

West Virginia State Veteran's Benefits & Discounts



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

- Veteran Housing Benefits
- Veteran Financial Assistance Benefits
- Veteran Employment Benefits
- Veteran Education Benefits
- Veteran Recreation Benefits
- Other State Veteran Benefits

Veteran Housing Programs

Homestead Exemption for Certain Eligible Veterans

This program provides for a \$20,000 exemption against the total assessed value of a single family dwelling, including mobile or manufactured homes, owned and occupied as a residence by any person who is at least sixty-five years old or totally and permanently disabled and who has legally resided in and paid taxes on a homestead in this State for two consecutive taxable years before filing for this exemption. When a member of the United States military forces maintains West Virginia as his state of residence throughout his military service and returns to this State and purchases a homestead upon his retirement or earlier separation from the military service due to permanent and total physical or mental disability, that person is deemed to satisfy the residency test and shall be allowed a Homestead Exemption if the person otherwise qualifies. Specific information is available through the local County Assessor's Office. Details are available in [West Virginia State Code 11-6B-4](#). Veterans who believe they qualify should contact their County Assessors' Office.

State Veterans Home

The state runs a veterans home in Barboursville (<http://www.veterans.wv.gov/offices-facilities/Pages/WV-Veterans-Home.aspx>) and a nursing facility in Clarksburg (http://www.wvvnf.wv.gov/Default.aspx?pageID=15&mm_=5). They are open to veterans who have been residents of West Virginia for at least 30 days (or entered the service from West Virginia), have an honorable discharge, and who served at least 12 months of active duty service. Charges are based on a veteran's income. Domiciliary care in Veterans Home is for ambulatory veterans who are able to go to the

dining room without help; can dress themselves; can make their own beds, and can participate in an assigned therapeutic activity.

Veterans Home in Barboursville



The West Virginia Veterans Home is located in the Village of Barboursville, fifteen miles from downtown Huntington. This home was authorized in 1975 and became a reality in 1981. Basic eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Veterans who have served on active duty or performed active service in a reserve component of the armed forces for a period of at least 12 consecutive months; or who have been medically discharged for a service connected injury prior to 12 months service. Veterans who enlisted after Sept. 7, 1980 must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which they were called to active duty unless they were medically discharged for a service connected injury prior to 24 months service.
- Veterans whose discharge status from military service is under honorable conditions.
- Veterans who have continuously been a citizen of the state of West Virginia for 30 days immediately prior to admission or who was a resident of West Virginia at the time they initially entered active military service.
- Due to the health and welfare of residents of the Barboursville Veterans Home, there are certain pre-admission medical tests which must be completed prior to being admitted.
- All qualified veterans must be ambulatory and independent in all activities of daily living.

The home is not a treatment facility and cannot accommodate veterans in need of daily care or skilled assistance. The home provides a nursing department and a contact physician. All medical treatment is provided by the VA Medical Center located in Huntington. Transportation is provided to the medical center three times daily. Rooms available for occupancy accommodate two, three or four persons. Every effort is made to ensure compatibility between occupants. Female veterans are most welcome and special lodging accommodations are provided as they become available.

A person's income is not a factor in gaining admission, although residents are required to contribute one-half of his or her monthly income as their maintenance contribution. The home is very liberal in its rules and regulations. Residents may leave on a pass for up to three days by simply signing a daily log sheet. All residents are authorized up to 30 days of furlough per year. Visitation to the home is encouraged and visitors may enjoy a meal with the residents at a nominal fee. Emphasis is placed on maintaining a warm, attractive and comfortable "home" for the West Virginia veteran who is in need of a place to live. The residents and staff, wish to extend an invitation to each of you to visit our facility. You will be proud, as they are, that such a home exists.

Assistance with applications for residency can be obtained through any of the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance Field Offices which can be located at <http://www.veterans.wv.gov/aboutus/Pages/Field->

[and-Claims-Offices.aspx](#) or you may contact the Veterans Home directly at: 512 Water Street , Barboursville, WV 25504 Tel:(304) 736-1027 Fax: (304) 736-1093 , Email: Thomas.L.McBride@wv.gov | Administrator, Tom McBride,

Veterans Nursing Facility in Clarksburg



**One Freedoms Way, Clarksburg, WV 26301 Tel: (304) 626-1602 Fax: (304) 626-1605
Email: Kevin.B.Crickard@wv.gov**

It was the intent of the governing authority from the beginning to not exclude any veteran the opportunity for admission to the West Virginia Veterans Nursing Facility based on financial reasons. Vets are charged 65% of their monthly income up to \$2,600/month for his or her stay. There is an additional fee of \$250/month for a private room. The veteran has the option not to disclose any financial information and pay the monthly maximum. Some veterans may qualify for a partial or complete hardship exception especially if there is a community spouse who needs the veterans monthly income to subsist.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. The following veterans shall be eligible for admission to the WVVNF:
 - a. Veterans who have served on active duty or performed active service in a reserve component of the armed forces for a period of at least 12 consecutive months; or who have been medically discharged for a service connected injury prior to 12 months service. Veterans who enlisted after Sept. 7, 1980 must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which they were called to active duty unless they were medically discharged for a service connected injury prior to 24 months service.
 - b. Veterans whose discharge status from military service is under honorable conditions
 - c. Veterans who have continuously been a citizen of the state of West Virginia for 30 days immediately prior to application to the WVVNF or who was a resident of West Virginia at the time they initially entered active military service.
 - d. Veterans who are physically unable to maintain themselves in their own home by reason of age, disability or disease and meet the criteria for intermediate or skilled nursing care under Medicare and Medicaid regulations.
 - e. Non-veteran spouses may be considered for admission **ONLY** when the veteran's nursing facility capacity is greater than 75% of the total licensed beds and when there are no veterans awaiting admission on the interest list.
2. The WVVNF shall not admit any applicant who requires treatment primarily for mental retardation, mental illness, or substance abuse, or who has a documented history of physical violence and/or disciplinary problems,

or whose needs cannot be met by the facility. As a matter of clarity, prospective residents with Alzheimer's disease or dementia are eligible for consideration.

3. The West Virginia Veterans State Nursing Home is a smoke-free facility. All veterans must agree not to smoke anywhere on facility grounds.

Financial Assistance Programs

Income Tax

First \$2,000 in retired pay is exempt, plus an additional exclusion total whose formula is years of military service multiplied by 2 percent, multiplied by military pension; or \$20,000, whichever is less.

Veterans Bonus

- The West Virginia State Legislature approved four separate bonus programs for payment to veterans of World War I and World War II, Korean Conflict, the Vietnam Era and veterans of conflicts in Lebanon, Panama, Granada, and Desert Storm. The deadline for making application for these bonus programs has expired as indicated: World War I and World War II -- December 31, 1955; Korean Conflict -- June 30, 1959; Vietnam Era -- December 31, 1976; Lebanon, Panama, Granada and Desert Storm -- June 30, 1994. Eligibility still extends to veterans of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Kosova provided they are: Veterans who were bona fide residents of the State of West Virginia at the time of their entry into active service and for a period of at least six months immediately prior thereto.
- Veterans who were not separated from service under conditions other than honorable.
- Veterans of the armed forces of the United States or who were members of reserve components called to active duty by the President of the United States.

Approved applicants will be eligible for a six hundred dollar bonus if they served in the combat zone and received a campaign badge or expeditionary medal, or a four hundred dollar bonus if they had active service outside the combat zone during the time periods specified for Afghanistan, Iraq and Kosova. Surviving relatives will be eligible for a two thousand dollar bonus where a veteran's death was connected with the service and resulted from the service during the time periods specified. The person receiving the bonus shall not be required to include the bonus as income for state income tax purposes. Campaign periods and application data follows:

1. **Afghanistan** - Applicants must have served on active duty between October 7, 2001 and a date yet to be determined. Applicants will be required to fill out form A-1 and attach copy of DD-214 covering eligibility period. If applicants are still active duty and do not have a DD-214, they must also complete form A-3, Commanding Officer's Certificate.

- [A-1 Application for West Virginia Afghanistan Veteran's Bonus](#)
- [A-3 Commanding Officer's Certificate for Afghanistan Veteran's Bonus](#)

2. **Iraq** - Applicants must have served on active duty between March 19, 2003 and a date yet to be determined. Applicants will be required to fill out form I-1 and attach copy of DD-214 covering eligibility period. If applicants are still active duty and do not have a DD-214, they must also complete form I-3, Commanding Officer's Certificate.

- [I-1 Application for West Virginia Iraq Veteran's Bonus](#)
- [I-3 Commanding Officer's Certificate for Iraq Veterans Bonus](#)

3. **Kosova** - Applicants must have received campaign badge or expeditionary medal for Kosova between November 20, 1995 and December 31, 2000, inclusive. Applicants will be required to fill out form Y-1 and attach copy of DD-214 covering eligibility period. [Y-1 Application for West Virginia Kosova Veterans Bonus](#)

Surviving Relatives - A surviving spouse or children may request an application by calling 1-888-838-2332, or by email at WVDVA@state.wv.us, or by mail at the address listed below. Completed applications should be mailed to: Attention: Bonus Office, West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance, 1321 Plaza East Suite 109 Charleston, WV 25301

Veteran Employment Programs

Veterans Preference

Under the West Virginia Civil Service System all veterans who have served under honorable conditions in the armed forces of the United States during World War II, Korea Conflict, Vietnam Era or during hostile conflict shall have five (5) points added to a final passing score. An additional five (5) points are added to a veteran's score if in receipt of the Purple Heart or has a compensable service-connected disability.

West Virginia Military Connection www.wvcommerce.org/business/workforcewv/wvmilitaryconnection/default.aspx

A one-stop shop for West Virginia veterans, active military personnel and their families. Services include links to benefits, employment, education and training, healthcare and family resources.

ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve) <http://www.esgr.mil>

A Department of Defense agency that promotes understanding and cooperation between reserve component service members and their civilian employers.

America's Heroes at Work <http://www.americasheroesatwork.gov>

Supporting the Employment Success of Returning Service Members with TBI & PTSD.

VetSuccess <http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab>

The Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) VetSuccess Program is authorized by Congress under Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 31. It is sometimes referred to as the Chapter 31 program. The VetSuccess program assists Veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs. For Veterans with service-connected disabilities so severe that they cannot immediately consider work, VetSuccess offers services to improve their ability to live as independently as possible.

WorkForce West Virginia <http://www.wvcommerce.org/business/workforcewv/veterans/default.aspx>

Work Force West Virginia has implemented an aggressive marketing outreach plan with the following components:

- Encourage West Virginia employers to hire Veterans.
- Focus on marketing services to veterans
- Provide marketing materials for Veteran Services that use an easily-identified template and are available at all One-Stops

U.S. Department of Labor <http://www.dol.gov/vets>

VETS Proudly Serves Veterans & Service Members! Providing Resources and Expertise to Assist and Prepare Veterans to Obtain Meaningful Jobs & Careers, Maximize their Employment Opportunities, and Protect their Employment Rights.

West Virginia HVRP http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/fact/Homeless_veterans_fs04.htm

The purpose of the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) is to provide services to assist in reintegrating homeless veterans into meaningful employment within the labor force and to stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems that will address the complex problems facing homeless veterans.

Job Hero <http://www.jobhero.com/veteran-career-guide>

This guide recommends pages only from trusted organizations and will connect veterans to all kinds of information, advice, tools, and programs that offer real-world help for re-entering the workforce.

Education Assistance Programs

State War Orphans Education

Provides for a waiver of tuition and registration fees in a state supported college or university for children between the ages of sixteen and twenty-three whose veteran parent served in World War I, World War II, Korean Conflict, Vietnam Era or any time of conflict as declared by Congress. Parent must have died in such wartime period, or, if subsequent to discharge, death must have been the result of disability incurred in such wartime service. Award amounts administered by the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance are to cover costs associated with room, board, books and other living expenses. This amount fluctuates according to the number of applications received each semester. No more than \$1,000 will be awarded to a student in any one semester and no more than \$2,000 will be awarded to a student in any one year. More information is available in [West Virginia State Code 18-19](#). Go to <http://www.veterans.wv.gov/programs/Documents/War%20Orphan%20Application%20-%20new.pdf> to complete an application.

Veterans Re-Education Act Fund

The West Virginia Legislature provides tuition assistance to those veterans who need a new vocation due to dislocation or unemployment. Veteran must have exhausted the G. I. Bill and be in need of tuition assistance. To apply submit a DD-214, Proof of enrollment in a West Virginia institution of postsecondary education or training (copy of tuition bill, schedule of courses, test enrollment confirmation, etc.), and a completed version of application form 2 (<http://www.veterans.wv.gov/programs/Documents/Reeducation%20Application%200415.pdf>) to West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance Office of the Secretary 1514-B Kanawha Blvd. East Charleston, WV 25311

Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program

All public institutions of higher education are participants of the US Department of Veterans Affairs' Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program, also known as the "bridging the gap" program. This benefit helps veterans afford programs where costs exceed the amount of funding provided by the G.I. Bill. More information is available in [West Virginia State Code 18B-10-7C](#) or through the [West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission](#).

In-state Tuition Rates for Nonresident Veterans

All public higher education institutions will assess tuition at the in state rate for nonresident recipients of the GI Bill who enroll within three years of their discharge (beginning July, 2015). More information is available in [Title 133 Legislative Rule Series 25](#) or through the [West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission](#).

Medal of Honor & Purple Heart Tuition Waivers

All public institutions of higher education waive tuition and mandatory fee charges for West Virginia residents who have been awarded the Medal of Honor or Purple Heart. More information is available in [West Virginia State Code 18B-10-10](#) or through the [West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission](#).

High School Diplomas for Veterans

West Virginia veterans who served in WWII, Korea or Vietnam and did not graduate from high school may be awarded a high school diploma. The diploma may be granted by the veteran's current county of residence or by the county in which the school he/she attended is located. More details are available in [West Virginia State Code 18-2-34](#) or [Title 126 Legislative Rule Series 96](#). [Click here](#) for an application.

Veteran Recreational Benefits

Veteran Hunting & Fishing Licenses

Resident veterans who qualify for federal VA auto grant benefits or who have a 100% permanent and total service-connected disability qualify for free West Virginia hunting and fishing licenses. Services members who are on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, while on leave or furlough, are permitted to hunt, fish and trap without a license. Leave or furlough papers shall serve in lieu of any required licenses. More information is available in [West Virginia State Code 20-2-28](#). [Applications are available here](#).

West Virginia State Parks “Veterans’ Salute”

Veterans and active duty military personnel are provided a year-round 10% discount on all standard lodge rooms, cabins and campsites operated by West Virginia State Parks. Additional discounts and offers for veterans and military members are available seasonally. [Click here for more information](#).

Other West Virginia Veteran Programs

Agent Orange Program

The program administered by the West Virginia Division of Health expired July 1, 1989. However, assistance is provided to Korean and Vietnam veterans exposed to certain chemicals, defoliants or herbicides or other causative agents, including Agent Orange from the US Department of Veterans Affairs, Medicine and Surgery.

Automobile License Plates

West Virginia provides special vehicle license plates, DV Tags without fee to any veteran in receipt of an auto grant or who is permanently and totally disabled due to service-connected causes, and former POW Tag as certified by the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Also recent legislation provides for Purple Heart Tags for those wounded in action and Pearl Harbor Survivors Tags for West Virginia veterans who were at Pearl Harbor during the attack on December 7, 1941. Veteran Plate for honorably discharged veterans for a one-time fee of \$10.00 over and above the regular license fee required by Motor Vehicles.

Special Military Plates are available upon request and paying the appropriate fees. Below are images of the available plates. Click on the image to obtain its acquisition data.



82nd Airborne Division Association



Air Force Cross



Air Force Retired



Air National Guard



American Legion



Army National Guard



Army Retired



Bronze Star



Coast Guard Retired



Combat Infantry Badge



Combat Medic



Disabled Veterans



Distinguished Flying Cross



Distinguished Service Cross



Former Prisoner of War



Gold Star Family



Korean War Veteran



Marine Corps League



Marines Corps Retired



Medal of Honor



National Guard



Navy Cross



Navy Retired



Pearl Harbor Survivor



Persian Gulf Veteran



Purple Heart



Silver Star



Veteran



Vietnam War Veteran



War On Terrorism - Afghanistan



War on Terrorism - Iraq



Women Veterans



World War II Veteran

Burial

The Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery (DCKMSVC) is a 354 acre facility designed to provide an honorable, dignified resting place for West Virginia's cherished veterans and their closest family members. Throughout its lifetime, the cemetery will accommodate burial space for approximately 60,000 qualified individuals. The official dedication of the cemetery was held on Memorial Day, May 28, 2012.



Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery

General Information

- **Provided at no cost to the veteran:** Grave Site or Niche, Opening and Closing, Concrete Pre-Set Crypt, Headstone / Niche Cover, Perpetual Care, Presidential Memorial Certificate.
- **Eligibility for Dependents:** Order of death does not determine eligibility for benefits. A spouse or child may pre-decease the veteran. Eligibility is based on the veteran's service.
- **Burial of Surviving Spouse:** A veteran's surviving spouse who married a non-veteran after the veteran's death is now eligible for burial in the cemetery based on his or her marriage to the eligible veteran. This only applies to deaths of surviving spouses that occur on or after January 1, 2000.
- **Grave Location:** The grave location of your loved one is furnished on the map included in the burial document folder. Additionally, there is a grave locator in the Administration Building to assist visitors who may not know the location of a gravesite.

- **Grave Marker:** A temporary grave marker is used to mark the grave following the interment. A permanent grave marker will be furnished free of charge by the federal government without application from the family. Every effort is made to have the grave marker delivered and set within 60 days of interment.
- **Flags:** The United States flag is flown over the cemetery every day. The flag is flown at half-staff on the morning of Memorial Day and during interment services. Graves are decorated with small US flags the day before Memorial Day and are removed immediately after the holiday. Flags are not permitted on graves at any other time. It is the responsibility of the Funeral Home to provide flags for burial services.
- **Grounds Maintenance:** Immediately after each interment, the grave is filled and leveled. As soon as the headstone / marker is set the site will be seeded. Until growing conditions are favorable and turf has been established, burial areas may be substandard in appearance. Because the soil continues to sink after a burial, a new grave requires repeated renovation. Matters which appear to need immediate corrective action should be brought to the attention of the Cemetery Administrator.
- **Floral Policy:** Floral Policies at the DCKMSVC are modeled after the policies of federal veteran's
- **Tree Donations:** Tree donations for burial and bench areas are accepted (space permitting) if desired by next-of-kin, family or friends. For additional information please contact the Administrative Office.
- **The State Cemetery will be following Federal guidelines and requirements for eligibility.** Eligibility is as follows, but is not limited to:
 - Any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who dies on active duty.
 - Any veteran who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable and had a minimum of 24 months of active duty.
 - The spouse or surviving spouse of an eligible veteran.
 - The minor children of an eligible veteran. For purpose of burial in a national cemetery, a minor child is a child who is unmarried and: Who is under 21 years of age; or, who is under 23 years of age and pursuing a full-time course of instruction at an approved educational institution.

Any state or federal Veterans Affairs office can assist in determining eligibility for burial in a VA national or state veteran's cemetery. For more on eligibility go to <http://www.cem.va.gov>. To contact the cemetery call or write: Donel Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery, 130 Academy Drive, Dunbar, WV 25064 Tel: 304-746-0026 | (Office) Larissa Wines, Administrator Larissa.M.Wines@wv.gov

Jack Bennett Fund

Families of deceased veterans may be provided grave markers for their loved one free of charge from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. However, some families are unable to cover the cost of installing these grave markers. The Jack Bennett Fund provides applicants up to \$380 to offset these costs. A family's need for financial assistance may be used to determine eligibility and is based on the "Means Test Threshold" as published by the federal VA. Any family member of a deceased veteran, licensed funeral directors and cemeteries may apply. Details about the Jack Bennett Fund can be found in [West Virginia State Code 29-22A-10](#), [Title 86 Legislative Rule Series 4](#), and [Title 150 Legislative Rule Series 28](#). For an application, [click here](#).

Veterans Transportation Program

Each year the West Virginia Legislature provides funds to the WVDVA for the purchase of vans to be used exclusively for the transportation of veterans to and from their VA medical appointments. Once vehicles are purchased, they are leased to the federal VA medical centers that serve West Virginia. Those facilities then work in conjunction with the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) to transport veterans. Any veteran who needs transportation to a VA medical appointment should [contact the VA Medical Center](#) nearest him/her and ask for the DAV Volunteer Coordinator.

Veterans and Warriors to Agriculture Program

The Veterans and Warriors to Agriculture Program is designed to integrate veterans into the field of agriculture and support veterans currently working in agriculture through a variety of training and other support programs. The WVDVA has worked closely with the Department of Agriculture to recruit eligible veterans and develop the program which is administered by the Department of Agriculture. More information is available in [West Virginia State Code 19-1-12](#). [Click here for an application](#) or call the [West Virginia Department of Agriculture](#) at 304-558-3200 for more information.

West Virginia Veteran Service Decoration / West Virginia Service Cross

The West Virginia Service Decoration may be awarded to any West Virginia resident who served in one of the five federally recognized military branches during a time of armed conflict. Those who also received certain other federal medals and recognitions may also qualify for the West Virginia Service Cross. Some members of the National Guard also qualify. More information is available in [West Virginia State Code 15-1G-10](#). Verification of qualifying awards and service may be sent to the West Virginia Army National Guard at WVARNG, Attention MILPO, 1705 Coonskin Drive, Charleston, WV 25311. Verification should include a DD214 and current mailing address. Questions should be directed to MAJ Bossie at 304-561-6350. Applications will remain on file until the award is funded and procured.

Veteran Designation on West Virginia Driver's Licenses

Veterans who were honorably discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces may have their veteran status designated on their West Virginia driver's license. Information can be found in [West Virginia State Code 17B-2-1](#). For application information, veterans should contact their [local DMV office](#).

Community Support Programs

The programs and organizations listed below are not operated by the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance, but share with our department the goal of supporting West Virginia veterans. The views and opinions of these organizations do not represent those of the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance or the state of West Virginia.

[Blue Star Families](#)

Blue Star Families' mission is to support, connect and engage military families. Are you the parent of a military service member? Make a difference for the military families that sacrifice so much!

[Blue Star Mothers](#)

To perpetuate the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., and the memory of all the men and women who have served our country as members of the Armed Forces; the further object of this organization shall be patriotic, educational, social, and for service; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States.

[Gold Star Family Registry](#)

The National Gold Star Family Registry provides a searchable database of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Guardsmen killed while in the service of our country since the beginning of WWII.

[Gold Star Mothers](#)

An organization of mothers who have lost a son or daughter in the service of our country.

[Honor Flight](#)

Honor Flight is a non-profit organization whose mission is to transport America's veterans to Washington, D.C. to see the memorials that were built in their honor. This trip is 100% free to veterans and Huntington, West Virginia, is home to one of their 130 chapters covering 42 states.

[The Mission Continues](#)

The Mission Continues empowers veterans adjusting to life at home to find new missions. We redeploy veterans so that their shared legacy will be one of action and service. The Mission Continues has helped thousands of post-9/11 veterans transition successfully by focusing their talents and energy on tackling challenges here at our home front.

[Project Healing Waters](#)

Dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings.

[Quilts of Valor](#)

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

[Serve West Virginia](#)

First Lady of West Virginia takes great pride in launching this initiative in conjunction with First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden's national initiative, Operation Homefront and Joining Forces. West Virginia's service men and women willingly make sacrifices for our freedom and safety while their families patiently wait at home. The same is true of our veterans. Giving back can be as simple as a phone call, an offer to babysit or sharing of a home-cooked meal. Anything you can do for our service members, our veterans and our military families is greatly appreciated.

[Thanks! Plain & Simple](#)

To unify the people of West Virginia around the wellbeing of our soldiers and veterans, and to guide veterans to contribute at home.

[Vet Connection](#)

VetConnection serves United States military veterans by providing resources for vets and their families including: jobs, healthcare, job training, education, housing assistance, financial guidance, legal advice and more.

[Vet Friends](#)

Helping U.S. Military Veterans Reconnect.

[Veterans History Project](#)

The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

[The Veterans Legacy Project](#)

The Veterans Legacy Project (Glenville State College) will establish an oral history collection that preserves and protects the recollections, memories, and stories of men and women who served in the US military. The collection will be available to interested families, students, and scholars on the Glenville State campus and website.

[Veterans Upward Bound Program](#)

Veterans Upward Bound is a free educational program for military Veterans. It is a U.S. Department of Education TRIO program, and it is funded by a competitive grant. Participants in VUB receive preparation for success at colleges and universities, technical and trade schools, and other post-high school training institutions. To find out how VUB can assist you with your postsecondary endeavors, contact the Veterans Upward Bound program at: Veterans Upward Bound, 100 Campus Drive, Elkins, WV 26241-3996 Phone: (304) 637-1257 or (800) 624-3157 ext. 1257

[WV Memory Project](#)

The mission of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History is to identify, preserve, protect, promote and present the ideas, arts and artifacts of West Virginia's heritage, building pride in our past accomplishments and confidence in our future.

[West Virginia Veterans Database Search](#)

Allows you to search veterans based on name of war, county, name, etc.

[Wounded Warrior Project](#)

Providing wounded veterans the means and resources for rehabilitation and adaptation to life changing injuries.

[Dental Care Resources For Veterans](#)

Covers dental care eligibility, available dental care programs and clinic locations, plus other useful resources.

[In My Area](#)

Helps veterans save time and money when setting up home services. The website allows veterans to compare service providers and gain access to localized information pertaining to the community. InMyArea.com/Military also offers relocation consultations to veterans for free when calling in.

Visit the West Virginia Dept. of Veterans Assistance website <http://www.veterans.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx> for contact information and benefits assistance.

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/west-virginia-state-veterans-benefits.html> | pril 2017 ++]

Military Discounts in West Virginia

1. There are close to 1,500 business locations in Wyoming that have discounts for military personnel and veterans. In addition to businesses providing discounts, the state of West Virginia 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/west-virginia.html>

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

3. **Discounted Fees and Taxes**

- Free Disabled Veteran license plates for certain veterans with a service-connected disability
- Free POW, Purple Heart, and Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates
- Free hunting and fishing license for certain veterans with a 100% service-connected disability

4. **Property tax and Financial Benefits** - Homestead exemption for certain eligible disabled veterans

5. **Education Discounts** –

- Tuition and registration fee waiver administered by State War Orphans Education for eligible children of certain deceased wartime veterans
- Education assistance from State government through Veterans Upward Bound
- Purple Heart recipients education benefit

[Source: <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/west-virginia.html> | April 2017 ++]