

new application for admission to the program as soon as eligibility status is finalized. In cases in which the denial stemmed from ownership, control or size factors, the applicant may file as soon as identified issues have been corrected. Once an application and its appeal have been denied, the applicant will be required to wait for a period of 6 months before a new application will be considered.

§ 74.15 What length of time may a business participate in VetBiz VIP Verification?

(a) A participant receives an eligibility term of 1 year from the date of CVE's approval letter establishing verified status. The participant must maintain its eligibility during its tenure and must inform CVE of any changes that would adversely affect its eligibility. The eligibility term may be shortened by cancellation by CVE or voluntary withdrawal by the participant (*i.e.*, no longer eligible as a small business concern), as provided for in this subpart.

(b) When at least 50 percent of the assets of a concern are the same as those of an affiliated business, the concern will not be eligible for verification.

(c) CVE may initiate a verification examination whenever it receives credible information calling into the question a participant's eligibility as a VOSB. Upon its completion of the examination, CVE will issue a written decision regarding the continued eligibility status of the questioned participant.

(d) If CVE finds that the participant does not qualify as a VOSB, CVE will immediately remove the "verified" status of the firm from the VetBiz Vendor Information Pages database. CVE will call and mail the participant with specifics that led to the cancellation action. The participant may file a request for reconsideration of CVE's decision in accordance with § 74.13.

(e) If CVE finds that the participant continues to qualify as a VOSB, the program term remains in effect.

OVERSIGHT GUIDELINES

§ 74.20 What is a verification examination and what will CVE examine?

(a) *General.* A verification examination is an investigation by CVE officials, which verifies the accuracy of any statement or information provided as part of the VetBiz VIP Verification application process. Thus, examiners may verify that the concern currently meets the eligibility requirements, and that it met such requirements at the time of its application or its most recent size recertification. An examination may be conducted on a random basis, or upon receipt of specific and credible information alleging that a participant no longer meets eligibility requirements.

(b) *Scope of examination.* CVE may conduct the examination, or parts of the program examination, at one or all of the participant's offices. CVE will determine the location of the examination. Examiners may review any information related to the concern's eligibility requirements including, but not limited to, documentation related to the legal structure, ownership and control of the concern. As a minimum, examiners shall review all documents supporting the application, as described in § 74.12. These include: financial statements; Federal personal and business tax returns; personal history statements; and Request for Copy or Transcript of Tax Form (IRS Form 4506) for up to 3 years. Other documents, which may be reviewed include (if applicable): Articles of Incorporation/Organization; corporate by-laws or operating agreements; organizational, annual and board/member meeting records; stock ledgers and certificates; State-issued Certificates of Good Standing; contract, lease and loan agreements; payroll records; bank account signature cards; and licenses.

§ 74.21 What are the ways a business may exit VetBiz VIP Verification status?

A participant may:

(a) Voluntarily cancel its status by submitting a written request to CVE requesting that the "verified" status button be removed from the Vendor Information Pages database; or