



The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)'s new [Veteran Small Business Certification program](#) (VetCert) opens opportunities for veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs) to compete for federal [sole-source and set-aside contracts](#) across the federal government.

In addition to determining eligibility to compete for contracts in the federal marketplace, the SBA provides all small businesses access to training, counseling, access to capital, and more throughout their entrepreneurial journey. Most services are free of charge to the small business owner.




## HOW TO APPLY

Visit [veterans.certify.sba.gov](https://veterans.certify.sba.gov) to begin your application. Use the portal to:

- Access checklists and pre-application guides
- Check your business's eligibility
- Request information
- Create an account, login, and proceed with an application
- Search for a certified VOSB or SDVOSB

## ELIGIBILITY

VOSBs and SDVOSBs seeking certification from SBA must meet the following requirements:

- ✓ All must be considered small businesses, per the [size standard](#) corresponding to any NAICS code listed in the business's profile in the federal System for Award Management (SAM). 
- ✓ All must have no less than 51% of the business owned and controlled by one or more veterans whose military service can be confirmed by VA. 
- ✓ SDVOSBs must have no less than 51% of the business owned and controlled by one or more veterans rated as service-disabled by the VA. 

**\*Note:** Veterans who are permanently and totally disabled, and unable to manage the daily business operations of their business, their business may still qualify if their spouse or appointed, permanent caregiver is assisting in that management.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How long will my certification last if I'm a new applicant?

New VetCert applicants certified by SBA after January 1, 2023, will receive the standard three-year certification period.

### What if I'm already certified by the VA Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE)?

Firms verified by the VA Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) as of January 1, 2023, are automatically granted certification by SBA for the remainder of the firm's eligibility period.

VOSBs and SDVOSBs which were VA-verified at the time of transfer are granted a one year extension to their current certification period.

### My business is a self-certified SDVOSB. What are my options?

Self-certified businesses can apply for SDVOSB certification until January 1, 2024. In the meantime, SDVOSBs may continue to rely on their self-certification to compete for non-VA SDVOSB set-aside contracts. Those who apply before January 1, 2024, will maintain their eligibility until SBA issues a final eligibility decision.

### For More Information

Website: [www.sba.gov/vetcert](https://www.sba.gov/vetcert)

Email: [vetcert@sba.gov](mailto:vetcert@sba.gov)

Online Support: [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

### Toll-Free Call Center

Phone: 800-862-8088

Hours: Monday — Friday, 8 a.m – 6 p.m ET

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