# **WHY GET CERTIFIED?**

- 1. Public Agencies are looking for Certified Veteran Owned Businesses to meet their purchasing goals.
- 2. Certified Businesses may be eligible for the Veteran Linked Deposit Program which can reduce the business loan interest rate by up to 2%.
- 3. Certified Businesses are displayed on the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs website.

## MILITARY SPOUSE OWNED BUSINESSES

Military Spouses Owned Businesses can connect to learn about business counselors and small business programs in Washington State.

Washington offers Women and Minority Owned businesses certification at <u>www.</u> <u>omwbe.wa.gov</u> as well as Small Business Certification through Department of Enterprise Services WEBS portal at <u>https://</u> fortress.a.gov/a/webs/home.html



#### **GET CERTIFIED AT:** www.dva.wa.gov/businesses

1-800-562-2308 VOB@DVA.WA.GOV



WASHINGTON STATE VETERAN, SERVICEMEMBER, & MILITARY SPOUSE OWNED BUSINESS PROGRAM





"Serving Those Who Served"



Updated: January 2025

#### HOW DO I GET CERTIFIED As a veteran or service Member owned business?

WDVA and WEBS (Washington's Electronic Business Solution) have teamed up to streamline the registration and certification process for vendors who want to do business with Washington State agencies or municipalities.

First register your business in WEBS (https://fortress.wa.gov/ga/webs/home.html). After checking the "Veteran Owned Business" box, you will receive an email with instructions on where to send your certification documents.

Certification is free and requires only basic Veteran discharge status and business information to complete.

- Proof of qualifying discharge or currently serving status,
- Proof of 51% ownership (50/50 may be eligible for Veterans or spouses who are coowners);
- Proof the business is a Washington State Enterprise

You can send the certification documentation several ways:

- Email to vob@dva.wa.gov
- US Mail WDVA VOB Business Certification PO Box 41150, Olympia, WA 98504-1150

## LINKED DEPOSIT PROGRAM

The Washington State Veteran Linked Deposit Program improves access to capital for certified Veteran and servicemember owned business enterprises by decreasing interest rates on small business loans from participating lenders by up to 2 percent.

### **LINKED DEPOSIT TERMS**

Businesses participating in the Linked Deposit Program must be certified by WDVA and must satisfy their bank's lending criteria.

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Qualifying loans include:

- Lines of credit
- Financing of accounts receivable
- Working capital
- Equipment purchases
- Real property acquisition
- Additional information:
  - \$1 million per-loan maximum
  - 5 million dollar limit on the number of loans a firm and/or business owner may have
  - Interest rate: up to two percent (2%) below the market rate for a similar loan
  - Loan term: Up to 10 years
  - Participants decertified by WDVA will have their loans removed from the program and will lose the interest rate reduction

## GET CERTIFIED AT WWW.DVA.WA.GOV/PROGRAM/VETERAN-OWNED-BUSINESS-CERTIFICATION