation & Entrepreneurship (IIE) Women's Business Center**
  o The ODU IIE Women's Business Center seeks to "level the playing field" for women entrepreneurs, who still face unique obstacles in the business world, by providing the tools for women to successfully own, operate and grow their small businesses. - [Institute for Innovation & Entrepreneurship Women’s Business Center - Old Dominion University (odu.edu)](https://www.odu.edu)
  o ODU Training Videos - [Training Videos - Old Dominion University (odu.edu)](https://www.odu.edu)
• **Pathway Women’s Business Center**
  o Provides a wide-range of services, which include in-depth business counseling, classroom training, and peer-to-peer learning to help women entrepreneurs start, expand, and successfully manage their businesses. - [https://www.pathwaylearn.org/](https://www.pathwaylearn.org/)

• **Washington DC Women’s Business Center (DCWBC)**
  o The DCWBC delivers business development services to women entrepreneurs in the Washington, DC Metro region. The Center provides one-on-one free counseling and training workshops designed to help women start and grow businesses. - [Home - Washington, DC Women’s Business Center (dcwbc.org)](https://www.pathwaylearn.org/)

• **Maryland Women’s Business Center (MWBC)**
  o MWBC works with entrepreneurs across Maryland’s capital region by way of three locations. Through our resources, we encourage women to start, sustain, and grow their businesses. Through workshops, individual counseling, facilitated peer group support, special resources, and access to capital, MWBC annually helps more than 1,500 women gain the skills, connections, and confidence necessary to navigate entrepreneurship. - [Maryland Women’s Business Center: Grow Women-Owned Business (marylandwbc.org)](https://www.marylandwbc.org)

• **Office of Women’s Business Ownership**
  o The Office of Women’s Business Ownership’s mission is to enable and empower women entrepreneurs through advocacy, outreach, education and support. - [Office of Women’s Business Ownership (sba.gov)](https://www.sba.gov)

**Non-Profit Organizations**

• **TED**
  o TED, a small non-profit that provides global conferences focused on "ideas worth spreading," has a collection of videos tagged for women that include a variety of topics that support women in small business. - [https://www.ted.com/topics/women+in+business](https://www.ted.com/topics/women+in+business)

**Market Research**

• **VA Forcasting Contracting Opportunities**
  o This forecast represents VAs best estimate of procurement opportunities during fiscal year 2023. The information is published for planning purposes only and is not an invitation for bids, a request for proposals, or a commitment by VA to purchase products or services. Each acquisition is
based on the best information available at the time of publication and may be revised or canceled. -
https://www.vendorportal.ecms.va.gov/eVP/fco/FCO.aspx

- **Grants.gov**
  - Grants.gov provides a common website for federal agencies to post discretionary funding opportunities and for grantees to find and apply to them. - [https://www.grants.gov/](https://www.grants.gov/)

- **Investopedia**
  - Investopedia is the world's leading source of financial content on the web, ranging from market news to retirement strategies, investing education to insights from advisors. - [https://www.investopedia.com/](https://www.investopedia.com/)

- **U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)**
  - GAO is a legislative branch government agency that provides auditing, evaluative, and investigative services for the United States Congress. It is the supreme audit institution of the federal government of the United States. - [https://www.gao.gov/](https://www.gao.gov/)

- **Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)**
  - The SBIR and STTR programs are highly competitive programs that encourage domestic small businesses to engage in Federal Research/Research and Development (R/R&D) with the potential for commercialization. - [www.SBIR.gov](http://www.SBIR.gov)

Be sure to search your other local and state economic development offices; every city has its own.

**Contract Databases**

- **SAM.gov**
  - SAM.gov is a registration service for Federal Contracting and nonprofit grants. A SAM registration is required to bid on Government contracts and to receive grants. [http://www.sam.gov/](http://www.sam.gov/)

- **USAspending**

- **The Federal Procurement Data System**

- **EMMA**
  - EMMA is Maryland’s new online procurement platform used to connect the vendor community with contracting opportunities from state, county, and local government entities. - [eMaryland Marketplace Advantage (eMMA)](http://www.sam.gov/)

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• **The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Schedule**
  - GSA Schedule, also known as Federal Supply Schedule, and Multiple Award Schedule (MAS), is a long-term governmentwide contract with commercial companies that provide access to millions of commercial products and services at fair and reasonable prices to the government. [About GSA Schedule | GSA](#)

Freelance Services

• **Alaska Natives**
  - The database highlighting the nation’s first compacting agreement between tribes and the State of Alaska. This is a full directory of tribes, resources, and contracting opportunities. - [https://www.alaskan-natives.com/alaskan-native-cultures/](https://www.alaskan-natives.com/alaskan-native-cultures/)

• **FIVERR**
  - Find freelance services for your business. - [https://www.fiverr.com/?source=top_nav](https://www.fiverr.com/?source=top_nav)

• **UpWork**
  - UpWork’s mission is to create economic opportunities so people have better lives has taken us so much further. Upwork began over two decades ago by pioneering a better way of working, helping businesses find more flexibility and connecting talent with more opportunities. - [https://www.upwork.com/about](https://www.upwork.com/about)

Veteran Housing Resources

Be sure to research your state, city, and county Veteran offices.

• **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program** (Section 8 for Veterans)
  - HUD-VASH is a collaborative program which pairs HUD’s Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance with VA case management and supportive services for homeless Veterans. These services are designed to help homeless Veterans and their families find and sustain permanent housing and access the health care, mental health treatment, substance use counseling, and other supports necessary to help them in their recovery process and with their ability to maintain housing in the community. - [https://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash.asp](https://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash.asp)
    - [Transitional housing for Veterans](#)
• **Safe Haven**
  o A Safe Haven is a 24hr/7 days a week community-based early recovery model of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach and hard-to-engage Veterans with severe mental illness and/or substance use disorders. The program does not demand treatment participation although it is available. The program does expect participants to transition from unsafe environments to permanent housing and re-engage with treatment. - [https://www.va.gov/homeless/nchav/models/safe-havens.asp](https://www.va.gov/homeless/nchav/models/safe-havens.asp)

**Accelerator Programs and Grants**

• **GRANTS.GOV**
  o Grants.gov provides a common website for federal agencies to post discretionary funding opportunities and for grantees to find and apply to them. - [https://www.grants.gov/](https://www.grants.gov/)

• **Udemy - Grant Writing Courses**
  o [https://www.nonprofitready.org/grant-writing-classes](https://www.nonprofitready.org/grant-writing-classes)

• **Local Women Business Centers**
  o This is an SBA national database with a list and filters to find all Women’s Business Centers registered with SBA. - [https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find?type=Women%E2%80%99s%20Business%20Center&pageNumber=1](https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find?type=Women%E2%80%99s%20Business%20Center&pageNumber=1)

• **PenFed Foundation Veteran Entrepreneur Investment Program (VEIP)**
  o VEIP Non-profit organization provides Veteran-owned start-ups with seed capital to grow their business. - [https://veip.penfedfoundation.org/](https://veip.penfedfoundation.org/)

• **Scotsman Guide**
  o Scotsman Guide is a leading provider of financial technology tools and industry news for residential and commercial mortgage originators. - [https://www.scotsmanguide.com/](https://www.scotsmanguide.com/)

• **Sony Group Portal for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

• **Unison Global**
  o Unison Global insight platform supports areas vital to the success of government missions—the acquisition workforce, cost engineers, government contractors, program managers, financial assistance professionals, and budget analysts. - [https://www.unisonglobal.com/](https://www.unisonglobal.com/)

• **U.S. Black Chamber (USBC)**
  o The U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. (USBC) provides committed, visionary leadership and advocacy in the realization of economic empowerment. Through the creation of resources and initiatives, we support African American Chambers of Commerce and business organizations in their
work of developing and growing Black enterprises. - [https://usblackchambers.org/](https://usblackchambers.org/)

- **Women of Color (WOC)**
  - WOC in Fundraising and Philanthropy celebrates, inspires and champions women of color in fundraising, philanthropy and related fields through building community and providing unparalleled personal and professional development resources. - [https://www.woc-fp.com/](https://www.woc-fp.com/)

- **Women’s Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC)**
  - A third party certification company for women-owned businesses. - [https://www.wbenc.org/](https://www.wbenc.org/)

### Franchising

- The Internicola Law Firm Ultimate Guide to Franchising
  - A comprehensive guide on how to franchise a business - [http://www.franchiselawsolutions.com/learn/how-to-franchise/](http://www.franchiselawsolutions.com/learn/how-to-franchise/)

### Social Media

- **VA OSDBU**
  - Twitter - [https://twitter.com/VAVetBiz](https://twitter.com/VAVetBiz)
  - YouTube - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC EZt3MxLqX C16PmyxoyOZ-g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC EZt3MxLqX C16PmyxoyOZ-g)
  - VA OSDBU Media Library - [https://www.va.gov/osdbu/media/index.asp](https://www.va.gov/osdbu/media/index.asp)

- **To learn more about Michelle “G-I” Gardner-Ince, Director, WVOSBI**
  - [https://www.va.gov/OSDBU/WVOSBI.asp](https://www.va.gov/OSDBU/WVOSBI.asp)
  - [https://www.vetbiz.va.gov/wvosbi/](https://www.vetbiz.va.gov/wvosbi/)
  - [https://www.va.gov/OSDBU/about/bioMichelleGardnerInce.asp](https://www.va.gov/OSDBU/about/bioMichelleGardnerInce.asp)

Note: LinkedIn is also offering free premium services to Veterans. If you are a Veteran take advantage of this great opportunity! Follow the hyperlink to learn more: [https://socialimpact.linkedin.com/programs/veterans](https://socialimpact.linkedin.com/programs/veterans)

### Yearly Conferences, Webinars, Events

- **GovCon 101 - Catalyst Center for Business & Entrepreneurship: Women’s Business Center**
  - Government Contracting 101 is a workshop provided by Catalyst Center for Business & Entrepreneurship: Women’s Business Center for those
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individuals that are thinking about going into government contracting, or small businesses that are just starting out in Government Contracting and is required to obtain the Government Community Cloud (GCC) Level 1 Badge. We will discuss how to get started and how to start growing. This will be a Beginner course and a Foundational Course for other Government Contracting Training and Coaching. -
https://catalystcenter.ecenterdirect.com/events/972019?embedded=0

- **PenFed Foundation Veteran Entrepreneur Investment Program (VEIP) Accelerator Program**
  - VEIP Non-profit organization provides Veteran-owned start-ups with seed capital to grow their business. - https://veip.penfedfoundation.org/

- **Women’s Business Conference**
  - A full-day event that offers networking opportunities, business-related educational sessions for a wide range of interests and levels of experience, keynote addresses, one-on-one counseling by SBA business development specialists, industry-specific roundtable discussions, an exhibitor hall, and a networking lunch. -
  https://www.womensbusinessconference.com/

**Additional Business links**

- **Interview Guest Directory**
  - A directory to find interview guest expert sources for podcasts, talk shows, radio, TV, articles, and blogs. - https://www.interviewquestsdirectory.com/

- **KaisFS ERP**
  - Software for the meat industry -
  https://www.kaisfs.com/carnicas-en/software-para-la-industria-carnica/?lang=en -
  :-text=The%20software%20for%20the%20meat%20industry%20KaisFS%20is,advanced%2C%20reliable%20and%20secure%20technology%20of%20the%20market.

- **Monday.com**
  - Monday.com is a Work OS that provides you with all of the no-code building blocks so you can shape your workflows, your way. -
  monday.com

- **TSC Enterprise (TSCE)**
  - TSCE is a professional service firm that has the expertise to provide Government attestation services. -
  https://tscegov.com/

- **VA Nutrition and Food Services**
  - https://www.nutrition.va.gov/