



Pennsylvania  
Department of Military  
and Veterans Affairs

**BENEFITS  
AND SERVICES FOR  
VETERANS AND THEIR BENEFICIARIES  
IN PENNSYLVANIA**



**PENNSYLVANIA CARES FOR SERVICE MEMBERS,  
VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES**

[pa.gov/agencies/dmva](https://pa.gov/agencies/dmva)



## OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



### OUR MISSION

Our mission is to connect service members, veterans, and their families to local, state, and federal benefits, programs, recognition they have earned, and to provide the highest quality care to the residents of our Pennsylvania Veterans homes.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

DISABLED VETERANS REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION.....	3
VETERANS TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE.....	4
BLIND VETERANS PENSION .....	5
AMPUTEE AND PARALYZED VETERANS PENSION .....	5
EDUCATIONAL GRATUITY .....	6
PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS HOMES.....	7
PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS' TRUST FUND.....	9
HONORING OUR VETERANS LICENSE PLATE.....	10
WOMEN VETERANS LICENSE PLATE .....	10
DRIVERS LICENSE/ID CARD VETERANS DESIGNATION.....	11
PA VETCONNECT.....	12
MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.....	13
PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS' MEMORIAL .....	14
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER SUPPORT.....	15
VETERANS MOBILE OUTREACH .....	16
VETERANS REGISTRY.....	17
AWARDS FOR VALOR.....	17
DD FORM 214 PROGRAM.....	18
OTHER STATE BENEFITS.....	19
COUNTY DIRECTORS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.....	21



## **DISABLED VETERANS REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION**



Disabled veterans who are residents of Pennsylvania may be exempt from the payment of all real estate taxes levied upon their principal residence and the land upon which it sits, provided that all eligibility criteria is met.

### **Eligibility:**

- Must be a resident of Pennsylvania
- Honorable or Under Honorable Conditions Discharge
- Served during established periods of war, as determined by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, or other armed conflict
- Must be blind or paraplegic or have sustained the loss of two or more limbs, or to have service-connected disability declared by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs to be a total or 100% permanent disability
- Dwelling must be owned solely by the veteran, jointly with the veteran's spouse, or as an estate by the entireties
- Veteran must occupy the real estate as his/her principal dwelling
- Veteran must demonstrate a financial need
- Upon the death of a qualified veteran, tax exemption may pass on to the unmarried surviving spouse if financial need can be shown

### **Application:**

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside to apply for this program.

## **VETERANS TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE**

Provides temporary cash financial assistance to veterans and their dependents who reside in Pennsylvania for the necessities of life (food, shelter, fuel, clothing and medical expenses). If eligible, a veteran or their dependent can qualify for an amount not to exceed \$1,600 in a 12-month period.

### **Eligibility:**

- Must be a resident of Pennsylvania
- Must demonstrate a financial need
- Must show either an unexpected loss of income or increase in expenses that renders the applicant temporarily unable to provide themselves with the necessities of living
- Must have a discharge of Honorable or Under Honorable Conditions after a period of active duty, other than active duty for training or have a service-connected disability rating as certified by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs

### **Surviving Dependent Eligibility:**

- Upon the death of a veteran, his/her unmarried spouse, dependent child, or dependent parent is eligible provided the veteran would have qualified prior to his/her death
- Death Certificate for the veteran must be included with the application
- Must provide marriage certificate for spouse, birth certificate for children, and the veteran's birth certificate for parents

### **Application:**

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

## BLIND VETERANS PENSION

Provides for a pension of \$150 per month.

### Eligibility:

- Served in the military honorably
- Resident of Pennsylvania upon entering the military
- Suffered a service-related injury or incurred a disease which resulted in loss of vision:
  - Visual acuity with the best correcting lens is 3/60  
*or*  
10/200 or equivalent, of less normal vision in the better eye
  - Includes circumstances where the widest diameter of the visual field of the better eye has contracted to an angular distance of not greater than 20°

### Application:

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

## AMPUTEE AND PARALYZED VETERANS PENSION

Provides for a pension of \$150 per month.

### Eligibility:

- Served in the military honorably
- Resident of Pennsylvania upon entering the military
- Suffered a service-related injury or disease resulting in the loss or loss of use of two or more extremities
- At least 40% disability compensation rating or higher in each limb as determined by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs

### Application:

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

## **EDUCATIONAL GRATUITY**



The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provides financial assistance of up to \$500 per term/semester for up to eight semesters to the children of honorably discharged veterans who have service-connected disabilities and served during a period of war or armed conflict or children of veterans who died in service during a period of war or armed conflict.

### **Veteran Eligibility:**

- Died in service during a period of war or armed conflict,  
*or*
- Honorable Discharge
- Served during established war service dates as determined by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- Veteran must have a 100% permanent and total service-connected disability rating by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs

### **Child Eligibility:**

- Must be between the ages of 16 and 23, living within Pennsylvania five years prior to application and must attend an approved educational institution within the state
- Applicant must demonstrate a financial need

### **Application:**

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.



## PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS HOMES



Pennsylvania offers its eligible veterans or surviving spouses residency in one of the six extended-care facilities throughout the state. The varying levels of care provided include personal care, skilled nursing care, and memory care.

### Eligibility:

- Honorable Discharge
- Served in the U.S. or PA Armed Forces
- Resident at time of entry or current resident of Pennsylvania

### Application:

For detailed instructions on how to apply, visit [www.dmva.pa.gov](http://www.dmva.pa.gov) and click on “Veterans Homes” or call the Home you are interested in directly.



**Hollidaysburg Veterans' Home** (Hollidaysburg)

Phone: (814) 696-5201 / [www.hvh.pa.gov](http://www.hvh.pa.gov)

**Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home** (Erie)

Phone: (814) 878-4939 / [www.pssh.pa.gov](http://www.pssh.pa.gov)

**Southeastern Veterans' Center** (Spring City)

Phone: (610) 948-2400 / [www.sevc.pa.gov](http://www.sevc.pa.gov)

**Gino J. Merli Veterans' Center** (Scranton)

Phone: (570) 961-4300 / [www.gmvc.pa.gov](http://www.gmvc.pa.gov)

**Southwestern Veterans' Center** (Pittsburgh)

Phone: (412) 665-6706 / [www.swvc.pa.gov](http://www.swvc.pa.gov)

**Delaware Valley Veterans' Home** (Philadelphia)

Phone: (215) 856-2700 / [www.dvvh.pa.gov](http://www.dvvh.pa.gov)



**Activities at the Homes include:**

Fishing Tournaments

Sporting Events

Veterans Homes Week

River Boat Rides



**We are committed to fostering active lifestyles in the Pennsylvania Veterans Homes!**

## **THE PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS' TRUST FUND (VTF)**



### **Pennsylvania Veterans' Trust Fund**

The mission of the Veterans' Trust Fund (VTF) is to assist and support Pennsylvania veterans and their families. The VTF issues grants to statewide charitable organizations that assist veterans, Veterans Service Organizations and County Directors of Veterans Affairs, in need of shelter and necessities of living. Learn more at [pa.gov/agencies/dmva](http://pa.gov/agencies/dmva).

#### **Funding Sources:**

- Sale of "Honoring Our Veterans" and "Honoring Our Women Veterans" license plates
- Grants or gifts from public and private entities
- Voluntary contributions from people applying for or renewing their Pennsylvania driver's license/photo ID card and vehicle registration

Tax-deductible donations to the VTF can be made online by visiting [www.pa.gov/dmva/donate](http://www.pa.gov/dmva/donate), and selecting "Veterans' Trust Fund." You can also send a check or money order made payable to "Pennsylvania Veterans' Trust Fund" and mail to:

**Office of Veterans Affairs**  
Lickdale Veterans Outreach Center  
40 Fisher Avenue  
Jonestown, PA 17038-8202

State Employees can donate to the VTF through the State Employee Combined Appeal (SECA) by choosing charity #4401-0099

## HONORING OUR VETERANS LICENSE PLATE



You don't need to be a veteran to show your support of veterans by purchasing the "Honoring Our Veterans" license plate. This plate is available for motorcycles, passenger cars and light trucks up to 10,000 pounds. Fifteen dollars from the sale of each license plate goes to the Veterans' Trust Fund. Please refer to Form MV-914 (PDF) for pricing.



The "Honoring Our Women Veterans" registration plate became available on February 21, 2019. Fifteen dollars from every "Honoring Our Women Veterans" registration plate sold will benefit the Veterans' Trust Fund, which will be used for programs and resources that assist women veterans. Please refer to Form MV-914 (PDF) for pricing and to apply, "Application for Honoring Our Veterans Registration Plate."

### Application for Honoring Our Veterans License Plate / Honoring Womens Veteran:

To apply for this plate, complete Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation Form MV-914, "Application for Honoring Our Veterans License Plate" available at [www.dmv.state.pa.us/license\\_plates/special\\_fund.shtml](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/license_plates/special_fund.shtml).

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

## DRIVER'S LICENSE/ID CARD VETERANS DESIGNATION



The Veterans Designation on Pennsylvania driver's licenses and ID cards clearly identifies the bearer as a veteran, who honorably served their Nation and this Commonwealth.

### Application:

To apply for this designation, visit [www.pa.gov/services/dmv/apply-for-military-registration-plates.html](http://www.pa.gov/services/dmv/apply-for-military-registration-plates.html). Initial issuance, renewal or duplicate driver's license or identification card fees apply.

If you need assistance applying for this program, contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization.



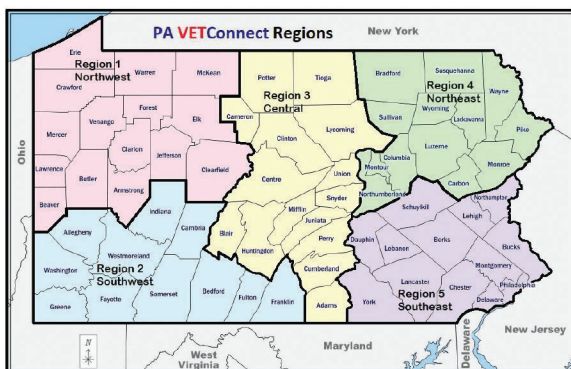


PA VETConnect is an exciting Regional Outreach Program by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA), Bureau of Programs, Initiatives, Reintegration and Outreach. A pathway to a better means of serving Pennsylvania's nearly 700,000 veterans, the objectives of PA VETConnect are simple:

determine the needs of veterans, find resources that meet those needs, and connect veterans with the right resources. Additionally, PA VETConnect will assist service members with reintegration into Pennsylvania communities following their military service. Through PA VETConnect, veteran advocates will have access to our information and referral (I&R) tool, compiled specifically to improve the lives of service members, veterans, and their families. This I&R tool is populated with valuable networking information thanks to extensive interagency coordination and partnerships with community organizations spearheaded by the DMVA.

Regional outreach staff is working in each of the five regions as our "Boots on the Ground" individuals who support the outreach team throughout the region, establish and maintain working relationships with community leaders and local/regional organizations, Veteran Service Organizations, local/county/state government agencies, and other community partners to gather information, and identify resources to facilitate the delivery of services to veterans and their beneficiaries.

For more information visit [pa.gov/agencies/dmva](http://pa.gov/agencies/dmva)



**RA-MVETCONNECT@PA.GOV**



## **MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MFRAP)**

Provides emergency financial assistance to eligible Pennsylvania service members and their eligible family members, and must have a direct and immediate financial need as a result of circumstances beyond their control.



### **Eligibility:**

The program applies to Pennsylvania residents who:

- Serve 30 or more consecutive days of active duty with the U.S. Armed Forces or its reserve components
- Serve 30 or more consecutive days of active duty or state active duty in the Pennsylvania Army or Air National Guard
- Are a member in good standing of any reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including the Pennsylvania National Guard, for a period of three years after release from a tour of active duty, authorized under Title 10 or Title 32, U.S. Code (other than active duty for training), of 30 or more consecutive days duration, when the need for assistance is directly related to the member's performance of active duty
- Are a member in good standing of the Pennsylvania National Guard for a period of three years after release from tour of state active duty of 30 or more consecutive days duration, when the need for assistance is directly related to the member's performance of state active duty
- Are a former member of the U.S. Armed Forces of the United States or its reserve components, including the Pennsylvania National Guard for a period of four years after a medical discharge for a medical disability incurred in Line of Duty and the reasons arising to the discharge did not exist prior to the member's military service, and meets the other requirements as shown in the Guidelines, Para 4 v. 1 through 6

### **Funding Source:**

- State Income Tax refund check off

### **Application:**

For detailed instructions on how to apply visit [pa.gov/services/dmva/apply-for-military-family-relief-assistance](https://pa.gov/services/dmva/apply-for-military-family-relief-assistance), call toll free (866) 292-7201, contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside, or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

## **THE PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS' MEMORIAL**



The Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial is located at the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Lebanon County, to honor Pennsylvania veterans of all eras.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to help maintain this Memorial, please send a check or money order made payable to "Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial Trust Fund" and mail to:

**DMVA Office of Veterans Affairs  
Lickdale Veterans Outreach Center  
40 Fisher Avenue  
Jonestown, PA 17038-8202**

To order an inscribed granite memorial cruciform to be placed at this Memorial visit [www.veterans.pa.gov](http://www.veterans.pa.gov), then select "Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial" or call toll-free (800) 547-2838.



## **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER SUPPORT**

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs offers support to veterans with their claims for state and federal benefits as well as supporting County Veterans Services Officers with their claims for veterans benefits. Veterans may call any of our field offices to speak with an accredited Veterans Service Officer.

### **Fort Indiantown Gap**

**Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**

Lickdale Veterans Outreach Center

40 Fisher Avenue

Jonestown, PA 17038-8202

Phone: (717) 861-8910

Fax: (717) 861-8121

Toll Free: (800) 547-2838

### **Philadelphia Field Office**

**Veterans Administration Center**

5000 Wissahickon Ave.

Philadelphia, PA 19144-2938

Phone: (215) 381-3040

Fax: (215) 381-3492

Toll Free: (866) 754-8637



### **Pittsburgh Field Office**

**William S. Moorhead Federal Building**

1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1612

Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4003

Phone: (412) 395-6193

Fax: (412) 395-6224

Toll Free: (866) 754-8636

Veterans Service Organizations are also available to provide assistance with claims for benefits. Service Organizations do not require membership to provide claims assistance.

**You Will Never Be Charged For Assistance!**



## **MOBILE VSO OUTREACH TEAM**



Accredited Veterans Service Officers will provide information and assistance to veterans and family members who may be eligible for benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Such benefits might include service-connected disability compensation, improved pensions, death pensions, VA health care benefits, burial benefits, education benefits, vocational rehabilitation and much more.

In order to request a van for your event, please complete the Mobile VSO Outreach Team Request Form and submit it six months but not less than 45 days prior to your event using the email, fax number or address listed on this page. Every effort will be made to fulfill your organization's request; however, due to demand we cannot guarantee every request. If alternate dates are available please indicate this on the form.

Requests with less than a 30-day turnaround will be handled on a space available basis only. We will notify you as soon as possible if we can grant your request.

### **Contact Us:**

**Mobile VSO Outreach Team**  
Lickdale Veterans Outreach Center  
40 Fisher Avenue  
Jonestown, PA 17038-8202

Phone: (717) 861-8195  
Fax: (717) 861-8121  
Email: RA-VA-Info@pa.gov

## **VETERANS REGISTRY**

The PA VETERANS REGISTRY — [www.register.dmva.pa.gov](http://www.register.dmva.pa.gov) — is an online application that allows veterans, family members and people who work with veterans to connect with DMVA to request information related to the valuable state benefits, programs and services offered. All registrants' information will be shared with other Commonwealth of Pennsylvania agencies in order to facilitate local connections. By connecting with DMVA through the Registry, registrants can also opt-in to receive ongoing communications, such as the weekly Together We Serve online publication (most recent issue can also be found at [www.register.dmva.pa.gov](http://www.register.dmva.pa.gov)), breaking news, and other updates.

## **MILITARY AWARDS FOR VALOR**



America has a time-honored tradition of recognizing the acts of valor performed by Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Guardians and Coast Guardsmen. The lists included at <http://valor.defense.gov>. Share in this tradition and honor those individuals awarded our nation's most prestigious valor awards.



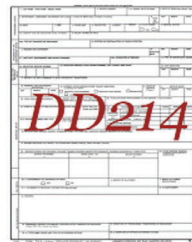
## **DD FORM 214 PROGRAM & RECORDS REQUEST PROGRAM**

Documents so important as these should be kept in a safe place. We highly recommend that veterans record their discharges/ DD Form 214s (DD-214s) with their County Courthouse so they are able to obtain free certified copies for the remainder of their life and so they are available to next of kin upon their death. The DD-214 provides the member and the service with a concise record of a period of service with the Armed Forces at the time of the member's separation, discharge or change in military status. In addition, the form is an authoritative source of information for both governmental agencies and the Armed Forces for purposes of employment, benefit and reenlistment data. If you do not currently have a copy of your Certificate of Release or Discharge, DD-214, now is the time to obtain it before you need it.

### **PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL GUARD RECORDS**

Pennsylvania Army and Air National Guard maintain a state file of service after 1985. Information from these state files varies but should include records of enlistment, discharge and other administrative actions. The veteran or next of kin of a deceased veteran can obtain copies of available information by providing a Record Request Form, mailed to:

**PA Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Attention: Guard Retirement  
Services (Insert ARMY or AIR)  
Bldg. 14-99, Fort Indiantown Gap  
Annville, PA 17003-5002



Questions about Pennsylvania ARMY National Guard records requests can be directed to (717) 861-8910, option 2. Questions about Pennsylvania AIR National Guard records requests can be directed to (717) 861-8910, option 2. The Pennsylvania State Archives Maintains evidence of service for Pennsylvania Military units during the period 1775-1985.

## OTHER STATE BENEFITS

### State Educational Grants and Financial Aid for Veteran

Toll Free: (800) 692-7392

### Veterans Preference in State Civil Service

Civil Service Commission

Phone: (717) 783-6655

### Birth and Death Records

Division of Vital Records

Phone: (724) 656-3100

### Veterans License Plates/Placards/License

Department of Transportation

Toll Free: (800) 932-4600

### Veterans Preference in State Civil Service

Contact a Veterans Employment Representative at a Pennsylvania CareerLink office for free job counseling, training referrals, and placement services for veterans.

**Free Hunting/Fishing/Fur Trapper License for Certain Disabled Veterans** Application can be made at your county treasurer

**Antlerless Deer License** Application can be made at a county treasurer of their choice, regardless of the county allocation.

## SPREAD THE WORD

24/7, confidential crisis support for veterans and their loved ones is available.



[illegible]

## COUNTY DIRECTORS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

COUNTY	OFFICE PHONE	COUNTY	OFFICE PHONE
Adams	717-337-9835	Lackawanna	570-963-6778
Allegheny	412-621-4357	Lancaster	717-299-7920
Armstrong	724-548-3441	Lawrence	724-656-2180
Beaver	724-770-4452	Lebanon	717-228-4422
Bedford	814-623-4848	Lehigh	610-782-3295
Berks	610-378-5601	Luzerne	570-706-3960
Blair	814-693-3160	Lycoming	570-706-3960
Bradford	570-265-1704	McKean	814-887-3241
Bucks	215-345-3307	Mercer	724-662-7511/7512
Butler	724-284-5352	Mifflin	717-248-6421
Cambria	814-472-1590	Monroe	570-517-3187
Cameron	814-389-5972	Montgomery	215-990-3251
Carbon	570-325-3986	Montour	570-271-3061
Centre	814-355-6812	Northampton	610-829-4875
Chester	610-344-6375	Northumberland	570-495-2395
Clarion	814-226-4000 x2601	Perry	717-582-5133
Clearfield	814-765-2642	Philadelphia	215-686-3256
Clinton	570-893-4339	Pike	570-296-3563
Columbia	570-387-6501	Potter	814-274-8260 x210
Crawford	814-333-7314	Schuylkill	570-628-1400
Cumberland	717-240-6178	Snyder	570-374-0181
Dauphin	717-780-6356/6357	Somerset	814-445-1551
Delaware	610-891-4646	Sullivan	570-946-7677
Elk	814-776-5370	Susquehanna	570-278-5955
Erie	814-451-6270	Tioga	570-723-8141
Fayette	724-430-1241	Union	570-524-8676
Forest	814-755-3404	Venango	814-432-9225
Franklin	717-263-4326	Warren	814-728-3478
Fulton	717-485-6873	Washington	724-830-3530
Greene	724-852-5275	Wayne	570-253-5970 x3114
Huntingdon	814-643-1360	Westmoreland	724-830-3530
Indiana	724-465-3815	Wyoming	570-996-2258
Jefferson	814-849-3618	York	717-771-9218
Juniata	717-436-7728		



Pennsylvania  
**Department of Military  
and Veterans Affairs**

**OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Main Office**

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs  
Building 9-26, Sheldon Street  
Fort Indiantown Gap  
Annville, PA 17003-5002  
Phone: (717) 861-8910  
Fax: (717) 861-8589/9084  
Toll Free: (800) 547-2838

**Philadelphia Field Office**

Veterans Administration Center  
5000 Wissahickon Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19144  
Phone: (215) 381-3040  
Fax: (215) 381-3492  
Toll Free: (866) 754-8637

**Pittsburgh Field Office**

Wm. S. Moorhead Federal Building  
1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1612  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4003  
Phone: (412) 395-6193  
Fax: (412) 395-6224  
Toll Free: (866) 754-8636