

Diversity Digest Est. 2011

Insurance Diversity Initiative

Diversity & Inclusion Advance Forward Together

Visit our Website



Email us at Diversity@insurance.ca.gov about any events or updates you'd like to share with the Initiative and our stakeholders!

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.



**July - In Celebration
of Independence Day**

What's New



7TH ANNUAL INSURANCE DIVERSITY SUMMIT

HOSTED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018

THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT | LOS ANGELES

LOGIN

REGISTER

Summit Registration and Business Matchmaking Registration are Now Open!

Business Matchmaking Registration Closes Monday, August 20, 2018

Attend at No Cost | Register Now | Limited Spots Available

REGISTER

We are excited to announce that general and business matchmaking registration has opened for the [7th Annual Insurance Diversity Summit](#) that will be held on October 1 at the California Endowment in Los Angeles, CA.

The Annual Insurance Diversity Summit brings together key decision makers from the insurer supplier diversity and/or procurement teams, chief executives of diverse business enterprises, as well as supplier and governing board diversity advocates, stakeholders, and government agency representatives for a day of networking, sharing best practices, and cultivating meaningful relationships. In addition to business matchmaking, there will be a morning Resource Expo along with our diversity awards luncheon, afternoon workshops, Insurance Diversity Roundtable, and a networking reception. Continue to check the [website](#) frequently for any updates to the [program agenda](#).

BUSINESS MATCHMAKING WEBINARS:

Register for Business Matchmaking before the deadline of Monday, August 20, 2018. The California Department of Insurance will host two (2) Webinars for Insurers and two (2) Webinars for Diverse Suppliers on how to best prepare for the summit in order to maximize your business matchmaking sessions on the day of the summit. These webinars are facilitated by members of the Insurance Diversity Task Force alongside BrandGOV.



WEBINAR



WEBINAR

Insurer Webinar #1:
Tuesday, August 7th, 11:00 AM - Noon PST

Diverse Supplier Webinar #1:
Wednesday, August 8th, 10:00 - 11:00 AM PST

Insurer Webinar #2:
Wednesday, August 22nd, 10:00 - 11:00 AM PST

Diverse Supplier Webinar #2:
Thursday, August 23rd, 10:00 - 11:00 AM PST

Once you register for business matchmaking as an insurer or as a diverse supplier, you will receive a confirmation message. The information and details for your webinars will be emailed to you before the days they are scheduled. Remember, registration for business matchmaking closes much earlier than general registration for the summit. Schedule your matchmaking session and [register today!](#)



The theme for our 7th Annual Insurance Diversity Summit is “Pathways to Progress.”

The Diversity Summit offers workshops on governing board & supplier diversity, as well as educational resources and networking opportunities to create and illuminate the pathways to progress in fostering relationships between insurers & diverse suppliers or business enterprises, such as women-, minority-, LGBT-, and Disabled veteran-owned businesses.

Whether you are a diversity advocate or diverse business enterprise/supplier, the benefits of sponsorship are plentiful.

[2018 Sponsorship Prospectus](#)

- **Brand Awareness & Exposure** - It's no secret that greater exposure leads to greater brand awareness. Position your company for success by leveraging our Diversity Summit as a way to attract new and/or retain business opportunities.
- **Direct Promotion of Your Product/Service** - At the Diamond, Platinum, and Gold sponsorship levels, your company has the unique opportunity to directly promote your product and/or service to key decision makers in the insurance industry.
- **Support Diverse Businesses** - Your sponsorship enables you to help ensure that diverse business enterprises have an opportunity to compete in the marketplace.

Take a look at the [2018 Sponsorship Prospectus](#) to see what level of sponsorship you and your organization would like to commit to for this year's Summit. The success of our 7th Annual Insurance Diversity Summit depends on you! Without the generosity of our sponsors, the Summit would not be as successful as it has been year after year. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please complete the Sponsorship Agreement Form included with this [prospectus](#).



The 2018 WBENC National Conference & Business Fair was held in the thriving city of Detroit, Michigan. "The D" provided an excellent backdrop as attendees *Discover the Difference* that the WBENC community makes for women owned businesses.

There were a variety of exceptional educational and networking opportunities geared to the collective mission of women's business development. There were eleven workshop tracks, thought provoking speakers, MatchMakers, and a Business Fair that was 25% larger than the previous year's WBENC National Conference. This was three full days of discovering opportunities, building relationships, and celebrating the collective successes of WBENC members.



2018 Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) National Conference & Business Fair | Discover the Difference - Detroit, MI
 (Pictured L-R) Logan Wick (Power of Two Promotions) and Benjamin Phillips-Leseñana (Insurance Diversity Initiative)



CVM Solutions recently published its latest findings in the *State of Supplier Diversity Reports for Supplier Diversity Programs and Diverse Suppliers*. Among its key findings include the significance of certification agencies, among many other insights.

To obtain a PDF copy and read both of CVM Solutions' full reports, you may visit their website -- <https://info.cvm-solutions.com/download-the-2018-state-of-supplier-diversity-reports>.

Learn more about how your company can benefit from the data-driven research of CVM Solutions at our upcoming 7th Annual Insurance Diversity Summit in Los Angeles on Monday, October 1, 2018 during the workshop on "Diversity as a Business Imperative." [Register today!](#)

On July 12, Betsy Berkhemer-Credaire, CEO of 2020 Women on Boards, a national nonprofit dedicated to placing 20% of women directors on the corporate boards of the Russell 3000 public companies by the year 2020 spoke about the value of greater gender diversity among corporate governance during the event "Women on Boards: Why Gender Diversity Matters" hosted by Town Hall Los Angeles. Betsy was joined on stage by veteran board leader, Bonnie Hill, president of Hill Enterprises, LLC.

In Betsy's latest book, *The Board Game -- How Smart Women Become Corporate Directors*, which has sold more than 10,000 copies nationally, Betsy reveals how 58 women directors found corporate board seats. For 17 years, Betsy chaired the Los Angeles/Orange County chapter of Women Corporate Directors (WCD), a global nonprofit network of women serving on public and private boards.

Learn more about 2020 Women on Boards and meet Betsy Berkhemer-Credaire at our upcoming 7th Annual Insurance Diversity Summit in Los Angeles on Monday, October 1, 2018 where Betsy will join us as a panelist for our workshop on "Creating Pathways to Corporate Governance." [Register today!](#)



Women on Boards - Los Angeles, CA

(Pictured L-R) Chandara Phanachone (Director, Insurance Diversity Initiative), Betsy Berkhemer-Credaire, and Linda Akutagawa (Insurance Diversity Task Force member & CEO of Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc.)

**By Chad Otar, CEO of Excel Capital Management
Community Voice with Forbes Finance Council
(Originally published March 20, 2018)**

What is a VA business loan?

A veteran business loan is available through multiple sources and can be any type of financing that

veteran entrepreneurs receive, which are usually accompanied by business development tools. This debt financing can be used to gear veteran entrepreneurs in helping them grow their businesses.

Because of their time in the service, they often don't have the kind of capital that is needed to start or grow a small business, which can involve opening new locations, hiring new employees and so on. Like many business owners, they need access to viable funding options.

Who is eligible to receive VA loans?

Any veteran, active military personnel or service-disabled veteran is eligible to receive a VA loan. But, a veteran who received any kind of dishonorable discharge won't be able to apply for the loan program. However, if you are an active duty personnel or a retiree and within a predetermined timeframe from the date of separation or retirement, you may still be able to qualify for the Patriot Express Loan Program. Wives and widows of service members, along with National Guard and Reservists, are eligible for this as well.

What types of businesses are eligible to receive these loans?

A veteran must hold at least 51% ownership of the business to be eligible. As long as that criteria is met, almost any business can get some sort of financing or credit unless the business is a pyramid scheme or involved in either gambling or lending. Nonprofit businesses are also ineligible for these types of loans.

Now, let's get down to the nitty gritty and go over the ways you can get the financing you need for your business.

Starting Your Veteran Business Loan Search

With over 2.52 million businesses majority-owned by veterans as of the 2012 U.S. census, they make up a very prominent number in the world of small businesses.

And, like any other business owners, veterans require the necessary funds to start and grow their businesses. A major reason many veterans struggle to even start their businesses, however, is because they don't get the business financing they require. Luckily, there are several organizations dedicated to making the dreams of the people who really deserve it come true.

Where To Get Veteran Business Loans

Here are some programs offer business loans specifically for veteran-owned businesses.

1. Streetshares

Streetshares is an online financing marketplace built and run by veterans for veterans with small businesses. This platform connects veteran entrepreneurs with the right investors who can provide financing for their small businesses.

They have a simple application process to ensure applicants get the right investors for their businesses. They also offer pre-approvals within a matter of minutes, which can be a huge plus.

2. Military Reservist Economic Injury Loans

This is SBA-sponsored business loan program for veteran small business owners whose businesses took a hit when they had to go on active duty. If you are a small business owner who is in need of financing as a result of your active service, this program may be just what you need. With interest rates as low as 4%, this program just might be able to get your business up and running in no time. Their terms expand as much as 30 years, but bear in mind that you will need collateral for loans over \$50,000.

As mentioned above, this program is also not for all veterans. If you don't fit into this program's criteria, there are still other programs that might just be the right fit for you.

3. Veterans Business Fund

This is an up-and-coming organization that offers various funding options for veterans. The only downside is that Veterans Business Fund doesn't plan to cover the full amount. Rather, they will support any other loans you may have. They are not accepting applications just yet but are actively pursuing funding by way of donations with hopes to get the operation off the ground soon.

4. Hivers and Strivers

This is an angel investment group focused on providing early-round funding for startups. The only catch here is that you must be a graduate of a U.S. military academy in order to qualify.

As you can see there, are many options for veterans to obtain loans needed to start their businesses or get them back into solid financial shape. United, we support our troops.

Forbes Finance Council is an invitation-only organization for executives in successful accounting, financial planning and wealth management firms. Do I qualify?



Chad Otar, CEO and a Community Voice with Forbes Finance Council
[Excel Capital Management](#)

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Chad Otar is the CEO at Excel Capital Management, a one stop shop for business owners' financing needs. Excel Capital is an industry leader in providing financial products that are hard to obtain or unavailable through traditional lending channels. Excel capital offers the right source of capital for small business owners to finance day-to-day operations and invest into your company's growth. We understand that every businesses needs are different. We strive to accommodate each business according to its current valuation instead of analyzing historical data such as credit and company financials. This allows for a quick and easy transaction process where the businesses we provide capital receive the funds directly into their bank account in under 72 hours.

Reminders

**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN!**

www.2018insurancediversitysummit.com

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**7th Annual Insurance
Diversity Summit
Save the Date**

Monday, October 1, 2018
The California Endowment
1000 N. Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



**Do You Have an Insurance Supplier
Diversity Success Story?
We Want to Hear from You!**

Take 1-2 minutes to fill out our [Diversity Success Story Survey](#) or contact us directly at diversity@insurance.ca.gov.

Diversity Events Calendar: July/August 2018

California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce (CAPCC) - Diverse Suppliers Go Global: Strategies to Compete in the Global Marketplace
San Francisco, CA
July 12, 2018

Western Regional Minority Supplier Development Council (WRMSDC) - MBIC Meeting
Oakland, CA
Webinar
June 13, 2018

California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce (CAPCC) - BDP Workshop
Los Angeles, CA
July 17, 24 & 31, 2018

Women's Business Enterprise Council (WBEC) - West - WBE Connect Showcase
Culver City, CA
August 2, 2018

The National LGBT Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC) - International Business & Leadership Conference 2018
Philadelphia, PA
August 14-17, 2018

California Black Chamber of Commerce (CBCC) - The Ron Brown Business & Economic Summit
Irvine, CA
August 23 - 25, 2018

To submit a request for your Supplier Diversity or Governing Board Diversity-related event be added or to view upcoming events, please visit our [Diversity Events Calendar](#).

CALIFORNIA BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& CHAMBER FOUNDATION
PRESENTS

THE **RON BROWN BUSINESS
& ECONOMIC SUMMIT**



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OPPORTUNITIES
ON THE HORIZON
FOR BUSINESS GROWTH

August 23 - 25, 2018

Hilton Irvine | Orange County Airport
18800 MacArthur Boulevard | Irvine, CA 92612





California Black
Chamber of Commerce
DEDICATED TO ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

THE RON BROWN BUSINESS & ECONOMIC SUMMIT
WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM

Women *Succeeding in* **Technology**



August 23, 2018

Hilton Irvine | Orange County Airport
18800 MacArthur Boulevard | Irvine, CA 92612
www.calbcc.org



CALIFORNIA BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION



PRESENTS

THE 2018 BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC YOUTH SUMMIT



AUGUST 25, 2018

HILTON IRVINE | ORANGE COUNTY AIRPORT
18800 MacArthur Boulevard, Irvine, CA 92612

www.calbcc.org

NGLCC
LGBTUNITY
2018 INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS & LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE PHILADELPHIA
AUGUST 14-17



3 DAYS OF LGBT BUSINESS SUCCESS
OVER 1,200 ATTENDEES
200+ INCLUSIVE CORPORATIONS
OUTSTANDING KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
INCREDIBLE NETWORKING
THE BEST BUSINESS DECISION YOU WILL MAKE ALL YEAR



VISIT NGLCC.ORG/NGLCC18 TO LEARN MORE AND REGISTER

7TH ANNUAL INSURANCE DIVERSITY SUMMIT

HOSTED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018

THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT - 1000 N. ALAMEDA ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

REGISTER TODAY, LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

www.2018InsuranceDiversitySummit.com

Join us for the opportunity to meet hundreds of diverse suppliers, insurance industry leaders, stakeholders, and subject-matter experts to advance supplier diversity procurement programs and governing board diversity.

BUSINESS MATCHMAKING: Schedule your one-on-one session today.

➤ Matchmaking registration closes on Monday, August 20, 2018!

RESOURCE EXPO: Meet representatives from government agencies, insurance companies, diverse executive search firms, and businesses offering tools for success!

WORKSHOPS: Learn from subject-matter-experts on industry best practices in social media, procurement, corporate governance, expanding supplier diversity programs, and more!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Sponsorship Opportunities Still Available

California Department of Insurance | www.insurance.ca.gov/diversity | Email: diversity@insurance.ca.gov
Insurance Diversity Initiative: 300 Capitol Mall, 16th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

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The Insurance Diversity Initiative was established by Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones in 2011 to address diversity issues within California's \$310 billion insurance industry. Specifically, these efforts are meant to increase procurement from California's diverse suppliers, as well as to increase diversity amongst insurer governing boards. To accomplish these goals, the Department conducts outreach, creates partnerships, hosts events, and most importantly, administers surveys to collect and publicly disseminate information about the state of diversity in the insurance industry.

INSURANCE DIVERSITY INITIATIVE
Office of Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones
California Department of Insurance
(916) 492 3623
diversity@insurance.ca.gov
www.insurance.ca.gov/Diversity

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