



# Veteran Small Business Certification Program Updates

November 9, 2022

- The National Defense Authorization Act of 2021 directed the CVE's responsibilities to be transferred to the SBA by Jan 1, 2023.
- Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman recently announced the name of the SBA program name for verifying VOSBs and SDVOSBs as the **Veteran Small Business Certification Program** along with program updates through a [press release](#) on November 3, 2022.
- Scheduled to officially begin operations and accept new applications in January 2023, the **Veteran Small Business Certification Program** will be the Agency's primary vehicle for handling certification for veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs)—important classifications that enable those businesses to qualify for sole-source and set-aside federal contracting awards.
- **Administrator Guzman** also shared much-anticipated news that she intends to grant a one-time, one-year extension to current veteran-owned small businesses verified by the VA's Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) as of the transfer date on January 1, 2023.
  - Firms verified by the VA Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) as of January 1, 2023 will be automatically granted certification by SBA for the remainder of the firm's eligibility period.
  - All firms verified by VA as of the January 1, 2023 transfer date will receive a one-year extension to their eligibility giving veterans an extra year to get recertified under the new SBA system.
  - The extension will allow SBA to process applications from new entrants into the program and grow the base of certified firms.
  - New applicants certified by SBA after January 1, 2023, will receive the standard three-year certification period.
- Along with the recertification extension, the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act grants a one-year grace period for self-certified SDVOSBs until January 1, 2024.
  - During the grace period, businesses have one year to file an application for SDVOSB certification and may continue to rely on their self-certification to compete for non-VA SDVOSB set-asides.
  - Self-certified SDVOSBs that apply before the expiration of the one-year grace period will maintain eligibility until the SBA makes a final eligibility decision.
- Beginning January 1, 2024, both veteran and service-disabled veteran small business owners will need to be certified to compete for federal contracting set-asides, unless an application from a self-certified firm is pending an SBA decision.
- For questions about the CVE transfer to SBA, or if you would like to receive monthly email updates, please email: [cvetransfer@sba.gov](mailto:cvetransfer@sba.gov)
- More information is also available on SBA's website: <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-assistance-programs/veteran-assistance-programs>