



Building a Small Business

If you are a military spouse who is looking to start or build a small business, you should know that there are a wide variety of resources available to assist you. Everything from education to assistance in developing your business plan is available to you almost always for free. We did some research for you and recommend the tools and resources below.

Small Business Programs

There are a wide variety of programs specifically designed to help military spouses with a small business. You should do research for opportunities within your specific industry but here are some of the more general resources we can recommend:

- [**SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership**](#) – The US Small Business Administration has a national network of over 100 educational centers around the nation that offer education and assistance for women starting or growing a small business. Training and counseling is available in several different languages.
- [**Spouse Education & Career Opportunities Program**](#) – Offered by Military OneSource, this program offers a wide variety of professional assistance for military spouses. The webinar linked here covers a wide variety of topics for spouses looking to start their own small business.
- [**V-WISE**](#) – The Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship free training program consists of three phases; an online training course, a training event, and ongoing mentorship for graduates. The purpose is to assist female veterans and military spouses with identifying their passion and helping them grow their business skills.
- [**Military Spouse Small Business Academy**](#) – Developed by the Military Spouse Business Association, this non-profit offers educational support to spouses looking to start a small business. It is a great program to use to learn about the basics of getting started in the business world.
- [**EBV**](#) – They offer a great boot camp for military family members looking to start a business. Their unique approach coordinates training with caregiver and family issues to help participants launch and grow their business.
- [**SCORE**](#) – They have over 300 chapters, in-person events, mentorship programs, and webinars all designed to help with starting a small business. While they are not specifically aimed at working with military families, they offer some of the best resources you can find.
- [**National Military Family Association**](#) – They provide funding of up to \$1,000 for small businesses run by military families. It is a great place to start with to raise money for your business.