

## frequently asked questions

### **Do I need to have a college degree, or have taken some college courses, to attend?**

No. The V-WISE program is designed to take any qualified participants, regardless of prior educational experiences, through the steps and stages of starting a new business.

### **What is the cost of the program?**

Through the support of the U.S. Small Business Administration, there are no conference or hotel accommodation fees associated with the program. Participants are responsible for a one-time \$75 registration fee and their transportation to and from the on-site conference.

### **Do I already have to be a business owner to attend?**

No. The V-WISE program will give instruction on both starting and growing a business.

### **When should I apply?**

As soon as possible. The online courses must be taken before attending the conference and classes are filling up quickly.

### **Will I need to prove Veteran status?**

Yes. You will be required to submit proof of your Veteran status by attaching your DD214 to the online application.

**TAKE THE  
FIRST STEPS  
NOW!**

## contact us today!

### **V-WISE**

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**DREAM  
BELIEVE  
PURSUE**

*V-WISE is a program of the Falcone Center for Entrepreneurship at the Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University. It is funded through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Special accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made whenever possible. Please contact us in advance to ensure proper lead time.*

**Whitman**  
SCHOOL of MANAGEMENT  
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

**SBA**.GOV  
U.S. Small Business Administration



**Veteran Women  
Can Become  
Entrepreneurs  
Get inspired!**

## V-WISE IS COMING TO A CITY NEAR YOU

(see our website for a comprehensive schedule)



**SAN ANTONIO** May 2011



**BALTIMORE** September 2011



**TAMPA** spring 2012



**SAN DIEGO** fall 2012



**KANSAS CITY** spring 2013



**SEATTLE** fall 2013

## what is V-WISE?

V-WISE is committed to women Veterans by providing them the tools to become successful entrepreneurs. Our goal is to integrate their leadership, integrity, focus and drive into a premier educational training program taught by accomplished entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship educators from across the United States. V-WISE enables women Veterans to find their passion and to learn the business-savvy skills to turn their ideas or businesses into a growth ventures. V-WISE recognizes entrepreneurship an important part of economic growth across the country and this program is the key for women Veterans to truly pursue their dreams and to make them a reality.

## the V-WISE story

Currently women represent about 15 percent of the active duty military, 16 percent of the reserves, and 20 percent of new recruits. Approximately 10 percent of the U.S. forces serving in Iraq and Afghanistan are women. The total women Veteran population in the United States and Puerto Rico is 1,824,198 (September 2009).

Women entrepreneurs face unique challenges in the marketplace based on balancing family and personal life with business. These challenges are compounded for women Veterans, many of whom have been isolated from the mainstream of the business community as a consequence of their service.

The V-WISE program represents a unique opportunity for female Veterans who have sacrificed for America's freedom to take an important step toward realizing their own freedom—economic freedom—through entrepreneurship.

## V-WISE is a three-phase program

### PHASE 1: What's first?

A **35-day online, self-study course** focused on the basic skills of entrepreneurship and the 'language of business.'

### PHASE 2: Ready, Set, Goal!

A **three-day conference** where participants are exposed to accomplished entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship educators from across the United States. The program includes two tracks of training; a 'growth track' tailored to those participants already in business, and a 'startup' track focused on potential future entrepreneurs. Courses include business planning, marketing, accounting/finance, operations/production, human resources and work life balance. (Online courses are a prerequisite to conference training.)

### PHASE 3: Keep Moving...

**Ongoing support and mentorship** delivered online and through a robust, comprehensive network of mentor partners.

## is V-WISE for me?

V-WISE is open to all female Veterans with a passion for entrepreneurship and the desire to start their own business. Applicants may have served in any branch of the military during any era. Participants must be able to complete the online component of the program and be able to travel to one of the mandatory conferences held at numerous times from spring 2011 through fall 2013.

## how do I apply?

Admission is on a rolling basis, and early application is highly encouraged. Selection is based on proof of Veteran status and demonstration of entrepreneurial passion on the application.

## what will it cost?

Participants are responsible for a one-time \$75 registration fee and their transportation to and from the on-site conference. Through the support of the U.S. Small Business Administration, all hotel and other conference fees for participants are covered.

For more details and to apply, please see [whitman.syr.edu/vwise](http://whitman.syr.edu/vwise)



What other women dream about,  
V-WISE women do!