

Oklahoma State Veteran's Benefits & Discounts



August 2015

The state of Oklahoma provides several veteran benefits. This section offers a brief description of each of the following benefits.

- [Housing Benefits](#)
- [Financial Assistance Benefits](#)
- [Employment Benefits](#)
- [Other State Veteran Benefits](#)

Oklahoma Veteran Housing Programs

State Veterans Centers

The following are state nursing homes located in Oklahoma:

Ardmore Veterans Center



The Ardmore Veterans Center is a historic site situated on 55 acres of lawns, gardens, and fields. The beautiful modern site is located on the US Highway 77 (1015 S. Commerce) in the southwest section of Ardmore, Okla. The original buildings of the home were constructed in 1910 as a home for Civil War Veterans. Since that time nursing care beds have been added for the improvement of the facility.

In 2010, the home celebrated caring for veterans for 100 years. The total bed capacity at the Ardmore Veterans Center is 175 nursing care beds. The center has continued to have improvement projects through the years. The current project at the center is the construction of a new laundry facility and renovation of the pharmacy, lab and X-ray, and physical therapy departments.

Activities include bingo, arts and crafts, pool, dominoes, field trips, fishing trips, sightseeing, visits by various singing groups and many other activities.

This center provides care for male and female wartime veterans to honor their military service to this great country. For admission information applicants should communicate directly with the Admissions Office at **P.O. Box 489** or **1015 S. Commerce, Ardmore, OK 73402**, or by phone at **580-223-2266** or by **email:** cgillispie@odva.state.ok.us; rmccracken@odva.state.ok.us; jfenti@odva.state.ok.us; twilkerson@odva.state.ok.us; sfaulkner@odva.state.ok.us

Claremore Veterans Center



The Claremore Veterans Center is approximately 30 minutes from downtown Tulsa just off historic Route 66 nestled between a beautifully manicured golf course and Rogers State University's 160-acre nature reserve.

Completed in 1988, this modern 302-bed facility is dedicated to the ideal that caring for Oklahoma's veterans is our primary mission. The Center provides 24-hour medical and nursing care. Our 5 fully licensed medical staff work closely with a full range of nursing staff consisting of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nurses aides. A holistic plan of care is provided for each resident and family, utilizing the expertise of our full time staff from such diverse areas as dietetics, rehabilitation, recreational therapy, laboratory, pharmacy, X-ray and social work services.

Due to the demand for specialized care of Oklahoma veterans with dementia, a new 52-bed special needs unit for Alzheimer's/dementia care opened in December 2002.

Center activities include bingo, rodeos, arts and crafts, pool tournaments, field trips and fishing in our well-stocked pond. A 2,000-square foot covered pavilion is available for resident and family activities.

The Claremore Veterans Center is a functioning memorial to Oklahoma's wartime veterans provided by the grateful people of the state of Oklahoma. For admission information, applicants should communicate directly with the Admission Office at **P.O. Box 988** or **3001 W. Blue Starr Drive, Claremore, OK 74018-0988**, by phone at **918-342-5432** or by **email:** tpotteiger@odva.state.ok.us; crogers@odva.state.ok.us; scollier@odva.state.ok.us; mtobey@odva.state.ok.us; twilkerson@odva.state.ok.us; sfaulkner@odva.state.ok.us

Clinton Veterans Center



The Clinton Veterans Center is located on 70 acres ¼ of a mile off of I40 at exit 66 on the south edge of Clinton where residents enjoy a home-like atmosphere of western Oklahoma hospitality. The Center has 148 nursing care beds with 50 beds devoted to the specialized treatment of Alzheimer's and other dementias. Residents enjoy frequent activities in the recreation hall and auditorium with a seating capacity of 300. Renovations to the original building have been numerous with 2 major renovations in 1995 and 2002 as the facility maintains a desire to provide the best possible environment with the latest equipment and resources available. New dining and laundry facilities are scheduled for construction in 2011.

Medical services include medical providers, nursing staff, rehabilitation therapy, pharmacy and recreational therapy to provide the highest quality of care. Transportation to and from local appointments and appointments at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Oklahoma City are provided for the convenience of the veterans. Medical supplies, medical equipment and medications are provided to the veteran as part of the inclusive medical care.

For admission information, the veteran should communicate directly with the Admissions Office at **P.O. Box 1209** or **1701 South 4th, Clinton, OK 73601**, by phone at **580-331-2200** or by **email:** kkreizenbeck@odva.state.ok.us; fcastro@odva.state.ok.us; staylor@odva.state.ok.us; sfaulkner@odva.state.ok.us; twilkerson@odva.state.ok.us

Lawton/Ft. Sill Veterans Center



The Lawton/Fort Sill Veterans Center is located at 501 S.E. Flower Mound Rd., in beautiful Lawton, Okla. This 200 bed long term care facility currently accepts skilled, intermediate and Alzheimer's/dementia residents.

The facility has several features which are the reason it is the "the crown jewel of Oklahoma." We have a fishing pond with a gazebo that allows our handicapped residents to fish right from the dock. We have a walking track around our facility and pond that is well lit at night. During nice weather, we give our residents a ride around the pond in our golf carts. Our chapel is available to our residents and their families as well as our community. The Colonel Hardy Stone Auditorium serves as our storm shelter and can easily hold several hundred people.

Our community is very active with our veterans and many activities are sponsored by various groups on a daily basis. Please come see our facility anytime during our business hours.

If you are interested in admission, please contact our Patient Services Coordinators, Kelly Ringwald and Joya Fancher-Bhagan, at **P.O. Box 849, Lawton, OK 73502** or **501 S.E. Flower Mound Road, Lawton, OK 73501** or by phone at **580-351-6511** or by **email:** tendricks@odva.state.ok.us; sringwald@odva.state.ok.us; kringwald@odva.state.ok.us; twilkerson@odva.state.ok.us; sfaulkner@odva.state.ok.us

Norman Veterans Center



Construction of the new Norman Veterans Center began in March 1994, and was completed on November 1996. The facility consists of 239,000 sq. feet with a 301 bed capacity to serve both male and female

Oklahoma Wartime Veterans. The total cost of the facility was \$29 million, with 65% of the funding provided by the Federal Veterans Administration and the remaining 35% funded by the State of Oklahoma.

Gralla/Rees Associates Architects and Planners of Oklahoma City designed the facility to create a cheery, comfortable atmosphere for the residents. Hardwood floors, wood trim and columns, combined with plenty of light from several skylights are just some of the home like touches. Three two story patient wings originate from a central area encompassing a physical therapy room, recreation area with pool tables, pinball machines and a canteen.

The residents can also enjoy a dining room with a balcony and terrace as well as a gallery displaying the works of local artists. This spacious facility also features additional exterior activity areas such as pavilions along the walking trails, a fishing dock, scattered ponds and natural hill side with plenty of vegetation.

For admission information you may contact the Admissions Office at **P.O. Box 1668** or **1776 E. Robinson St., Norman, OK 73070** or by phone at **405-360-5600** or by **email:** twilkerson@odva.state.ok.us; jhorne@odva.state.ok.us; ludson@odva.state.ok.us; sfaulkner@odva.state.ok.us

Sulphur Veterans Center



The Sulphur Veterans Center is located on a 17-acre site in Southern Oklahoma's outdoor paradise. The center overlooks the Chickasaw National Recreation Area, one of Oklahoma's most beautiful areas. The Lake of the Arbuckles, Turner Falls and the Arbuckle Mountains are all located in the immediate area. The original buildings at the center were constructed in 1921, as a tuberculosis sanatorium for veterans. The center once provided general medical hospital care including surgery, coronary care, and dialysis treatment. Since that time these beds have been converted to nursing care beds for Oklahoma's heroes.

In 1984, a construction project was completed adding a new dietary and central storage building to the facility, featuring a dining room with a full glass northern exposure overlooking the scenic Chickasaw National Recreation Area. In September 2000, a \$4.9 million construction project was completed adding a new two-story structure with the capacity for 60 long-term nursing care beds. The new wing provided two 30-bed units with both private and semi-private rooms to replace the 1920s barracks style open wards and bring the center into the twenty-first century. One unit has been designed to accommodate veterans with

special needs. In December, Phase I of a \$19.5 million dollar project was completed with a capacity for 62 nursing care beds. This building replaces 1920s and 1950s era buildings. Phase 2 was completed in April 2014. The total capacity of Sulphur Veterans Center is now 122 nursing care beds.

Based on the veterans' individual needs, long-term skilled nursing and medical care is provided by a full time medical staff, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, certified nurse aides, licensed social workers, pharmacist, laboratory technologists, certified dietary managers as well as numerous support staff. Therapeutic recreational activities are also provided. Residents enjoy outings in the surrounding community, including fishing trips, bowling and shopping trips.

For admission information, the applicant should communicate directly with the Admissions Office at **304 E. Fairlane, Sulphur, OK 73086** or by phone at **580-622-2144** or by **email: parms@odva.state.ok.us; spaige@odva.state.ok.us; tmeeks@odva.state.ok.us; twilkerson@odva.state.ok.us; sfaulkner@odva.state.ok.us**

Talihina Veterans Center



The Talihina Veterans Center was originally constructed as the Eastern Oklahoma Tuberculosis Sanatorium in 1921. The name was changed in 1972, to Oklahoma State Sanatorium. On July 1, 1975, the Sanatorium was transferred to the control of the War Veterans Commission to provide nursing care to Oklahoma veterans, both male and female.

The Oklahoma Veterans Center at Talihina, Okla., is located approximately 2 miles northwest of Talihina on State Highway 63A. Largest in area of all the centers, it is situated on a beautiful 600 acre site at the western edge of the mountainous Ouachita National Forest. The immediate center grounds are adorned with huge native pine and oak trees, three fishing ponds, patios and other outdoor activity areas for the 175 nursing care patients including a 50 bed Special Needs Unit. A full time staff of doctors, registered nurses and other medical personnel assure the patients the highest quality of care.

For admission information, the applicant should communicate directly with the Admissions Office at **P.O. Box 1168 or 10014 SE. 1138th Ave., Talihina, Oklahoma 74571** or by phone at **918-567-2251** or by fax at **918-567-2950** or by **email: sjbreshears@odva.state.ok.us; twilkerson@odva.state.ok.us; sfaulkner@odva.state.ok.us; edukes@odva.state.ok.us**

Admission

I. Eligibility Requirements

An eligible Oklahoma Veteran is an individual who is certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) for receipt of per diem payment.

- A. Individual has served at least 90 days with one or more days being on active duty. EXCEPTION: Individual was discharged due to or as a result of a service connected disability other than dishonorable discharge.
- B. Individual must be disabled by age, disease or other reason as specified in 38 CFR 17.46.
 - Admission to a Nursing Care Center - Veteran shall be disabled and/or diseased which requires a skilled type nursing care center (i.e., requires intermediate or skilled type nursing care).

II. Admission Priorities

The purpose of these procedures is to establish a fair and equitable process for the placement of eligible Veterans on a waiting list for admission to a Veterans Center. The Veterans Center Administrator shall have the flexibility to determine variation from the waiting list based on medical and/or humanitarian need. The waiting list priority for eligible Veterans is:

1. **World War II Veterans.** Admitted to the first available bed capable of providing the level of care required. If there are no remaining World War II Veterans, Veterans of the next oldest wartime period shall be admitted to the first available bed capable of providing the level of care required.
2. **Ex-Prisoners of War.** Admitted to the first available bed capable of providing level of care required. Veterans will be placed at the top of the waiting list if there are no eligible Veterans on the waiting list that are World War II Veterans.
3. **Eligible wartime Veterans.** These Veterans will be placed at the top of the waiting list if there are no eligible Veterans on the waiting list in the first two priority listed above, and will be admitted to the first available bed capable of providing the level of care they require, in the following order based on the date of receipt of the application:
 - i. Eligible wartime Veterans with service connected ratings of 70% to 100% by the USDVA.
 - ii. All other wartime Veterans with service connected ratings form 0% to 60% by the USDVA.
 - iii. All other eligible wartime Veterans not specified in earlier categories will be placed on the waiting list in chronological order based on the date of receipt of the application.
4. **All other eligible Veterans.** These Veterans, including those with no wartime service, will be placed at the top of the waiting list if there are no eligible Veterans on the waiting list in above listings, and will be admitted to the first available bed capable of providing the level of care they require, in the following order based on the date of receipt of application:
 - i. All other eligible Veterans with service connected ratings of 70% to 100% by the USDVA.
 - ii. All other eligible Veterans with service connected ratings of 0% to 60% by the USDVA.
 - iii. All eligible Veterans not specified in earlier categories will be places on the waiting list in chronological order based on date of receipt of application.
5. If more than one application is received on the same day, the Medical Director will determine their sequential order on the list according to medical need. The Veterans will be called from this list and will be admitted to the first available bed capable of providing the level of care they require.
6. Spouses and surviving spouses may be admitted on exhaustion of placement of all eligible Veterans.

Wartime shall be defined as the following dates:

- World War II (12/07/1941 to 12/31/1946)
- Korean War (06/27/1950 to 01/31/1955)
- Vietnam War (08/05/1964 to 05/07/1975; 02/28/1961 ‘in country’ before 08/05/1964)
- Persian Gulf War (08/02/1990 to Undetermined)

Wartime shall also be defined as any other dates that may be established by the United States Congress, Oklahoma Legislature, or Oklahoma Veterans Commission

The following provides technical procedure information for use by Veterans Center staff:

- All priorities are implemented on a statewide basis pursuant to official Rule 770:10-1-4. Names will be entered on the computer in the appropriate priority category in chronological order.
- If a veteran refuses the first available bed, he or she will go to the bottom of the list for that category.
- If a veteran accepts a bed and is admitted to one facility, then requests transfer to another facility, the veteran’s name will be placed on the receiving facility’s waiting list in the proper category in chronological order by date request received. The veteran will then be transferred when a bed is available in accordance with Standing Operating Procedure #701

III. Required Documentation

Individuals wanting admission to an Oklahoma Veterans Center must complete a Veterans Center Application Form. As support for the information provided by the Veteran, any of the following documentation may be used:

- Verified M11 from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs or a copy of Form DD-214-Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty or any other documentation from the USDVA which could include DD- 215.
- EX-POW-documentation from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, OR documentation from a branch of the Armed services, OR newspaper clippings verifying prisoner of war status.
- Disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Veterans Center Administrator and the Medical Director shall document the determination of eligibility for each veteran on the Pre-Admission form.

Oklahoma is among the top two states in the number of Veterans Centers providing intermediate to skilled nursing care for its Veterans. All centers undergo annual inspections by the U.S. Veterans Administration, the Oklahoma State Department of Health and follows the guidelines established by other health and safety agencies. Professional personnel provide diversified health services for every facet of complete health care in the Veterans Centers. These health services include but are not limited to laboratory, x-ray, pharmaceutical, dietary, social, and recreational. Thus, a well-rounded state Veterans program is created to administer care not otherwise available to over 1,400 Oklahoma Veterans. The Veterans Centers operate much like private communities, situated on spacious, landscaped acreage. In addition to the above, they include administrative offices, recreational halls, auditoriums, cafeterias, laundries, power plants, and maintenance shops. In recent years, the latest in Life Safety Code features have been installed in all structures which accommodate patients. Expansion and growth are evident at the Centers as continual construction is underway building new additions, cafeterias, offices and other such needed arrangements. A continual review of these facilities is made to ensure that each meets current safety and fire codes.

- Email Belinda White at bwhite@odva.state.ok.us
- [Veterans Center Application Form](#)

(Effective 06-01-2009 Veterans 70% or greater service connected will receive full cost of care at any Oklahoma Veterans Center)

Oklahoma Financial Assistance Benefits

Property Tax Exemption

Tax Exemption for 100% Disabled Veterans for sales tax, excise tax, and ad valorem tax (Spouse included for ad valorem tax only)

Oklahoma Income Tax

The first \$1,500.00 received, as salary for service in the United States Armed Forces shall be deducted from taxable income.

Exemption For Retirement Benefits

Retirement benefits, for taxable years after December 31, 2005, received by an individual from any component of the Armed Forces of the U.S. shall be exempt from taxable income in an amount not to exceed the greater of 75% of such benefits OR \$10,000.

Exemption For Sales Tax

Sales of tangible personal property or services to persons who are residents of Oklahoma and have been honorably discharged from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or Oklahoma National Guard and who have been certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor to be in receipt of disability compensation at the one-hundred-percent rate and the disability shall be permanent and have been sustained through military action or accident or resulting from disease contracted while in such active service.

Oklahoma Employment Benefits

Veterans Preference

In establishing employment lists of eligible persons for competitive and noncompetitive appointment, certain preferences shall be allowed for veterans honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States.

1. Five points shall be added to the final grade of any person who has passed the examination and has submitted proof of having status as a veteran or unremarried surviving spouse of a veteran.
2. Ten points shall be added to the final grade of any war veteran of the Oklahoma Statutes who has passed the examination and has submitted proof of having a service-connected disability as certified by the Veterans Administration or Agency of the Defense Department within six months of date of application.

3. In addition to the 10 points preference such eligible war veterans who are in receipt of benefits payable at the rate of 30% or more because of the service-connected disability, shall be considered Absolute Preference Veterans. Their names shall be placed at the top of the register, ranked in order of their examination scores. Absolute Preference Veterans shall not be denied employment and passed over for others without showing cause.

Other Oklahoma State Veteran Benefits

Free Hunting and Fishing Permit

Highly discounted lifetime hunting and fishing permit for legal residents with 60% or more disability.

Veteran License Plates

There are several special license plates available for veterans in specific categories. The Oklahoma Tax Commission is authorized to design issue appropriate official special license plates as provided by this section.

Special license plates shall not be transferred to any other person but shall be removed from the vehicle upon transfer of ownership and retained. The special license plate may then be used on another vehicle but only after such other vehicle has been registered for the current year with a motor license agent.

The Commission shall take applications by October 1 of each year for the following calendar year for special license plates and shall issue such plates to each applicant.

Prisoner of War License Plates – such plates shall be designed for honorably discharged or present members of the United States Armed Forces and civilians who were former prisoners of war held by foreign country and who can provide proper certification of that status. Such persons may apply for a prisoner of war license plate for no more than two vehicles with each vehicle having a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less. The surviving spouse of any deceased former prisoner of war, if said spouse has not since remarried, may apply for a prisoner of war license plate for one vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Disabled Veterans License Plates – such plates shall be designed for persons presenting proper certification from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the Armed Forces of the United States certifying such veteran has a service-connected disability rating of fifty percent (50%) or more, regardless which agency pays the disability benefits, or that such veteran has been awarded a vehicle by the United States government or receives a grant from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for the purchase of an automobile due to a service-connected disability rating or due to the loss of use of a limb or an eye. Such persons may apply to the Tax Commission for a disabled veterans license plate or to a motor license agent for a regular license plate for no more than two vehicles with each vehicle having a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less. The surviving spouse of any deceased disabled veteran, if the spouse has not since remarried, or if remarried, the remarriage is terminated by death, divorce, or annulment, may apply for a disabled veterans license plate for one vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less. The fee provided by this section for the special license plate authorized by this paragraph shall be in addition to all other registration fees provided by law, except the registration fees levied by Section 1132 of this title. Effective July 1, 2007, the total expense of this license plate shall not exceed Five Dollars (\$5.00).

Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient License Plates – such plates shall be designed for any resident of this state who has been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Such persons may apply for a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient license plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Missing In Action License Plates – such plates shall be designed to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who are missing in action. The spouse of such missing person, if said spouse has not since remarried, and each parent of the missing person may apply for a missing in action license plate upon presenting proper certification that such person is missing in action and that the person making the application is the unremarried spouse or the parent of such missing person. The spouse and each parent of such missing person may each apply for the missing in action license plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Pearl Harbor Survivor License Plates – such plates shall be designed for any resident of this state who can be verified by the United States Veterans Administration or the Armed Forces of the United States as being:

1. a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7, 1941
2. stationed on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. and 9:45 a.m., Hawaii time, at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu or offshore at the distance not to exceed three (3) miles and,
3. a recipient of an honorable discharge from the United States Armed Forces.

Such person may apply for a Pearl Harbor license plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying of one (1) ton or less.

The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall design and make available to any person who is issued a Pearl Harbor Survivor License Plate commemorative Pearl Harbor decal to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Such decal shall include the language “Pearl Harbor 1941-1991” and shall be designed to easily be attached to a license plate. This decal shall be free of charge to those persons issued a Pearl Harbor Survivor License Plate.

United States Armed Forces – such plates shall be designed for active, retired or reserve members of the United States Armed Forces and shall identify which branch of service, and carry the emblem a name of either the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard according to the branch of service to which the member belongs.

Persons applying for such license plate must show proof of present or past military service by presenting a valid Uniformed Service Identity Card or the United States Department of Defense Form (DD- 214)

Purple Heart Recipient License Plates – such plates shall be designed for any resident of this state who has been awarded the Purple Heart military decoration and upon the death of the recipient, the spouse of the recipient. Such persons may apply for a Purple Heart recipient license plate for vehicles with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less. The surviving spouse of any deceased veteran who has been awarded the Purple Heart military decoration, if such spouse has not since remarried, or if remarried, the remarriage has been terminated by death, divorce or annulment, may apply for such plate for one vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Killed in Action License Plates – such plates shall be designed to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who were killed in action. The spouse of such deceased person, if the spouse has not

remarried, may apply for a killed in action license plate upon presenting proper certification that the person was killed in action and that said person making the application is the unremarried spouse of such deceased person. The spouse may apply for a killed in action plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Iwo Jima License Plates – such plates shall be designed for any resident of this state who can be verified by the United States Veterans Administration or the Armed Forces of the United States as being:

1. a member of the United States Armed Forces in February of 1945,
2. stationed in February of 1945 on or in the immediate vicinity of the island of Iwo Jima, and
3. a recipient of an honorable discharge from the United States Armed Forces

Such person may apply for an Iwo Jima license plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Such license plate shall have the legend “Oklahoma OK” and shall contain three letters and three numbers. Between the letters and numbers shall be a logo of the flag raising at Iwo Jima. Below the letters, logo and numbers, the plate shall contain the words “FEB.” at the left, “Iwo Jima” in the center and “1945” at the right. Such plates shall not be subject to the design requirements of any other license plates prescribed by law other than the space for the placement of the yearly decals for each succeeding year of registration after the initial issue.

D-Day Survivor License Plates – such plates shall be designed for any resident of this state who can be verified by the United State Veterans Administration or the Armed Forces of the United States as being:

1. a member of the United States Armed Forces on June 6, 1944,
2. a participant in the Allied invasion of the coast of Normandy on June 6, 1944; provided, if such participation cannot be verified by the United States Veterans Administration or the Armed Forces of the United States, the Tax Commission may, in its discretion accept evidence of such participation from the person applying for the license plate, and
3. a recipient of an honorable discharge from the United States Armed Forces.

Such person may apply for a D-Day Survivor license plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Military Decoration License Plates – such plates shall be designed for any resident of this state who has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star military decoration or the Silver Star military decoration. Such person may apply for a military decoration license plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Vietnam Veteran License Plates – such plates shall be designed for honorably discharged or present members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Vietnam Conflict. Such persons may apply for a Vietnam veteran license plate for each vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

World War II Veteran License Plates – such plates shall be designed to honor honorably discharged former members of the United States Armed Forces who are residents of this state and who can be verified by the Oklahoma Military Department, the Veterans Administration or the Armed Forces of the United States as having served on the federal active duty anytime during the period from September 16, 1940, to December 7, 1945. The former members may apply for a World War II Veteran license plate for vehicles with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

The license plate shall have the legend “Oklahoma” and shall contain, in the center of the plate, either the Thunderbird Insignia of the 45th Infantry Division in the prescribed red and gold coloring or the emblem of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard according to the branch or service to which the member belonged. For the purpose of license plate identification, the plate shall contain four digits, two digits at the left and two digits at the right of the insignia or emblem. Centered on the bottom of the license plate shall be the words “WORLD WAR II.” However, the plates may be issued to any person in any combination of numbers and letters with up to three on each side of the insignia or emblem as for personalized license plates.

The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall design and make available to any person who is issued a World War II Veteran License Plate a commemorative World War II decal to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the end World War II. The decal shall include the language “World War II 50th Anniversary” and shall be designed to be easily attached to a license plate. This decal shall be free of charge to those persons issued a World War II Veteran License Plate.

Korean War Veteran License Plate – such plates shall be designed to honor honorably discharged former members of the United States Armed Forces who are residents of this state and who can be verified by the Oklahoma Military Department, the Veterans Administration or the Armed Forces of the United States as having served on federal active duty anytime during the period from June 27, 1950, to January 31, 1955, both dates inclusive. The former members may apply for a Korean Veteran license plate for vehicles with a rated carrying capacity one (1) ton or less.

The license plate shall have the legend “OKLAHOMA” and shall contain, in the center of the plate, either the Thunderbird Insignia the 45th Infantry Division in the prescribed red and gold coloring the emblem of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard according to the branch of service to which the member belong for the purpose of license plate identification, the plate shall contain four digits, two digits at the left and two digits at the right of the insignia or emblem. Centered on the bottom of the license plate shall be the word “KOREA.” However, the plates may be issued to a person in any combination of numbers and letters with up to three each side of the insignia or emblem as for personalized license plates.

Surviving Spouse License Plates – such plates shall be designed for any resident of this state who is the surviving spouse of an honorably discharged veteran who died due to or as a consequence of a service-connected disability. Such surviving spouse may, if not since remarried, or if remarried, the remarriage is terminated by death, divorce or annulment, apply for a Surviving Spouse license plate for one vehicle with a rated carrying capacity of one (1) ton or less.

Other license plates offered by the State of Oklahoma are:

- Air National Guard
- National Guard
- Oklahoma Military Alumni

Oklahoma Military & Veterans License Plates

Oklahoma Military and Veterans License Plate applications generally require some additional certification paperwork such as Form DD-214, medal citations, or letter from Veterans Administration. Plates may not be personalized. For locations on where to register and apply for license plates refer to <http://www.dmv.org/ok-oklahoma/dmv-office-finder.php#Oklahoma-MVD-amp-DPS-Locations->.



Admission to State Parks

All honorably discharged veterans who are currently Oklahoma residents shall be allowed free admission to all state-owned or state-operated parks and museums. A valid Oklahoma driver license or state photo identification card and military discharge papers (DD Form 214) or similar evidence of an honorable discharge from the United States Armed Forces shall be required for free admission.

The Claims and Benefits Division

The Claims and Benefits Division provides many different services to the veterans and their dependents. The primary function is to assist veterans and their dependents with their claims before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Claims worked through the Muskogee Claims Office help claimants obtain compensation and pension benefits. Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officers and Claims Officers are accredited with a number of service organizations in order to better represent the claimant with their claims and appeals. The Claims Officers will assist in the appeals process, and if necessary, represent the claimant at a personal hearing before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Hearing Officer. The Muskogee Claims Office handles lifetime hunting & fishing permits, special veterans license plates, and the Financial Assistance Program.

Veterans Education Guide.

Refer to www.ok.gov/odva/documents/Veterans%20Education%20Guide.pdf.

Visit the Oklahoma Dept. of Veteran Affairs website <http://www.ok.gov/odva> or call (888) 655-2838 for contact information and benefits assistance.

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/oklahoma-state-veterans-benefits.html>
August 2015 ++]

Military Discounts in Oklahoma

1. MVDC has close to 3200 business locations in Oklahoma that have discounts for military personnel and veterans. In addition to businesses providing discounts, the state of Ohio also provides discounts for those that have served. To find business discounts, enter your zipcode and category in the search box at <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/ohio.html>
2. **Veterans Designation on drivers license:** yes
3. **Discounted Fees and Taxes**

- Tax Exemption for 100% Disabled Veterans for sales tax, excise tax, and ad valorem tax (Spouse included for ad valorem tax only)
- Discounted hunting and fishing permit for legal residents with 60% or more
- The first \$1,500.00 received, as salary for service in the United States Armed Forces shall be deducted from taxable income.
- Retirement benefits, for taxable years after December 31, 2005, received by an individual from any component of the Armed Forces of the U.S. shall be exempt from taxable income in an amount not to exceed the greater of 75% of such benefits OR \$10,000.

4. **Education Discounts - None**

5. Refer to <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com> to find businesses that provide military and veteran discounts Also, at <https://tulsage.wordpress.com/2012/10/09/veterans-discounts-tulsa-area/> there is a listing provided by the Oklahoma VA for veterans.

[Source: <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/oklahoma.html> August 2015 ++]