

News Release

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SBA Adds Eight New Veterans Business Outreach Centers to Assist Veteran Entrepreneurs, Small Business Owners

WASHINGTON – Eight new Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOCs) funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration will join seven existing SBA centers to provide entrepreneurial development services to eligible military veterans and reservists who own or start small businesses. SBA is providing a total of \$2.5 million in grants to the centers, continuing funding to the existing centers, and new funding for the new centers.

“Our service men and women have made invaluable contributions and sacrifices for our country and supporting them as they pursue their life’s dreams to start or grow their own business is one of our highest priorities,” SBA Administrator Karen Mills said. “Through these centers, we stand ready with a myriad of support, from entrepreneurial education and training to linking them with opportunities to compete for federal contracts and access much-needed capital – critical tools that will help them take their business to the next level, drive economic growth and create jobs.”

Services provided by the VBOCs include outreach, assessment, long and short-term business training, counseling, directed referring, electronic or on-line assistance and other technical assistance services to veterans, service disabled veterans, and U.S. Military Reserve Component business owners and entrepreneurs.

Veterans Business Outreach Center locations include:

REGION I (*Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire*)

- Northeast Veterans Business Resource Center - ***Existing***
Lawrence, Massachusetts

REGION II (*New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands*)

- State University of New York SUNY at Farmingdale - ***Existing***
Albany, New York
- Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey - ***New***
Newark, New Jersey

REGION III (*Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, District of Columbia*)

- Old Dominion University - ***New***
Norfolk, Virginia
- University of Pennsylvania - ***New***
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

REGION IV (*Florida, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina*)

- University of West Florida, Pensacola - ***Existing***
Pensacola, Florida

- Fayetteville State University - **New**
Fayetteville, North Carolina

REGION V (*Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana*)

- VetBiz Central - **Existing**
Flint, Michigan

REGION VI (*Texas, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma*)

- University of Texas - Pan American - **Existing**
Edinburg, Texas
- New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services - **New**
Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Southwest Louisiana Business Development Center - **New**
Jennings, Louisiana

REGION VII (*Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska*)

- Veterans Advocacy Foundation - **Existing**
Saint Louis, Missouri

REGION VIII (*Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado*)

- Chippewa Cree Tribe - **New**
Box Elder, Montana

REGION IX (*California, Arizona, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada*)

- Vietnam Veterans of California - **Existing**
Sacramento, California
- University of Guam - **New**
Mangilao, Guam

In addition to these grants to the Veteran Business Outreach Centers, SBA recently awarded grants to 10 local SBA Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) to increase entrepreneurial assistance to veterans. See the SBA press release on those grants at:

http://www.sba.gov/idc/groups/public/documents/sba_homepage/news_release_10-10.pdf.)

For more information about SBA's Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOCs), visit www.sba.gov/VETS. For information about all of the SBA's programs and services, visit www.sba.gov.

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