

# VIRGINIA VETERANS RESOURCE GUIDE

www.dvs.virginia.gov

# VETERANS, VIRGINIA WANTS TO SERVE YOU



**Virginia Department of Veterans Services** 

Contact us at 804-786-0286, visit www.dvs.virginia.gov or download the DVS app from Google Play or iTunes by searching for "Virginia Veterans".









## **COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE**

Veterans,

Virginia wants to serve you! This Veterans Resource Guide is your roadmap to veterans benefits in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is filled with useful information on the programs and services offered by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) and other state agencies.

We are very proud of all the innovative programs and services we offer. In this guide, you will read about:

- Our network of 34 benefits offices, stretching from Accomac to Big Stone Gap, which will help you access the federal and state veterans benefits you have earned through service and sacrifice;
- The Virginia Veteran and Family Support (VVFS) program, which monitors and coordinates behavioral health, rehabilitative, and supportive services through an integrated and responsive system of care;
- How DVS helps connect you to the 1,000 world class programs in Virginia that are certified for GI Bill<sup>®</sup> use;
- Our Military Medics and Corpsmen (MMAC) program, which helps put highly-skilled military medical professionals on an express track to employment in hospital and health care settings;
- The Virginia Transition Assistance Program (VTAP) and the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) program, which connect veterans with employers who understand and appreciate the value of your military service;
- Our veterans care centers, which offer in-patient skilled nursing, memory, and short-term rehabilitation care;
- How DVS provides an honored final resting place for veterans and their families at three state veterans cemeteries;
- The Virginia War Memorial, the Commonwealth's tribute to Virginia's men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice from World War II to the present;
- How to get a Veteran Indicator on your driver's license, or how to buy one of the more than 50 military and veterans license plates offered by the DMV;
- Legal assistance offered by the Office of the Attorney General and through our colleges and universities;
- Employment assistance offered by the Virginia Employment Commission; and
- Much more!

Virginia is home to over 700,000 veterans. You are leaders in our businesses, our schools, and our communities. You are our friends and our neighbors. You are living examples of service, of sacrifice, and of teamwork. You are our inspiration.

You served us - now it is our turn to serve you.

John Maxwell Commissioner Virginia Department of Veterans Services This Resource Guide is provided and published by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services to educate Virginia's veterans and their families about state veterans benefits. Veterans may also access information online at **www.dvs.virginia.gov** or by downloading the DVS mobile app.



Carlos Hopkins SECRETARY OF VETERANS AND DEFENSE AFFAIRS

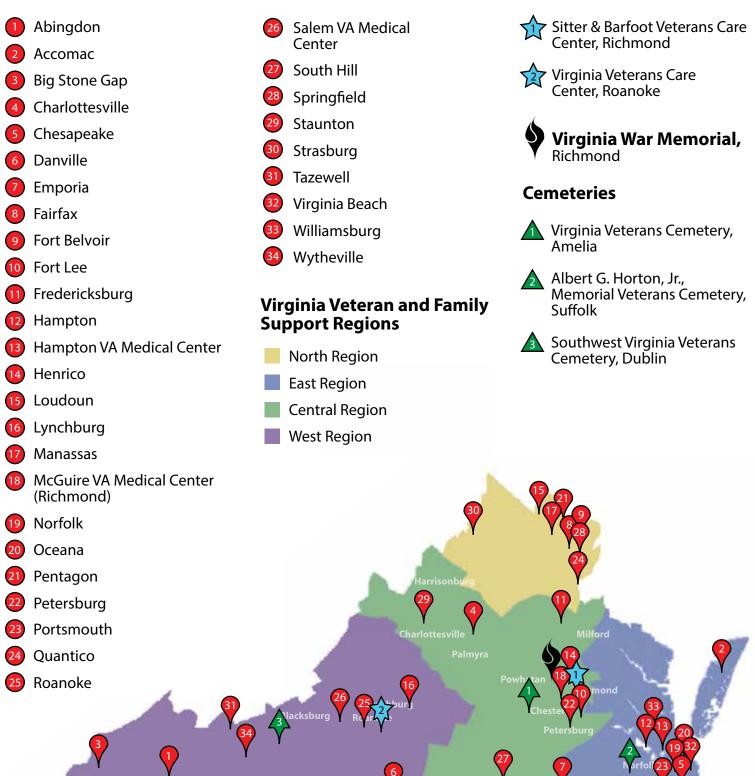


John Maxwell Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services

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Virginia Values Veterans V3 Program



## Helping Employers Hire, Train and Retain Veterans

Businesses often ask, "Why should I hire a Veteran?" and "Where can I find Veterans to hire?" The Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program helps employers understand why hiring Veterans can be one of the best business decisions they make. In Virginia, Veterans are an integral solution to filling in-demand jobs and contributing to positive economic growth.

### **Educate - Train - Connect**

The V3 Program provides education, training and connectivity resources to assist companies recruit, hire, and retain a highly-skilled, well-educated, and easily-trained

leadership talent pool: Virginia's Veterans. The Virginia Department of Veterans Services is fully engaged in this venture with a firm confidence that hiring Veterans is not just the right thing to do - understanding who Veterans are and hiring them will increase organizational productivity and efficiency.

Hundreds of V3 Member companies have committed to hiring transitioning service members and Veterans. Companies who have completed all training requirements are recognized as official "V3-Certified Companies," and are awarded a certificate from the Governor of Virginia.

#### **Job Seekers**

If you are a Veteran, transitioning service member or serving member of the National Guard or Reserves, and want to know how you can connect with companies that value your service and potential contributions to their company, visit www.dvsV3.com/job-seekers and contact the Virginia Transition Assistance Program to learn about employment opportunities.

#### **Veteran Employment Grant**

V3-certified employers may also be eligible for up to \$10,000 in grants through the V3 Program for hiring and retaining Veterans in Virginia. For more information on corporate membership in the V3 Program, grant criteria and application visit www.dvsV3.com/v3grant.

To learn more visit www.dvsV3.com or call (804) 371-2683



## HELPING TRANSITIONING SERVICE MEMBERS AND FAMILIES

#### **Mission:**

The mission of the Virginia Transition Assistance Program (VTAP) is to assess, coordinate, and disseminate opportunities for members of the armed forces and their spouses transitioning from military to civilian life, thereby providing pathways to employment, education, and entrepreneurship.

#### **Key Activities:**

- **Peer to Peer** support to transitioning service members and their spouses through assessments, personalized career coaching, referrals, and a variety of career networking opportunities
- Outreach for the Commonwealth of Virginia, answering the question "Why Virginia?"
- **Partnerships** with federal, state, local, nonprofit, and employers to provide the best possible resources to our service members and spouses by certified career coaches

## For more information on career coaching services or employment and transition workshops hosted by the VTAP team, e-mail us at vtap@dvs.virginia.gov, call us at (804) 786-8060, or visit our website at www.dvs.virginia.gov under Veterans Education, Transition, and Employment.

## HIRE VETS NOW NETWORKING AND HIRING EVENTS

Virginia's HIRE VETS NOW brings together transitioning service members, veterans, military spouses and dedicated V3 certified businesses to share in camaraderie, professional development and career networking. Hosted by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services, Virginia Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and Transition Assistance Offices on military installations, these events offer opportunities to connect with Virginia companies looking to hire you!

#### For more information, please visit www.vachamber.com/hirevets.

## HIRE VETS NOW Fellowship Program

The Hire Vets Now Fellowship Program (HVNFP) is the only state-run DoD Approved Skillbridge Program. Collaborating with Virginia Value Veterans certified companies and state agencies, the HVNFP offers transitioning service members the opportunity to participate in an internship. Through their participation, service members gain valuable real-world experience, preparing them for entry into the civilian sector.

## For more information, please visit: https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/education-employment/ virginia-transition-assistance-program-vtap.











## YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

#### REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer:
- you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

#### **RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION**

#### If you:

- ☆ are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- are obligated to serve in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you:

- ☆ initial employment;
- ☆ reemployment;
- retention in employment;
- promotion; or
- any benefit of employment

because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION

- If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

#### ENFORCEMENT

- The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.
- For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at 1-866-4-USA-DOL or visit its website at http://www.dol.gov/vets. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at http://www.dol.gov/elaws/userra.htm.
- If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.
- You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the internet at this address: http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/poster.htm. Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees.



U.S. Department of Labor 1-866-487-2365



U.S. Department of Justice



1-800-336-4590

Office of Special Counsel

Publication Date-October 2008



## **Military Medics and Corpsmen Program**



Virginia is the first state to offer this kind of innovative pathway for these highly skilled veterans. As a clear path to employment and education, MMAC draws veterans to Virginia from across the globe. MMAC is people and organizations coming together as a team to serve the citizens and employers of the Commonwealth <u>and</u> those who served our country: *that's teamwork at its best*.

# MEDICS AND CORPSMEN: YOUR PATH IS CLEAR!

Military medics and corpsmen receive extensive and invaluable health care training and experience while on active duty. When they leave the service, many medics and corpsmen find their military healthcare training does not translate into the licenses required for civilian healthcare jobs. Many face the challenge of being unemployed, underemployed or not working in the indemand healthcare field. The Military Medics and Corpsmen Program (MMAC) addresses these challenges by providing veterans employment and educational pathways, offsetting healthcare staffing shortages and supporting quality patient care in Virginia.

MMAC works with major Virginia health care employers to facilitate the hiring of medics and corpsmen upon completion of their military service. MMAC recruits, reviews and refers candidates to MMAC Partner Healthcare Systems. The program provides employment and educational opportunities for qualified veterans to apply their extensive clinical skills and experience under supervision while they obtain required civilian clinical licensure.



To learn more visit www.dvs.virginia.gov or call (804) 482-8528



## FINDING EMPLOYMENT

In addition to services provided by DVS, veterans are eligible for job referral, job training and job placement assistance through the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC). Veterans may access these employment services through a statewide network of VEC offices. The VEC also work with those that are currently transitioning out of the military.

#### **Employment Services for Veterans**

- Job readiness assessment, including interviews and testing;
- Development of an Individual Employment Plan;
- Career counseling that helps veterans in making training and career decisions;
- Labor market and occupational information, to include training;
- Referral to job banks, job portals, and job openings;
- Referral to employers and registered apprenticeship sponsors;
- Referral to training by WIA-funded or third party service providers; and
- Monthly follow-up by an assigned case manager for up to six months.

#### Find a Job

Register as a Job Seeker with the Virginia Workforce Connection for access to all the services available and so you can find a job and Employers can FIND YOU! You will find Job Search, Career Information, Training Opportunities, Skill requirements, Labor Market Information including Wage data, Industry and Occupational trends. Register at www.vawc.virginia.gov.

#### To learn more visit www.vec.virginia.gov or call (866) 832-2363

## **HIRING PREFERENCE IN STATE GOVERNMENT**

The Commonwealth of Virginia and Virginia localities give preference to honorably discharged veterans of the armed forces of the United States in its employment hiring policies and practices, provided that such veteran meets all of the knowledge, skills and eligibility requirements for the available position. Additional consideration is also given to veterans who have a service connected disability rating fixed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The Commonwealth of Virginia extends its veterans hiring preference to active members of the Virginia National Guard as well. The surviving spouse and dependents of service members killed in action are also entitled to the hiring preference.

### For more details visit jobs.virginia.gov/veteranshiringresources.html

## **WOMEN VETERANS RESOURCES**

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services and partners host the annual Virginia Women Veterans Summit whose mission is to empower women veterans with the knowledge and resources needed to smoothly transition into civilian life and improve overall wellness. This event brings together veterans, employers, community leaders and government agencies from the federal, state, and local levels to raise awareness about the services and benefits offered specifically for women veterans through expert presenters, breakout sessions and exhibits.





Virginia's Women Veteran Program (VWVP) provides access to community resources to educate, unify, and empower Virginia's women veterans, who have served in the military in all eras; by ensuring they receive timely yet appropriate transition and benefits support; employment and education outreach; health and community advocacy.

## For more details and resources visit dvs.virginia.gov/education-employment/virginia-women-veterans

## Using GI Bill<sup>®</sup> Benefits in Virginia

The State Approving Agency of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services has approved approximately 1,000 educational and training programs where veterans may utilize their GI Bill<sup>®</sup> benefits. From apprenticeships to community colleges to four year universities, Virginia offers an array of technical and academic choices.

## To see the current list of GI Bill<sup>®</sup> approved programs visit: www.dvs.virginia.gov/educationemployment/state-approving-agency



\* GI Bill<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill.



Credits2Careers (**www.credits2careers.org**) is a free academic and career portal, designed specifically for prospective military and veteran students. The portal presents multiple academic pathways for veterans based on their military experience and allows them to see potential prior credit awards before applying to a Virginia Community College System (VCCS) school. The portal also provides an opportunity to explore career paths and resources related to the certifications that will be important for a particular career.



The Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Programs (VMSDEP) is a Commonwealth of Virginia program which provides education benefits to spouses and children of military service members killed, missing in action, taken prisoner, or who became totally and permanently disabled or at least 90 percent permanently disabled as a result of military service. Military service includes service in the United States Armed Forces, United States Armed Forces Reserves, or the Virginia National Guard.

## To learn more visit www.dvs.virginia.gov or call (804) 225-2083



## **CONNECTING VETERANS TO EARNED BENEFITS**

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services advocates for Virginia veterans and connects them to benefits and services they have earned. Information on current federal, state and local veterans' programs, entitlements and referral services are available in Virginia through a network of 34 benefit service offices (www.dvs.virginia.gov/benefits). All services are provided free of charge. For additional information visit www.dvs.virginia.gov/benefits or one of the offices on the following page.

Eligibility for most federal and state benefits is based on discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Active service means full-time service as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or as a commissioned officer of the public health service, the Environmental Services Administration, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Current and former members of the Selected Reserve and National Guard may be eligible for certain benefits, such as home loan guaranties and education, if they meet time-in-service and other criteria.

The eligibility policy is set by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. To determine potential eligibility for such benefits go to http://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/Applying.asp or visit one of the offices listed on the following page.



To learn more visit www.dvs.virginia.gov/benefits or call (804) 786-0286

## Contact your local benefits office to determine how VDVS can best serve YOU

- ABINGDON BENEFITS OFFICE (276) 623-0070 100 Abingdon Pl., Suite 202, Abingdon VA 24211
- ACCOMAC BENEFITS OFFICE (757) 787-5862
   23365 Front St., Suite B, P.O. Box 7, Accomac, VA 23301
- **BIG STONE GAP BENEFITS OFFICE** (276) 523-1411 322 Cloverleaf Squ., Suite E-1, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
- CHARLOTTESVILLE BENEFITS OFFICE (434) 529-6431 1430 Rolkin Ct., Suite 202, Charlottesville, VA 22911
- CHESAPEAKE BENEFITS OFFICE (757) 822-5298 Tidewater Community College, Pass Building 1428 Cedar Rd., Room 158, Chesapeake, VA 23322
- DANVILLE BENEFITS (804) 774-8135 and (804) 773-0917 PO Box 10682, Danville, VA 24543
- EMPORIA BENEFITS OFFICE (434) 829-6386 1746 Atlantic St. E, Room 103, Emporia, VA 23847
- FAIRFAX BENEFITS OFFICE (703) 359-1210 9990 Fairfax Blvd., Suite 120, Fairfax, VA 22030
- FORT BELVOIR BENEFITS OFFICE (703) 704-5795 9625 Middleton Rd., Bldg. 1189, Rooms DH124 and DH125, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060
- FORT LEE BENEFITS OFFICE (804) 734-7750 Soldier/Civilian Support Center, Retirement Services' Office 1401 B Ave., Bldg 3400, Room 107A, Fort Lee, VA 23801
- FREDERICKSBURG BENEFITS OFFICE (540) 376-7298 10300 Spotsylvania Ave., Lee Hill Building 1, Suite 290, Fredericksburg, VA 22408
- HAMPTON BENEFITS OFFICE (757) 825-7893 2101 Executive Dr., Ste. 420, Tower Box 48, Hampton, VA 23666
- HAMPTON VAMC BENEFITS OFFICE (757) 722-9961 ext. 2940 100 Emancipation Dr., Building 43, Room 114, Hampton, VA 23667
- HENRICO BENEFITS OFFICE (804) 952-6112 121 Cedar Fork Rd., Room 412, Henrico, VA 23223
- LOUDOUN BENEFITS OFFICE (703) 995-9998 Lakes at Ashbrook Bldg 2 44345 Premier Plaza, Suite 200, Ashburn, VA 20147
- LYNCHBURG BENEFITS OFFICE (434) 582-5102 519 Leesville Rd., Suite A, Lynchburg, VA 24502
- MANASSAS BENEFITS OFFICE (703) 479-7437 9300 West Courthouse Rd., 3rd Floor, Suite 305, Manassas, VA 20110
- MCGUIRE VAMC BENEFITS OFFICE (804) 773-0832
   1201 Broad Rock Blvd, Room 1M-169A, Richmond, VA 23249
- NORFOLK BENEFITS OFFICE (757) 455-0814 6350 Center Dr., Bldg. 5, Suite 100, Norfolk, VA 23502
- **PENTAGON BENEFITS OFFICE** (703) 545-7462 VDVS does not provide sponsorship into the Pentagon. 9000 Defense Pentagon, Suite 1A126, Washington, DC 20301

- **PETERSBURG BENEFITS OFFICE** (804) 720-8027 Petersburg Freedom Support Center 32 West Washington St., Petersburg, VA 23803
- **PORTSMOUTH BENEFITS OFFICE** (757) 953-6205 Portsmouth Naval Hospital, 620 John Paul Circle Bldg. 3, 7th Floor, Portsmouth, VA 23708
- QUANTICO BENEFITS OFFICE (703) 630-2810 Education Center - 3089 Roan St., Quantico, VA 22134
- ROANOKE BENEFITS OFFICE (540) 597-1730 210 Franklin Rd., SW, Room 810, Roanoke, VA 24011
- SALEM VAMC BENEFITS OFFICE (540) 982-2463 ext. 6547 1970 Roanoke Blvd, Bldg. 8 Rm 101A/101B, Salem, VA 24153
- SOUTH HILL BENEFITS OFFICE (434) 584-9100 118 East Danville St., South Hill, VA 23970
- SPRINGFIELD BENEFITS OFFICE (703) 417-9090 6564 Loisdale Ct., Suite 301, Springfield, VA 22150
- STAUNTON BENEFITS OFFICE (540) 332-8900 1600 North Coalter St., Building 1, Suite 17B, Staunton, VA 24401
- STRASBURG BENEFITS OFFICE (540) 465-6113 and (540) 465-2615 105 Stony Pointe Way, Suite 220, Strasburg, VA 22657
- TAZEWELL BENEFITS OFFICE (276) 988-3761 657 Main St. ,Tazewell, VA 24651
- VIRGINIA BEACH OCEANA BENEFITS OFFICE (757) 689-3729 Corporate Landing Medical Center 1232 Perimeter Pkwy., Virginia Beach, VA 23454
- VIRGINIA BEACH PEMBROKE BENEFITS OFFICE (757) 552-1884 287 Independence Blvd, Pembroke Two, Suite 130
- Virginia Beach, VA 23462
  WILLIAMSBURG BENEFITS OFFICE (757) 221-1734 203 Ironbound Rd., Dillard Complex, P.O. Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187
- WYTHEVILLE BENEFITS OFFICE (276) 988-3761 335 W. Monroe St., Suite 200, Wytheville, VA 24382

## VIRGINIA VETERAN AND FAMILY SUPPORT, JUSTICE INVOLVED SERVICES

The Department of Veterans Services' (DVS) Virginia Veteran and Family Support (VVFS) Justice Involved Services (JIS) program provides resource connections, care coordination, and support to Virginia Veterans and service members involved in the criminal justice system. JIS serves veterans of any era and members of all branches of the Armed Services, National Guard and Reserves not in federal service who are Virginia residents. JIS offers assistance to those veterans and service members involved with:

- Veteran and/or problem solving treatment dockets
- Local jails and state prisons
- Probation and/or parole supervision

#### **CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES OFFERED**

- Pre-release Comprehensive Needs Assessments
- Care Coordination Services for Behavioral Health, Rehabilitative and Supportive Services
- Direct Linkage to Treatment Services for Post Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury
- Direct Linkage to VA Benefits and Healthcare, Employment, and Education Services
- Peer Support Services
- Homeless and Housing Services
- Outreach and Education Services

If you know a justice-involved veteran in need of services, please send an email or submit a VVFS Veteran Justice Client Service Request form to the VVFS Justice mailbox at

Email: justice.vvfs@dvs.virginia.gov | (804) 225-4734

## VETERANS ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES OFFERED BY THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Virginia's Office of the Attorney General (OAG) offers the Virginia Military and Veteran Legal Resource Guide, a tool to help Virginia service members, military families, and veterans understand the unique legal protections, rights, and resources available to them under the law. The guide is available at www.dvs.virginia.gov.

In addition, the OAG offers veterans legal service clinics to assist qualified veterans and their spouses with simple wills, powers of attorneys, and advance medical directives, including notary services, on a "first-come, first-served basis." To learn more about this veteran friendly initiative visit www.oag.state.va.us.

#### **Contact Info: Attorney General's Office**

202 North 9th Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219 | Phone: (804) 786-2071

# Lewis B. Puller, Jr. Veterans Benefits Clinic, The College of William & Mary

The Lewis B. Puller, Jr. Veterans Benefits Clinic provides current and former military service members with knowledge of and assistance with pursuing available U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs disability benefits resulting from their military service.

As a clinical program consisting of law students supervised by experienced former military attorneys, the Veterans Benefits Clinic is in a unique position to provide veterans with disability claims services while simultaneously providing the next generation of attorneys with hands-on experience working with real clients.

## The Lewis B. Puller, Jr. Veterans Benefits Clinic William & Mary Law School

P.O. Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795 | (757) 221-7443 | Email: veterans@wm.edu

## MASON VETERANS AND SERVICEMEMBERS LEGAL CLINIC (M-VETS), George Mason University

The law students participating in the Mason Veterans and Servicemembers Legal Clinic (M-VETS) assist active-duty members of the armed forces, their families and veterans with free representation in matters of clear injustice or those matters where they could not retain counsel without undue hardship.

## Mason Veterans and Servicemembers Legal Clinic George Mason University School of Law

3301 Fairfax Drive, MSIG3, Arlington, VA 22201 | (703) 993-8214 | (703) 993-9540 (fax) | Email: clasv@mail.gmu.edu

## THE VIRGINIA BAR ASSOCIATION VETERANS TASK FORCE

The Virginia Bar Association Veterans Issues Task Force is committed to helping Virginia service members who are getting ready to deploy, or are returning from a deployment, find an attorney who will assist them or their family with their legal services needs on a pro bono or reduced fee basis. For additional information visit www.vba.org.





Virginia Veteran and Family Support

## Specialized Veteran Care Coordination and Support

The Virginia Veteran and Family Support (VVFS) program provides a statewide delivery and response system for behavioral health, rehabilitative, and supportive services for military members, veterans, and their families. VVFS proudly serves Virginia veterans of any era, members of the Armed Forces, National Guard and Reserves not in active federal service, and their families.

VVFS provides peer and family support and comprehensive care coordination services including:

- Direct linkages to medical and behavioral healthcare, housing, employment, and other public and private assistance programs;
- Peer and family support groups, resilience-focused training, and retreats for couples and families; and
- Specialized outreach and assistance to vulnerable veterans, including at risk or homeless veterans and veterans involved in the criminal justice system.

The Virginia Veteran and Family Support program is operated by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, and numerous partners including the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Virginia's Community Services Boards.





## To learn more visit www.dvs.virginia.gov or call our toll free number 1-877-285-1299 or the central office 804-371-4675

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) 24/7 Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 (Press 1)

## **VETERAN HOUSING AND HOMELESS SERVICES**

DVS takes a leading role in coordinating federal, state, and community partners to ensure that veteran homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

If you are a veteran or know of a veteran experiencing housing insecurity or homelessness, please contact the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs Homeless Hotline at 1-877-424-3838 (1-877-4AID-VET) or dial 211 Virginia, available 24/7 (resources for Veterans in need and service providers)







2-1-1 VIRGINIA provides targeted referrals for the following needs:

VETERANS ASSISTANCE | FOOD | HOUSING | RENT/UTILITY AID EMERGENCY SHELTER | CLOTHING | TRANSPORTATION | SUBSTANCE ABUSE CHILD CARE | ELDERCARE | MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE PRESCRIPTIONS | HOMELESSNESS ALLEVIATION | MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CONTINUING EDUCATION | JOB TRAINING





SEARCH Search our database at: 211virginia.org

- 24/7 SERVICE
- CONFIDENTIAL
- FREE!!





Virginia Veterans Care Center

## **CARE CENTERS/LONG TERM CARE**

Virginia's state veterans homes provide affordable care, including long term care, short term rehabilitation and specialized Alzheimer's units for Virginia's veterans. Conveniently located in Richmond and Roanoke, each first-class facility is designed to enhance quality of life with a clean, caring and dignified setting appropriate for those men and women who have served our country with honor.

## To learn more visit www.dvs.virginia.gov/veterans-care-centers

#### Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center

1601 Broad Rock Blvd. Richmond, Virginia 23224 (804) 371-8000

### Virginia Veterans Care Center

4550 Shenandoah Avenue Roanoke, Virginia 24017 (540) 982-2860

Virginia has committed to building two additional long term veteran care centers. One facility will be located in Fauquier County and the second new facility will be located in Virginia Beach opening in 2022.



Virginia Veterans Care Center, Roanoke



Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center, Richmond



## **CEMETERY BENEFITS**

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services' three veterans' cemeteries provide final resting places for our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen in places of honor, dignity, respect, and remembrance. Spouses and eligible dependent children may be interred in the same gravesite as the veteran, for a nominal fee. The grave space, columbarium niche, headstone/marker and vault or crypt are provided freeof-charge. This benefit also includes the use a facility for the committal service, military funeral honors, and perpetual care of the gravesite. These National Shrine-standard cemeteries are located in Amelia, Suffolk and Dublin. Each cemetery can accommodate in-ground burial of casketed remains, in-ground inurnment of cremated remains, and above-ground inurnment of cremated remains in a columbarium.

> Virginia Veterans Cemetery (Amelia) 10300 Pridesville Road, Amelia, VA 23002

(804) 561-1475

Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery (Suffolk) 5310 Milners Road,

Suffolk, VA 23434 (757) 255-7217

Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery (Dublin)

5550 Bagging Plant Road Dublin, VA 24084 (540) 674-6893



To learn more visit www.dvs.virginia.gov/cemeteries.

## **DRIVER'S LICENSE - VETERAN INDICATOR**

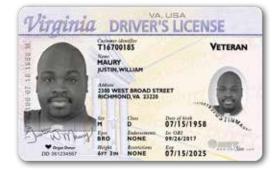
Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces have the option of adding a veteran indicator to their driver's license or ID card. Having the word "veteran" appear on your driver's license or ID card is a convenient way to show your veteran status at retailers and restaurants that offer discounts to veterans.

To learn more, go to dmv.virginia.gov/military and click on "add a veteran indicator to your drivers license or ID card."

### **Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for the veteran indicator, you must:

- Be a Virginia resident
- Apply for or currently hold an unexpired Virginia commercial driver's license, driver's license, learner's permit or DMV-issued ID card
- Have served either (1) in the active U. S. Armed Forces or (2) for more than 180 days in the Virginia National Guard or U. S. Reserves
- Have received an honorable discharge
- Present a photocopy of a veteran service proof document or combination of documents that provide branch of service, discharge date and discharge status (eg. DD 214, DD 256, WD AGO, or NGB 22). Alternatively, you may present your U.S. Military Retiree ID Card (DD Form 2) and a completed Virginia Veteran Military Service Certification application (DL 11).
- Consent for the information on your application and any subsequent address changes you make to be shared with DVS.





Virginia offers more than 50 unique license plates that represent various branches of military service and veteran designations. Visit www.dmvNow.com to learn more.

For more information on eligibility, please refer to § 46.2-328.2 of the Code of Virginia.

#### Cost

There is no fee for the veteran indicator. However, you must pay the standard fee for an original or replacement credential that will display the veteran indicator.

### Applying for a Veteran Indicator

When applying for a veteran indicator, make sure that DMV has your current address on your record.

- You may apply for a veteran indicator online, by mail, by fax, or in person at a DMV customer service center.
- If you apply online, you must submit the required veteran status proof document(s) to DMV within 45 days of submitting your online application. These documents can be submitted to DMV online, by mail, fax or in person at a DMV customer service center.
- If you are applying by mail, fax or in person, you must complete a Virginia Veteran Military Service Certification (form DL-11) and provide a copy of your veteran service proof document(s).

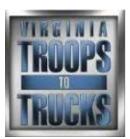
Mail to: Driver Support Work Center, Room 419, P. O. Box 27412, Richmond, VA 23269-0001 Visit a DMV customer service center www.dmv.virginia.gov/DMVLocator Fax (804) 367-1112

## **TROOPS TO TRUCKS**

Through the Troops to Trucks<sup>SM</sup> program, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles is making it easier for personnel trained by the military in the operation of heavy vehicles to obtain civilian commercial driver's licenses (CDL). A commercial driver's license is required to operate large trucks and buses.

To find out if you qualify for the Troops to Trucks<sup>SM</sup> program, complete the Troops to Trucks<sup>SM</sup> checklist.

## To learn more visit www.dmv.virginia.gov/military



## **DISABLED VETERAN AND SURVIVING SPOUSE REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS**

Veterans rated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as having a 100%, permanent and total, service-connected disability or who have a service-connected individual unemployable disability rating are exempt from paying real estate taxes on their primary residence. The exemption is based on the veteran's disability rating rather than the level of compensation. The exemption includes property held jointly by a husband and wife, and applies to the residence and up to one acre of land.

The surviving spouse of an eligible veteran who was receiving the tax exemption may continue to receive the real estate tax exemption. The spouse will lose the exemption if he or she remarries or does not occupy the property as his or her primary residence.

## Exemption Eligibility for the Surviving Spouse of a member of the U.S. armed forces who was killed in action

The surviving spouse of any member of the armed forces of the United States who was killed in action, as determined by the U.S. Department of Defense, and who occupies the real property as his principal place of residence, are exempt from paying real estate taxes. For purposes of this exemption, the determination of "killed in action" includes a determination by the U.S. Department of Defense of "died of wounds received in action."

## To learn more about these exemptions contact the Commissioner of the Revenue for your locality. Contact information may be found at www.vacomrev.com/who-we-are/districts-localities

## **VETERAN HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES**

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) offers a number of discounted licenses for Disabled Military Personnel & Veterans. Applications are available at any VDGIF field office or online.

### For more information visit www.dgif.virginia.gov or call (804) 367-1000

## SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL-BUSINESS (SDVOSB) DESIGNATION

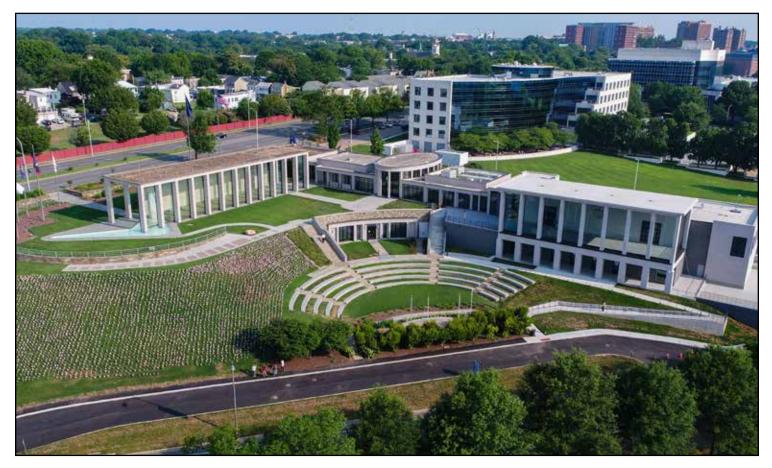
As part of the Virginia <u>Small, Women-owned, and Minority Owned Business (SWaM) certification program</u>, qualifying service-disabled veterans who are small business owners may obtain a <u>Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business</u> (SDVOSB) designation in the Virginia SWaM vendor database. This is not a separate SWaM certification, but rather a designation of those small businesses that are owned by Service Disabled Veterans. SDVOSB certification is provided by the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity in partnership with the Virginia Department of Veterans Services.

To learn more visit www.sbsd.virginia.gov or call (804) 786-6585



The mission of the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond is to *Honor Veterans, Preserve History, Educate Youth and Inspire Patriotism in All.* Dedicated in 1956, the Memorial includes the names of the nearly 12,000 Virginia heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf and the Global War on Terrorism. The Virginia War Memorial is a division of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services and serves as an integral part of its mission in support of all Virginians who have served in our military.

The Memorial honors our fallen heroes by passing their extraordinary stories of sacrifice forward to future generations through many outreach and on-site educational programs. With regular patriotic events, educational seminars for students and teachers, historical museum exhibits, research library, first-person historical documentary videos, customized tours for schools and other groups, and near virtual reality film, *Into Battle*, the Virginia War Memorial is heralded by many as the preeminent state memorial in the United States.



To learn more visit www.dvs.virginia.gov/virginia-war-memorial or call (804) 786-2060

## **Advising Boards and Supportive Organizations**

#### **Board of Veterans Services**

The Board of Veterans Services advises the Virginia Department of Veterans Services regarding programs and policies that enhance veteran services across the Commonwealth.

#### Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations

The Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations provides a vehicle for veterans service organizations to collaborate with the Department of Veterans Services on meeting the needs of Virginia's veterans. The Joint Leadership Council is open to one representative from each qualifying veterans service organization in Virginia that chooses to participate. All veterans organizations are encouraged to join this initiative to support Virginia's veterans and their families. Contact DVS at (804) 786-0286 to learn more about JLC membership.

#### **The Veterans Services Foundation**

The Veterans Services Foundation (the Foundation) is established as an independent agency of the Commonwealth supporting the interests of veterans and their families and contributors through the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs and the programs and services of the Department of Veterans Services. To learn more visit www.virginiaveteransservicesfoundation.org.



## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Facilities in Virginia

#### VA Medical Centers

Hampton VA Medical Center: (757) 722-9961 Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center: (804) 675-5000 Salem VA Medical Center: (540) 982-2463

### **Outpatient Clinic**

Bristol Virginia OPC: (276)-645-4520

## **Community Based Outpatient Clinics**

Charlottesville CBOC: 434-293-3890 Chesapeake CBOC: 757-722-9961 Danville CBOC: 434-710-4210 Emporia CBOC: 434-348-1055 Fort Belvoir CBOC: 571-231-2408 Fredericksburg CBOC: 540-370-4468 Harrisonburg CBOC: 304-263-0811 X 5130 Jonesville CBOC: 276-346-2595 Lynchburg CBOC: 434-316-5000 Marion CBOC: 276-783-2756 Norton CBOC: 276-679-8010 Staunton CBOC: 540-886-5777 Tazewell CBOC: 276-988-2526 Vansant CBOC: 276-597-2106 VA Beach CBOC: 757-722-9961 Winchester CBOC: 304-263-0811 X 5130 Wytheville CBOC: 276-223-5400

### Vet Centers

Alexandria Vet Center: 703-360-8633 Or 703-360-8633 Norfolk Vet Center: 757-623-7584 Or 877-927-8387 Richmond Vet Center: 804-353-8958 Or 877-927-8387 Roanoke Vet Center: 540-342-9726 Or 877-927-8387 Virginia Beach Vet Center: 757-248-3665 or 877-927-8387

### **National Veterans Cemeteries**

Culpeper National Cemetery: (540) 825-0027 Danville National Cemetery: (704) 636-2661 Quantico National Cemetery: (703) 221-2183



## Contact Us, the Virginia Department of Veterans Services is Here to Serve YOU

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES HEADQUARTERS (804) 786-0286

## BENEFITS

(804) 786-0286

## LONG TERM CARE CENTERS

Virginia Veterans Care Center 4550 Shenandoah Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24017 (540) 982-2860, (800) 220-8387 (toll free)

#### Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center

1601 Broad Rock Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23224 (804) 371-8000

#### CEMETERIES

**Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery** 5310 Milners Road, Suffolk, VA 23434; (757) 255-7217

Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery 5550 Bagging Plant Road, Dublin, VA 24084; (540) 674-6893

Virginia Veterans Cemetery 10300 Pridesville Road, Amelia, VA 23002; (804) 561-1475

VETERANS EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EMPLOYMENT (804) 786-0571

GI Bill<sup>®</sup> Programs - State Approving Agency (804) 225-2298

Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program (804) 371-2683

Virginia Transition Assistance Program (VTAP) (804) 786-8060

Military Medics and Corpsmen Program (MMAC) (804) 482-8528

Virginia Military Survivors & Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP) (804) 225-2083 VIRGINIA WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAM (804) 482-8512

VIRGINIA VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP (804) 786-0571

VIRGINIA VETERAN AND FAMILY SUPPORT (VVFS) (804) 371-4675, (877) 285-1299 (toll free)

VIRGINIA WAR MEMORIAL 621 S. Belvidere Street, Richmond, VA 23220; (804) 786-2060

VETERANS SERVICES FOUNDATION (804) 382-3715



























101 North 14th Street, 17th Floor Richmond, Virginia 23219 www.dvs.virginia.gov



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