

# Hawaii State Veteran's Benefits



The state of Hawaii 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

## Veteran Housing Programs

### **Special Housing for Disabled Veterans**

Payment by the State of up to \$5,000 to each qualified, totally disabled veteran for the purpose of purchasing or remodeling a home to improve handicapped accessibility.

### **State Veterans Home**

The Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home in Hilo, Hawaii's first State Veterans Home, provides high quality nursing and personal care, applied with courtesy and compassion. The home has been entrusted to the management of Avalon Care Center and its dedicated staff to provide care with a reverence for life emphasizes the sacred individuality of every person. The home is a VA and Medicare/Medicaid certified health care community, striving to honor veterans through dedicated and compassionate care. The Home is located at 1180 Waiianuenue Avenue, below Hilo Medical Center. The home offers large private rooms with showers and spacious semi-private suites (95 beds in total) and inviting, home-like, and colorful open air interiors. Also Family dining is available for special occasions. Services provided include:

- Skilled Nursing Care
- Rehabilitation Therapies
- Long Term Care

- Hospice Care
- Geriatric Mental Health
- Alzheimer’s Care
- Dementia
- Adult Day Health
- Respite Care



The Hawaii Health Systems Corporation is designated as the responsible agency for the management and operation of the State Veterans Home. Hawaii Health Systems Corporation through coordination with the State of Hawaii Office of Veterans Services and Governors Advisory Council developed conditions and standards for admission for veterans to Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home – Hilo. Admission shall be in accordance with the policies and procedures as established at the time application for admission is presented; provided however, that Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home – Hilo may admit veterans who qualify for care and treatment under Title 38, U.S.C., Section 101 (19), and may adopt appropriate rules consistent with accepted medical considerations to carry out this function. To be eligible for care the veteran must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- The applicant must be recognized as an “eligible veteran” by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).
- The applicant must require skilled or long-term nursing home care as defined by the VA, Medicaid, or Medicare as certified by a physician.
- The applicant must be at least 55 years of age. Admission of persons under age 55 is considered on an individual basis by the admissions team with consideration given to the ability of the Home to meet the needs of the Veterans population.
- The applicant must be honorably discharged.
- The applicant must have resided in Hawaii prior to induction in the military or a resident of Hawaii for one full year at time of application for admission.
- The Applicant must be able to pay the resident’s portion of the cost of care (if not covered by other payer sources such as Medicare Medicaid, pensions, etc.).
- On a space available basis, the home will accept spouses and Gold Star Parent statutory limits.

- For wait listed applicants, the admissions team will utilize the following priority order for admissions:
  1. VA Priority Grouping
  2. Veterans who service included at least one day in wartime period.

Applicants for the State Veterans Home will be checked against the Sex Offender Registry and a background check for active felony status. No one found to be on the Sex Offender Registry or in a fugitive felon, status shall be considered for admission. For more information call (808) 961-1500 or go to: <http://corp.hhsc.org/easthi/svh/home.shtml>.

## **Veteran Financial Benefits**

### **Tax Exemptions**

Applies to real property that is owned and occupied as a home by a totally disabled veteran or their widow(er). Also applies to passenger cars when they are owned by totally disabled veterans and subsidized by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

## **Employment Benefits**

### **Employment and Re-employment**

Preference is given to veterans, Vietnam-era veterans, service-connected, disabled veterans and their widow(er)s for civil service positions, training programs, job counseling and referrals to civilian jobs by the Workforce Development Division, Department of Labor & Industrial Relations. Re-employment rights for veterans, Reservists or National Guard members who leave a position within State or County government for training or active military service.

Visit the Hawaii Office of Veterans Services website <http://hawaii.gov/dod/ovs> for contact information and benefits assistance.

## **Other State Veteran Benefits**

### **Burials**

Burials for qualified veterans (including U.S. war allies) and their dependents in Veterans Cemeteries on Oahu, Hawaii, Kauai, Maui, Molokai, or Lanai.



**Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery Kaneohe**

*Cemetery locations and contact info are as follows:*

- **HAWAII STATE VETERANS CEMETERY**, 45-349 Kamehameha Highway, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744 (Island of Oahu). Operations Manager: Willie Hirokane, Phone: 808-233-3630 FAX: 808-233-3633
  - [General Info Rules & Regs HSVC 3.25.14](#)
  - [Arranging for Burial HSVC 3.25.14](#)
  - [Installation of Flower Vases 3.25.14](#)
- **EAST HAWAII VETERANS CEMETERY- NO. I** (Closed) - County of Hawaii (Island of Hawaii) Mailing address: 25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720, Location: Home Iani Lane, Hilo, HI 96720 Director Clayton S. Honma, Dept. of Parks & Recreation. No permanent staff at site
- **EAST HAWAII VETERANS CEMETERY-NO. II** - County of Hawaii (Island of Hawaii). Mailing address: (See East Hawaii above). Location: Home Iani Lane, Hilo, HI 96720. Director: Clayton S. Honma, Dept. of Parks & Recreation. No permanent staff at site
- **WEST HAWAII VETERANS CEMETERY-NO. II** - County of Hawaii (Island of Hawaii). For mailing address: (See East Hawaii). Location: 72-3245 Queen Kaahumanu Hwy. , Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 Director: Clayton S. Honma, Dept. of Parks & Recreation. No permanent staff at site
- **KAUAI VETERANS CEMETERY** - County of Kauai (Island of Kauai). Mailing address: 4444 Rice Street, Room 150, Lihue, Hawaii 96766-1340. For more information call Tony Elliott (808) 241-3348 Location: 4331 Lele Road Hanapepe, HI 96716. Director: Leonard A Rapozo, Dept. for Parks & Rec. No permanent staff
- **MAUI VETERANS CEMETERY** - County of Maui (Island of Maui). Mailing address:P.O. Box 117 Makawao, Hawaii 96768. Location: 1295 Makawao Ave., Makawao, HI 96786 Patrick Medeiros Dept. of Public Works. No permanent staff
- **MOLOKAI VETERANS CEMETERY** - County of Maui (Island of Molokai) .Mailing address: P.O. Box 526, Kauna Kakai, Hawaii 96748 Location: 2725 Lihi Pali Avenue Hoolehua, HI 96748. David Goode Dept. of Public Works. No permanent staff at site
- **LANAI VETERANS CEMETERY** - Maui County (Island of Lanai). Mailing address: P.O. Box 630359, Lanai City, Hawaii 96763 Location: Lanido Road Lanai City, HI 96763 David Goode Dept. of Public Works. No permanent staff at site

### **Vital Statistics**

Free certified copies of vital statistics forms when needed for veterans' claims.

### **License Plates**

Hawaii does not have a statewide Department of Motor Vehicles. Vehicle Registration is managed by each county government. For the same cost as regular license plates, qualified veterans can acquire distinctive veterans' license plates for their car or motorcycle. Currently available are: "Veteran," "Combat," "Combat Wounded," "Pearl Harbor Survivor," "Former POW," "World War II Veteran" , "Korean War Veterans, and Vietnam Veteran".

**Note: I have searched the internet and have been unable to locate any info on what these plates look like or how to obtain them. Request anyone who has knowledge of this forward it to raoemo@sbcglobal.net**

Visit the Hawaii Office of Veterans Services website <http://hawaii.gov/dod/ovs> for contact information and benefits assistance.

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/hawaii-state-veterans-benefits.html> Nov 2014 ++]

## **Military Discounts in Hawaii**

1. MVDC has a list of close to 800 locations in Hawaii that have discounts for military personnel or veterans. Similar to businesses, the state of Hawaii provides discounts for its veterans and military population. If you are looking for business discounts, use the search tool at <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/hawaii.html>.

2. **Veterans Designation on driver's license:** No

3. **State of Georgia discounts for veterans and military personnel**

- Discounted veterans specific license plates.
- No state income tax while serving in hostile combat zones.
- State income tax of \$3,000 (active duty and reservists)

4. **Education Discounts** - 100% tuition assistance for active duty and reservists at in state schools

[Source: <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/hawaii.html>.Dec 2014 ++]