

# Tennessee State Veteran's Benefits & Discounts



**2017**

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

- Veteran Housing Benefits
- Veteran Employment Benefits
- Veteran Education Benefits
- Other State Sponsored Veteran Benefits

## **Tennessee Veteran Housing Programs**

### **State Veterans Homes**

Tennessee offers three state veteran homes whose goal is to provide veterans with the best health care in an environment which is pleasant and enjoyable; to provide a safe, warm and happy home for our veterans. The homes are: The Tennessee State Veterans home in Murfreesboro, the W.D. "Bill" Manning Tennessee State Veterans' Home in Humbolt, the Ben Atchley Tennessee Veterans' Home in Knoxville, and the newly opened General Wendell H. Gilbert Tennessee State Veterans Home in Clarksville. To be eligible for admission, the veteran must:

- Be a resident of Tennessee at time of admission.
- Have been born in Tennessee.
- Have entered the U.S. Armed Forces in Tennessee.
- Have a Tennessee address as official Home of Record on Veteran's Military Record.

- Have an immediate family member (Parent, Spouse, Sibling, or Child) or Legal Guardian who would serve as primary caregiver and who is a resident of Tennessee.

The Spouse, Widow/Widower or Gold Star Parent may also be eligible for admission on a space available basis. Costs are based on income.



**W.D. "Bill" Manning Tennessee**  
 2865 Main Street  
 Humboldt, TN 38343  
 (731) 784-8405  
<http://tsvh.org/Humboldt/index.html>



**Tennessee State Veterans' Home**  
 345 Compton Road  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37130  
 (615) 895-8850  
<http://tsvh.org/Murfreesboro/index.html>



**Ben Atchley Tennessee Veterans' Home**  
 One Veterans Way  
 Knoxville, TN 37931  
 (865) 862-8152  
<http://tsvh.org/Knoxville/index.html>



**Clarksville Veterans Home**  
 Brigadier General Wendell H. Gilbert  
 Tennessee State Veterans Home  
 250 Arrowood Drive,  
 Clarksville, TN 37042  
<http://tsvh.org/Clarksville/index.html>

**[Full Length Video: Introduction to Tennessee State Veterans' Homes](#)**

**[Video: Tennessee State Veterans' Homes-Quality of Life](#)**

**[Video: Tennessee State Veterans' Homes-Proudly Serving Those Who Served](#)**

## **Property Tax Relief**

Property tax relief for combat related 100% totally disabled veterans and/or their surviving spouses for up to \$100,000 of the property's value. Effective July 1, 2015 new recipients of the benefit must have an annual income of less than \$60,000.

Property tax relief for combat related 100% totally disabled veterans and/or their surviving

Veteran's Disability must meet one of the following categories:

1. A service-connected disability that resulted in:
  - Paraplegia OR
  - Permanent paralysis of both legs and lower part of the body resulting from traumatic injury or disease to the spinal cord or brain; OR
  - Loss, or loss of use of, two (2) or more limbs; OR
  - Legal blindness
2. A service-connected permanent and total disability or disabilities, as determined by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs.
3. A 100% total and permanent disability rating from being a prisoner of war.
4. Must own and use property as primary residence. The maximum market value on which tax relief is calculated is \$100,000.

To apply for this benefit contact your nearest County Service Officer or contact the TVDA Field Office your community at <http://tn.gov/veteran/topic/state-veterans-services-offices>. For the Fact Sheet on Property Tax Relief for Disabled Veteran Homeowners refer to [http://www.tn.gov/veteran/state\\_benifits/PropertyTaxRelief.pdf](http://www.tn.gov/veteran/state_benifits/PropertyTaxRelief.pdf)

## **Property tax relief for surviving spouses**

State law authorizes property tax relief to surviving spouses of disabled veterans who would have been eligible for relief had the veteran qualified under later amendments to the law. The tax relief is in an amount necessary to pay or reimburse such taxpayers for all or part of the local property taxes paid for a given tax year on that property that the disabled veteran owned and used as the disabled veteran's residence. The property tax relief is extended to the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran who, at the time of the disabled veteran's death, was eligible for disabled veterans' property tax relief, as long as the surviving spouse:

- Does not remarry;
- Solely or jointly owns the property for which tax relief is claimed; and
- Uses the property for which tax relief is claimed exclusively as a home.

## **Tennessee Veteran Employment Programs**

### **Employment Programs**

The following employment benefits are available in Tennessee:

- Veterans preference in State employment
- Credit for military service in State employment
- Reemployment rights of public employees

Veterans looking for high-quality jobs have several options in the State of Tennessee. To get started, visit the nearest Tennessee Department of Labor Career Center to find out more about translating military experience into civilian resume language. Military experience can be extremely marketable, but civilian employers need your best effort to help translate military service into civilian workforce skills. Representatives at the nearest Tennessee Department of Labor American Job Centers can guide Veterans through the process to make resume's stand-out. You can view the full list of Job Centers at <http://tn.gov/workforce/topic/find-local-help>.

### **Veterans Working for the Volunteer State**

The State of Tennessee employs more than 4,000 Veterans within 23 state departments. Under Governor Bill Haslam, the TEAM Act improved Veteran preference for preferred service jobs. Veterans who meet the minimum qualifications for open state preferred positions are guaranteed an interview. Preferred Service employees hold a position in an agency in the state service, in which the employee has successfully completed the requisite probationary period. Employees in Preferred Service have a streamlined appeals process for appreciation of a law, rule or policy by an agency which results in dismissal, demotion or certain suspensions. To find out how to register for preferred positions go to <http://tn.gov/hr/topic/employment-opportunities>.

Executive Service employees serve at the pleasure of the Appointing Authority and do not have the ability to appeal a suspension, demotion or dismissal. To find out more about Executive Service Job Openings go to <http://tn.gov/hr/topic/employment-opportunities>

Recruiters from several state departments are looking for military Veterans in a variety of fields to offer leadership, discipline, teamwork and commitment to transform state government. Go to <http://tn.gov/veteran/article/state-recruiting-departmentsto> connect with state departments recruiting Veterans.

### **Hiring Fairs**

Hiring Fairs are a great way to network not only with State Agencies, but with other employers. For information on events occurring in your area email [efrazier@learninghouse.com](mailto:efrazier@learninghouse.com)

## **Tennessee Veteran Education Programs**

There are several resources to connect veterans, service members and dependents with higher educational benefits. Before you start this next journey it is important to connect with resources and partners who can guide you through the process to earn your college degree. Between 2008 and 2013, the number of student Veterans enrolled in colleges and universities across the state increased by nearly 200 percent. The path to a high quality career is paved with a college degree. When looking for the right higher education institution, it is important to consider programs and services that best suit your goals. Also, to know who the Veteran contact is at each campus to build a partnership in developing your educational strategy to earn a college degree. At <http://tn.gov/veteran/section/veteran-education#sthash.9s9tnhZ2.dpuf> you can locate this information.

Education Benefits are right around the corner for any veteran that is willing to go back to school. Check out what benefits are available for you and what schools would be a perfect fit for your schedule at <http://tn.gov/veteran/section/veteran-education#sthash.hFY0R3Qc.dpuf>. As of July 1, 2014, eligible Veterans classified as out-of-state students will pay in-state tuition and fees at public higher education institutions. The Tennessee Veterans Education Support Act or Tennessee VETS Act also defines the designation of a VETS Campus which is a public institution of higher education that has demonstrated educational support for Veterans and has been designated by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC). See more at <http://tn.gov/veteran/section/veteran-education#sthash.hFY0R3Qc.dpuf>.

### **Tennessee LEAP**

The Tennessee Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP), is designed to ensure that colleges are producing graduates with the skills and credentials that Tennessee employers actually need. Designed to eliminate the skills gap across the state, programs were established using data-driven proactive research to encourage collaboration between institutions of higher learning and employers. Go to <http://tn.gov/veteran/section/veteran-education#sthash.hFY0R3Qc.dpuf> to take a look at the list of programs that have already been established across Tennessee that connects students of community colleges and Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs) to participate in technical training developed with input from employers

### **Tennessee Higher Education Commission-Veterans.**

Refer to <http://tn.gov/veteran/article/the-c-topic-veteran-education>

### **Military Transcripts**

Before making the final decision of which school to apply to, make sure you check to see if that campus will allow you to transfer your military service for college credits. Check with the institutions you are considering applying to, and see what their policies are for accepting your military service as college credit. This includes your military occupational experience but also trainings that you have done. Depending on which branch you served in, look below to see how to go about getting your military transcripts.

- <http://www.airuniversity.af.mil/Barnes/CCAF> Air Force
- <https://jst.doded.mil/smart/signIn.do;jsessionid=xcPCS7Bh6TvhBLY1LJgghLsbQDspzkiHBRc5KR1KnhrvDlh4IR6k!1373174819> Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, fill out the Joint Services Transcript

### **Choosing Your Institution**

Before you do anything, take a look at what schools are in Tennessee, and how they serve veterans. Do to <http://tn.gov/veteran/topic/choosing-an-institution> for a comprehensive list of all of the schools in Tennessee, and contact details for the staff members best suited to answer your questions. While you're looking, keep in mind fields that you're interested in studying, future careers you think you might like to pursue, and ask questions of the staff members there.

### **Combat Veterans Can Register Early for State Classes**

A military veteran who is a current resident of this state or whose home of record for military purposes is Tennessee and who is a student at a public institution of higher education shall be allowed to register for classes prior to the general student population at any public institution of

higher education. Early registration shall occur using the same procedure used by student athletes, disabled students and honor students, if such groups are permitted to early register.

### **Helping heroes grant for veterans**

The Helping Heroes Grant is for veterans who have served in the Post 9/11 era. There are several pre-requisites to determine eligibility, including having an Honorable Discharge, having received an Iraq or Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, and be a Tennessee resident for minimum of one year prior to receiving the grant. Go through the complete list of requirements at <https://www.tn.gov/collegepays/article/helping-heroes-grant> to see if you qualify.

Recipients can receive \$1,000 per semester when you take a full course load (12 hours), without receiving a failing grade. If you're a part-time student (between 6 and 11 credit hours), you can still receive \$500 each semester. Funds are available on a first-come first-served basis, so get your application in as soon as you can.

### **Vocational Rehab and Employment(VR&E)**

This is a program administered by the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs to guide veterans through career counseling, personal academic support, and also in some cases financial assistance. Learn more about the program at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp>. There are specific eligibility requirements related to entitlement to funds. Veterans with a service-connected disability rating of at least 10% from the VA, are eligible. Check the full list of eligibility requirements at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp>.

### **Dependents of certain veterans, tuition fees**

A dependent child (under 23 years of age) or spouse in the state is entitled to receive free tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees, registration fees, and to be admitted without cost to any of the colleges or universities owned, operated and maintained by the State, whose parent (mother or father) was killed or died as a direct result of injuries received or officially reported as being either a prisoner-of-war or missing-in-action while serving as a member of the Armed Forces during a qualifying period of armed conflict.

To be eligible for these benefits, the dependent child or spouse must present a certificate from the United States Government, and he/she can not be receiving benefits under Public Law 634 or such other Federal Laws offering like or similar benefits, and must meet the above requirements. Notice of the waiver program must be published in the institutional catalogs and class schedules.

### **Free Tuition and Fees for Veterans Dependents**

A dependent child of a veteran who is below age 23, or a spouse of a veteran, is entitled to free tuition and fees at a state college or university if the veteran:

- Was, or is, a prisoner of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA) or was killed or died due to injuries incurred while on active duty
- Was serving during a time of armed conflict, and
- Served honorably.

To be eligible, the child or spouse cannot be receiving similar educational benefits from the federal government and must be a Tennessee resident.

This program covers admissions fees, tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees, and registration or matriculation fees. Contact the financial aid office at the educational institution you are planning to attend for more information.

### **Diplomas for past war veterans**

High School diplomas may be issued to veterans whose education was interrupted by service in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War. The veteran is not required to be a current resident of the State of Tennessee at the time of the request for a diploma. A surviving spouse or other immediate family member of a deceased veteran may also request the diploma. Refer to <http://tn.gov/veteran/article/diplomas-for-past-war-veterans> for how to obtain.

## **Other Tennessee State Veteran Benefits**

### **State Veterans Cemeteries**

1. Tennessee offers eligible veterans their choice of state veteran cemeteries in Knoxville (2), Memphis (1), and Nashville (1). The Tennessee Department of Veterans Services is committed to establish a State Veterans Cemetery within 75 miles of the Tennessee Veteran population. The department has proposed a new State Veterans Cemetery in southwest Tennessee and in the upper Cumberland region. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs will fund the design and construction of the new cemetery. However, funding for land acquisition must be raised through donations as well as city, county and state funding. Go to <http://www.tn.gov/veteran/article/state-veterans-cemeteries> to click on the cemetery of your choice to pre-register for burial,

#### **Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery**

7931 McCrory Lane  
Nashville, TN 37221  
(615) 532-2238  
[MTSV.Cemetery@tn.gov](mailto:MTSV.Cemetery@tn.gov)

#### **East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery**

5901 Lyons View Pike  
Knoxville, TN 37919  
(865) 577-3228  
[ETSV.Cemetery@tn.gov](mailto:ETSV.Cemetery@tn.gov)

#### **East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery**

2200 E. Gov. John Sevier Hwy 168  
Knoxville, TN 37920  
(865) 577-3228  
[ETSV.Cemetery@tn.gov](mailto:ETSV.Cemetery@tn.gov)

## **West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery**

4000 Forest Hill/Irene Road

Memphis, TN 38125

(901) 543-7005

[WTSV.Cemetery@tn.gov](mailto:WTSV.Cemetery@tn.gov)

### 2. Eligibility for interment extends to:

- Any person who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States (Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Marine Corps) who was discharged or released there from before September 7, 1980 under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who died while on active duty.
- Any person who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States who entered active duty as an enlisted person after September 7, 1980, and officers commissioned who entered active duty after October 17, 1981, and whose discharge or separation from active military service was under "other than dishonorable" conditions. A person whose first tour of duty began on or after the dates listed above is eligible if he or she completed a continuous period of active duty of at least 24 months or the full period for which called or ordered to active duty, whichever is shorter or was released because of a hardship discharge, or has a compensable service connected disability or was released because of a service connected disability.

### 3. Reserve & National Guard Members are eligible for interment if:

- They are in receipt of compensation or pension from the VA are eligible for burial.
- They completed twenty or more years of reserve or guard service and are entitled to retirement pay.
- They are also eligible for burial under the following five (5) categories.
  - Dies under honorable conditions while undergoing active duty for training.
  - If called to active duty, completes the full period for which called up.
  - Dies under honorable conditions while performing full time AGR service.
  - Completed at least 24 months of active service.
  - Discharged due to service connected disability while on active duty.

4. There is no cost for the veteran if eligibility requirements are met. There is a \$600.00 fee for the interment of a veteran's spouse or eligible dependent children that must be paid the day of burial. Dependent burial fees were reduced by state law which went into effect on April 27, 2016. There is a \$150.00 fee for interment of cremated remains in available columbariums. Columbariums are only offered at the East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery located off of John Sevier Highway in Knoxville, TN. Columbarium services will be offered at other State Veterans Cemeteries in the near future. Please call your cemetery of interest for more information. Cremations The same guidelines apply. Outer Containers The Tennessee Department of Veterans Services does not require outer containers for burials. Headstones All veterans are entitled to a white, upright marble headstone at government expense when buried in a Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery. A temporary grave marker is used to identify grave site until the permanent headstone is delivered in approximately three to four months. - See more at: <http://www.tn.gov/veteran/article/Cost#sthash.ETX74T4c.dpuf>

There is a \$700.00 fee for the interment of a veteran's spouse or eligible dependent children that must be paid prior to or the day of the burial. The same guidelines apply for cremations. The State of Tennessee does not require an outside container for burial. This is a personal preference of the family. All veterans are entitled to a white, upright marble headstone at government expense when buried in a State Veterans Cemetery. A temporary grave marker is used to identify grave site until the permanent headstone is delivered in approximately three to four months.

5. Go to <http://www.tn.gov/veteran/article/unclaimed-veteran-remains> for information on how to proceed with Unclaimed Veteran Remains.

6. Floral policy is available at <http://www.tn.gov/veteran/article/floral-policy>

7. The Honor and Remember Flag has been designated as the official state symbol of remembrance to honor fallen military service members. For information on obtaining one refer to <http://www.honorandremember.org/the-flag/flag-presentation>



8. For information about National Cemeteries established and maintained by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs go to <http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/listcem.asp>

### **Veteran's Driver Licenses**

Legislation authorizing the state to publically recognize veterans' military service was passed in 2011. The veteran designation could not be offered, however, until the latest redesign of driver licenses and photo ID cards. A newly designed card and a new process called "central issuance," in which driver licenses and photo ID cards are mailed to citizens from a central location, are now being used in all driver services centers. Veterans must visit a driver services center and present a certified or original copy of their Department of Defense form 214 (DD-214), which is also known as discharge papers, to receive the special designation on a driver license or photo ID card. If the license or card is a renewal or duplicate of a non-commercial driver license, veterans may also visit one of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security's county clerk partners. The standard state issuance or renewal fees apply for the transaction. If it is not time to renew a driver license or photo ID, veterans may get a duplicate to replace a current non-commercial license or ID for \$8 for the first duplicate and \$12 for a second duplicate.

### **Special/Memorial License Plates**

There are more than 20 Veteran related specialty plates offered in the state of Tennessee to include four more added in 2012. We have provided links to find out more about each specialty plate, but to find out more about all specialty plates and how to obtain them, visit the [Tennessee Department of Revenue](#) website. License plates are free for 100% service connected disabled veterans, Ex-POW's, and recipients of MOH, DSC, NC or AFC. Following lists what is available:



**Active/Retired/Honorable Discharge** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are active/retired/honorable discharged members or members spouse of the United States military and military reserves in good standing. Active military applicants must provide a current copy of their LES and stationing orders, along with a copy of the vehicle's registration. The retired and honorable discharge military applicants must provide a military ID card and show one of the following official military forms to prove their status: DD Form 2A (RES), DD Form 2N (RES), DD Form 2MC (RES), DD Form 2AF (RES), DD Form 2CG (RES) or DD214. A surviving spouse of such a deceased active, retired or honorably discharged member, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon paying the regular fee applicable to the vehicle and the fee prescribed by Tenn. Code Ann. 55-4-203, shall be issued a registration plate pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. 55-4-244, until the surviving spouse remarries.

**Please note:** Applicants must submit proof of their status each year upon renewal of their vehicle's registration. Retired and Honorable Discharged members can elect to choose to obtain a retired and honorable discharged plate instead, which only requires the submission for proof upon initial application. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75. The plate cannot be personalized.



Air Force

Army

Coast Guard

Marine Corps

Marine Corps League

Navy

Reserve Forces



Retired

Honorably Discharged

Retired and Honorably Discharged



**Air Medal** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Air Medal. Applicants must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are an Air Medal recipient. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate can not be personalized.

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**Blue Star Family** - Blue Star Family license plates are offered for purchase to any eligible person whose spouse, parent, sibling, or child is currently serving in the armed forces of the United States at the time of application. Armed forces includes members serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard (when mobilized to augment the Navy) to include reservists and National Guard members.

To obtain this license plate, a registrant must:

1. Submit proof of current service from their service member. Examples of this documentation include copies of one of the following:
  - a. Current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES),
  - b. Member's military ID card, or
  - c. A letter from their unit commander on official letterhead stating the family member's current status as a member of the U.S. armed forces; and
2. Provide a written statement by the service member indicating the family relationship with the registrant.

Proof of eligibility must be submitted for each renewal year. The initial fee for obtaining this license plate is \$25.75, and the subsequent annual fee is \$21.50. Additional charges for county and/or city wheel tax, where imposed locally, plus county clerk fees will apply. The plate cannot be personalized.

Retired members of the military may apply for this license plate if they also meet the criteria above, but may wish to obtain one of several choices of registration plates available for them in honor of their service.

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**Bosnia Veterans** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are honorary discharged veterans who served in Bosnia with the United States Armed Forces. The applicant will be required to show proof of service. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75

required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.

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**Bronze Star (Meritorious)** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Bronze Star - Meritorious. The applicant must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a recipient of one of the applicable medals. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



**Bronze Star (Valor)** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Bronze Star - Valor. The applicant must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a recipient of one of the applicable medals. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



**Congressional Medal of Honor** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, the Air Force Cross or the Legion of Valor. Applicants must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a recipient of one of the applicable medals. There is no annual fee for this plate and it can not be personalized.



**Desert Storm Veteran** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are honorably discharged veterans of Desert Storm. Applicants must provide proof of service. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



**Disabled Veteran** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle, are veterans of the United States military and are entitled to compensation under the laws administered by the Veterans Administration; due to disability incurred in or aggravated by active military services of

the United States (Tenn. Code Ann. 55-4-237). For more information on obtaining a disabled veteran plate, [click here](#).



**Distinguished Flying Cross** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross. Applicants must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a Distinguished Flying Cross recipient. There is no annual fee

for this plate and it cannot be personalized.



**Enemy Evadee** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are certified as an enemy evadee by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The application must be accompanied by discharge papers from the United States Armed Forces that have been certified by the Department of

Veterans Affairs. A copy of the death certificate should be supplied in the event a surviving spouse wishes to renew such plate. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



**Gold Star Family** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are a person whose spouse, parent, sibling or child served and died in the line of duty in the United States Armed Forces or its allies, or died as a result of injuries sustained in such service. Applicant must provide a DD Form 1300 Report of

Casualty. The first plate is free. Additional plates will cost \$25.75 for initial issuance and \$21.50 for renewal. The plate cannot be personalized.



**Handicapped Veteran** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle, are veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces and has a service-connected disability which is determined by the federal Department of Veterans Affairs to constitute less than one hundred percent (100%) permanent

total disability. **Note:** This plate does not have handicapped parking privileges with it. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate can not be personalized.



**Honorably Discharged** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces. An applicant must provide proof of service. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



**Korean War** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are honorably discharged veterans of the Korean War. An applicant must provide proof of service. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



**Legion of Valor** - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, the Air Force Cross or the Legion of Valor. Applicants must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a recipient of one of the applicable medals. There is no annual fee for this plate and it cannot be personalized.

### **Disabled Decal for Disabled Veteran Drivers**

Veteran motorists previously defined as disabled drivers according to TCA Section 55-21-102, may apply and receive a free disabled driver decal which may be added to the existing specialty plate. To apply for a decal please visit the Tennessee Department of Revenue for details at <http://www.tn.gov/revenue/article/disable-plates-placards>.

### **Motor Vehicle Privilege Tax Exemption**

Any disabled veteran who has a 100 percent permanent, total disability from a service connected cause, or any former prisoner-of-war, as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, shall be exempt from the motor vehicle privilege tax upon submission of evidence of such disability to the officer in the county charged with the responsibility for collecting such tax.

As provided in Public Chapter 842, Tenn. Code Ann. Section 67-6-303(a)(1) exempts from sales tax the sale of motor vehicles in this state to members of the Tennessee National Guard or reserve members of a uniformed service of the United States who are called into active military

service and who are stationed outside the United States during hostilities in which such person is actually engaged in combat.

### **No-Fee Registration of Discharges**

Registration of discharges by county registrar at no fee.

### **Discounted Rates**

The Department of Environment and Conservation offer discounted rates for activities at state parks to veterans who are Tennessee residents. The specific activities for which the discounts would apply, as well as the timing and amount, are left to the commissioner's discretion.

During the off-season, (November 1 through March 31), discounts on camping fees will be extended to all Tennessee resident veterans at the same discounted rate as offered to Tennessee senior campers. Specific rates will be as stated in Tennessee State Parks Rate Schedule. Visit TN State Parks website <http://www.tnstateparks.com> for activity and reservation information.

Visit the Tennessee Dept. of Veterans Affairs website <http://www.tn.gov/veteran> for contact information and benefits assistance.

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/content/veteran-state-benefits/tennessee-state-veterans-benefits.html> DEC 2016 ++]

## **Military Discounts in Tennessee**

1. MVDC has close to 5300 business locations in Tennessee that have discounts for military personnel and veterans. In addition to businesses providing discounts, the state of Tennessee also provides discounts for those that have served. To find business discounts, enter your zip code and category in the search box at the top of <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/tennessee.html>

2. **Veterans Designation on drivers license: yes**

### **3. Discounted Fees and Taxes**

- \$10 one-time fee for hunting and fishing license for eligible disabled veterans
- Distinctive motorcycle and vehicle license plates; no fee for enlisted personnel
- Exemption from motor vehicle privilege tax for eligible permanently and totally disabled veteran or former POW
- Reduced fee state park lodging, camping, and golf

4. **Property tax and Financial Benefits** -- Property tax relief for the primary residence of veterans, and eligible surviving spouses, with a 100% permanent and total disability

## **5. Education Discounts**

- Free tuition and fees to any state supported college or university for eligible children or spouse whose parent deceased, declared POW or MIA during qualified periods of armed conflict
- Helping Heroes Grant for Veterans

## **6. State Ranking For Military Discounts: 10**

[Source: <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/tennessee.html> DEC 2016 ++]