BENEFITS AND SERVICES FOR VETERANS AND THEIR BENEFICIARIES IN PENNSYLVANIA

PENNSYLVANIA CARES FOR ITS VETERANS, THEIR SPOUSES AND CHILDREN.

www.dmva.pa.gov
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

OUR MISSION

To increase awareness of all benefits for Pennsylvania Veterans and their dependents, to provide the best advice and assistance in obtaining benefits and to provide the highest quality care to the residents of our state Veterans’ Homes.

www.veterans.pa.gov
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disabled Veterans’ Real Estate Tax Exemption</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans’ Temporary Assistance</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blind Veterans’ Pension</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amputee and Paralyzed Veterans’ Pension</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Gratuity</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans’ Bonus</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Veterans’ Homes</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Veterans’ Trust Fund</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honoring Our Veterans License Plate</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drivers License/ID Card Veterans Designation</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Family Relief Assistance Program</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Veterans’ Memorial</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Service Officer Support</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Mobile Outreach</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Registry</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards for Valor</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DD 214/215 Program</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other State Benefits</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Directors of Veterans Affairs</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[www.veterans.pa.gov](http://www.veterans.pa.gov)
DISABLED VETERANS’ REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION

Any honorably discharged Veteran who is a resident of Pennsylvania shall be exempt from the payment of all real estate taxes levied upon any building, including up to five acres of land upon which it stands, provided that all eligibility criteria is met.

Eligibility:

- Must be a resident of Pennsylvania
- Honorable Discharge
- Served during established war service dates as determined by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- Must be blind or paraplegic or has sustained the loss of two or more limbs, or has a service-connected disability declared by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs to be a total or 100% permanent disability
- Dwelling is owned solely by the Veteran or as an estate in the entirety
- 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 financial aid to Veterans and their beneficiaries who reside in Pennsylvania for the necessities of life (food, shelter, fuel, clothing and medical expenses). If eligible, a Veteran or their beneficiary can qualify for an amount not to exceed $1,600 in a twelve month period.

Eligibility:

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

Surviving Dependent Eligibility:

- Upon the recent death of a Veteran, their unmarried spouse 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, or 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 PA upon entering the military
- Suffered a service connected 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. Department 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 (up to $500 per term/semester up to eight semesters) to 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 die or 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 school 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.
**PERSIAN GULF CONFLICT VETERANS’ BONUS**

**Deadline to apply is August 31, 2018**

The program provides for compensation to be paid to eligible service members (current and former) as well as certain surviving relatives of deceased Veterans who served in Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

**Eligibility:**

- Served with the U.S. Armed Forces, a reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania National Guard
- Served on active duty in the Persian Gulf theater of operations during the period from Aug. 2, 1990 to Aug. 31, 1991, and received the Southwest Asia Service Medal
- Been a legal resident of Pennsylvania at the time of active duty service
- Been discharged from active duty under honorable conditions, if not currently on active duty

**Application:**

For detailed instructions on how to apply, visit: [www.persiangulfbonus.pa.gov](http://www.persiangulfbonus.pa.gov), call toll free (866) 458-9182, 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.
STATE VETERANS’ HOMES

Pennsylvania offers its eligible Veterans or surviving spouses six extended care facilities throughout the state. The level of care provided includes personal care, skilled nursing care, and dementia 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 and click on ‘State Veterans Homes’ or call the Home you are interested in directly:

- **Hollidaysburg Veterans’ Home** (Hollidaysburg)
  Phone: (814) 696-5201 / www.hvh.pa.gov

- **Pennsylvania Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Home** (Erie)
  Phone: (814) 871-4531 / www.pssh.pa.gov

- **Southeastern Veterans’ Center** (Spring City)
  Phone: (610) 948-2400 / www.sevc.pa.gov

- **Gino J. Merli Veterans’ Center** (Scranton)
  Phone: (570) 961-4300 / www.gmvc.pa.gov

- **Southwestern Veterans’ Center** (Pittsburgh)
  Phone: (412) 665-6706 / www.swvc.pa.gov

- **Delaware Valley Veterans’ Home** (Philadelphia)
  Phone: (215) 856-2700 / www.dvvh.pa.gov

You can also 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 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 to assist Veterans in need of shelter and necessities of living. Learn more at [www.vtf.pa.gov](http://www.vtf.pa.gov).

**Funding Sources:**

- Sale of ‘Honoring Our Veterans’ license plates
- Grants or gifts from public and private entities
- Voluntary $3 contributions from people applying for or renewing their Pennsylvania driver’s license/photo ID card and vehicle registration.

If you would like to make a contribution to the VTF, please send a check or money order made payable to “Pennsylvania Veterans’ Trust Fund” and mail to:

**DMVA Office for Veterans Affairs**
Bldg. 0-47 Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002

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 and costs $35. Fifteen dollars from the sale of each license plate goes to the Veterans’ Trust Fund.

Application:
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.

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.dmv.state.pa.us/militaryCenter/veterans-designation.shtml Initial issuance, renewal or duplicate driver’s license or identification card fees apply.

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.

www.veterans.pa.gov
MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MFRAP)

Provides emergency financial assistance to eligible PA 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 PA Army or Air National Guard
- Are a member in good standing of any reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including the PA 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 PA National Guard for a period of three years after release from a 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 PA 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 www.mfrap.pa.gov, 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 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 for Veterans Affairs
Bldg. 0-47 Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002

To order an inscribed granite memorial cruciform to be placed at this Memorial visit 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**  
Edward Martin Hall, Fort Indiantown Gap  
Annville, PA 17003-5002  
Phone: (717) 861-8910  
Fax: (717) 861-8589  
Toll Free: (800) 547-2838

**Philadelphia Field Office**  
**Veterans Administration Center**  
P.O. Box 42938  
Philadelphia, PA 19101-2938  
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) 395-6225  
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!**
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 Van 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.

To park and set up the Mobile Veterans Outreach Van an area of 40 feet by 15 feet is required. To avoid the need of running the generator a 30-AMP electrical service is required (RV connection) if possible.

Contact Us:
Mobile Veterans Outreach Van
DVMA Office for Veterans Affairs
Bldg. 0-47 Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002
Phone: (717) 861-8905
FAX: (717) 861-8589
Email: RA-MVOOUTREACH@pa.gov
VETERANS REGISTRY

The PA VETERANS REGISTRY— 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, registrants can also opt-in to receive timely communications such as newsletters, press releases and program updates. The PA VETERANS REGISTRY is DMVA’s first step in a long-term strategy to achieve a higher level of communication with our veterans as well as our partners who support them.

MILITARY AWARDS FOR VALOR

America has a time-honored tradition of recognizing the acts of valor performed by Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. 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 214/215 PROGRAM & RECORDS
REQUEST PROGRAM

Documents so important as these should be kept in a safe place. We highly recommend that veterans record their discharges/DD214s 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 Form 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) 861-9430

Questions about Pennsylvania AIR National Guard records requests can be directed to (717) 861-8624.

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 Veterans
Toll Free: (800) 692-7392

Veterans Preference in State Civil Service
Civil Service Commission
Phone: (717) 787-6039

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 Employment
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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY</th>
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<td>717-780-6356/6357</td>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>814-445-1551</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
<td>610-891-4646</td>
<td>Sullivan</td>
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<td>Erie</td>
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<td>717-771-9218</td>
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OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

Main Office
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Edward Martin Hall, Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002
Phone: (717) 861-8910
Fax: (717) 861-8589
Toll Free: (800) 547-2838

Philadelphia Field Office
Veterans Administration Center
P.O. Box 42938
Philadelphia, PA 19101-2938
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) 395-6225
Fax: (412) 395-6224
Toll Free: (866) 754-8636

www.veterans.pa.gov
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