

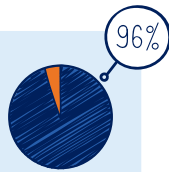
The Community Navigator Pilot Program Fact Sheet

The Community Navigator Pilot Program (CNPP) is an American Rescue Plan initiative launched by the Small Business Administration to reduce barriers that underrepresented and underserved entrepreneurs often face in accessing the programs needed to assist their business. Syracuse University's D'Aniello Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) and its curated network of 15 partners were selected as program grantees to help veteran and military-connected entrepreneurs navigate and access programs and resources to recover, grow or launch a business on the heels of the pandemic.

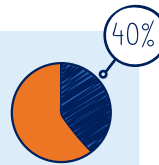
Navigating a complex entrepreneurial ecosystem

Veteran and military-connected entrepreneurs face many barriers to business success. According to IVMF's 2021 National Survey of Military-Affiliated Entrepreneurs, among veteran and military-connected entrepreneurs:

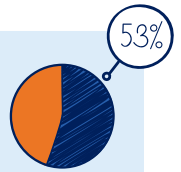
96% required initial start-up capital for their business and 92% needed funding to grow their business. Only 42% were able to secure the funding they needed.



40% do not feel that capital is readily available and 66% aren't aware of Community Development Financial Institutions resources.



53% find it difficult to cope with governmental bureaucracy and 44% expressed difficulty navigating resources in their local community.



The North Star

IVMF's CNPP is the North Star in a vast landscape of government, national and local resources. Program participants can receive assistance in five key areas that are central to establishing and running a thriving business, including business training and counseling, financial literacy and loan assistance, legal services, government contracting, and networking and mentorship. Partners provide a broad range of services, including but not limited to business operations and planning, capital readiness and credit counseling, grant and loan assistance and preparation, and corporate and federal contracting and procurement assistance.

If you are a veteran or military-connected entrepreneur who's ready to start living your American Dream of entrepreneurship but you're not sure where to start, reach out and IVMF will help you along your journey.

