



SBA Procedural Notice

TO:	All SBA Employees	CONTROL NO.:	5000-1299
SUBJECT:	Veterans Advantage	EFFECTIVE:	12/18/13

The purpose of this notice is to inform employees of the *SBA Veterans Advantage*. This will begin January 1, 2014 and continue through September 30, 2014, and is intended to facilitate lending to veteran-owned small businesses so that they have the tools they need to start and grow their businesses.

Guaranty Fee Reduction

Currently, SBA Express loans of \$150,001 to \$350,000 have an up-front guaranty fee of 3%. To continue supporting America's veterans, the Veterans Advantage reduces the up-front guaranty fee from 3% to 0% for SBA Express loans over \$150,000 approved to small businesses owned by qualified veterans. This will encourage greater participation in SBA lending programs with a direct benefit to veteran-owned small businesses. (All 7(a) loans of \$150,000 or less have an up-front guaranty fee of 0%, as announced in SBA Information Notice #5000-1288.) *Note that there is no reduction in the Lender's annual service fee for loans over \$150,000.*

Veterans Advantage Qualifications

In order to qualify for this, businesses must be 51% or more owned and controlled by an individual or individuals in one or more of the following groups:

- Veterans (other than dishonorably discharged);
- Service-Disabled Veterans;
- Active Duty Military service member participating in the military's Transition Assistance Program (TAP);
- Reservists and National Guard Members; or
- Current spouse of any Veteran, Active Duty service member, or any Reservist or National Guard member; or widowed spouse of a service member who died while in service or of a service-connected disability.

Lenders must document in their loan file a borrower's eligibility using the documentation identified in the attachment to this Notice and must present copies of that documentation with any request to SBA to purchase.

SBA currently assists veterans through its 68 local SBA district offices, 15 Veterans Business Outreach Centers nationwide, its partnership with approximately 1,000 Small Business Development Centers and approximately 12,000 SCORE Counselors. Questions concerning this Notice should be directed to the lender relations specialist in the local SBA field office. The local SBA field office may be found at www.sba.gov/localresources.

Ann Marie Mehlum
Associate Administrator
Office of Capital Access

EXPIRES: 12/01/14

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SBA Form 1353.1 (12-93) MS Word Edition; previous editions obsolete
Must be accompanied by SBA Form 58

Attachment

Veterans Advantage Documentation Requirements:

- 1) **Veteran:** Copy of Form DD 214, which is provided for other than dishonorably discharged veterans.
- 2) **Service-Disabled Veteran:** Copy of Form DD 214 or documentation from the DVA that the veteran has been determined as having a service-connected disability.
- 3) **Transitioning Active Duty Military Member:** DD Form 2, "U.S. Armed Forces Identification Card (Active)," or DD Form 2, "Armed Forces of the United States Geneva Conventions Identification Card (Active)" and, DD Form 2648 (Active Duty Military member) or DD Form 2648-1 (Reserve Component member).
- 4) **Reservists and National Guard:** DD Form 2, Armed Forces of the United States Identification Card (Reserve).
- 5) **Current Spouse of Veteran:** The veteran's Form DD 214 and evidence of status as a current spouse.
- 6) **Current Spouse of Transitioning Active Duty Military Member or Current Reservist/National Guard Member:** DD Form 1173, Department of Defense Guard Reserve Family Member Identification Card and evidence of status as the current spouse.
- 7) **Widow of Active Duty Service Member who died in service or Widowed Spouse of Veteran who died of a service connected disability:** Documentation from DOD or from DVA clearly showing this to be the case.

Alternatives:

In the event that the veteran's DD 214 is unavailable, a "Certification of Military Service" (NA Form 13038) is an acceptable equivalent.

For any category listed above that requires a photocopy of a military ID, as an alternative to photocopying the military ID, the servicemember may provide a "statement of service" signed by, or by the direction of, the adjutant, personnel office, or commander of the unit or higher headquarters they are attached to. There is no one unique form used by the military for a statement of service. While statements of service are typically on military letterhead, some may be computer-generated. The statement of service must clearly show:

1. The Servicemember's full name;
2. The Servicemember's Social Security Number (SSN) or the last 4 digits of SSN;
3. The entry date on active duty or the entry date of applicant's Reserve/Guard duty, as applicable (depending on whether the applicant is on active duty or is a current member of the Reserves or National Guard);
4. The duration of lost time, if any (for active duty); and
5. The name of the command providing the information.

Note for Current Reserve/Guard Members: The statement must clearly indicate that the applicant is an "active" reservist and not just in a control group (inactive status).