

New Mexico State Veteran's Benefits & Discounts



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

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

New Mexico Veteran Housing Programs

Homeless and At Risk Veteran Services

Through the New Mexico Veterans Integration Center (NMVIC) in Albuquerque, DVS provides transition services for homeless and at risk NM veterans.

The NMVIC facility at 13032 Central Ave SE provides housing, meal service and a continuum of support services designed to assist homeless veterans to self-sufficiency.

Contact them at:

Office (505)265-0512

Residential: (505)275-8200 Ext.118

Email: info@nmvic.org

Learn more about Homeless and At Risk Veteran Services at <http://www.dvs.state.nm.us/benefits.html>

New Mexico Financial Assistance Benefits

Veterans' Tax Exemption

Any veteran who was honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces and served 90 or more days of active duty and has established legal residency in New Mexico, qualifies for the New Mexico Veterans' Tax Exemption.

Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption

Any veteran who has been approved for 100 percent service-connected disability compensation benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is eligible for a complete property tax waiver on their primary residence.

Visit the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services website <http://www.dvs.state.nm.us/benefits.html> for contact information and benefits assistance

New Mexico Education Benefits

In-State Tuition for Veterans and Dependents of Active Duty (including Title 10 Reserve and Guard) Members

All honorably discharged veterans using a federal education benefit and dependents of Active Duty, Guard and Reserve (title 10) Servicemembers--regardless of where they live--qualify as residents and therefore pay reduced 'resident' or in-state tuition rates and fees at all state operated institutions of higher learning in New Mexico. This eliminates the waiting period needed to qualify as a resident of the state.

Call the NMDVS office at (866) 433-8387 for more details.

Vietnam Veteran Scholarship

Veterans who have been residents of New Mexico for a minimum of 10 years, served in Vietnam, and were issued the Vietnam Campaign or Service Medal are eligible. The Vietnam Veteran Scholarship will pay full tuition and books at any state funded post-secondary school.

World War II and Korean Veterans High School Diploma

Any WWII or Korean War veteran who joined the Armed Forces while attending a New Mexico high school prior to graduation is eligible for a high school diploma.

Veterans Education and Training Services

The State Approval Office is responsible for evaluating and approving education and job training programs under U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, GI Bill regulations.

Visit the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services website <http://www.dvs.state.nm.us/benefits.html> for contact information and benefits assistance

Other New Mexico State Veteran Benefits

Children of Deceased Veterans

Children between the ages of 16-26 whose veteran parent was killed in action or died as a result of their wounds incurred in battle, qualify for a full tuition waiver at any state funded post-secondary school. A \$150 stipend, per semester, will be issued to help with books or fees.

Disabled Veterans Hunting and Fishing License

Any veteran rated 100 percent service-connected disabled, qualifies for a free lifetime small game hunting and fishing license in the State of New Mexico.

Veterans' Military Honors

Coordinates with military and local veteran organizations to provide an honor guard and bugler for military honors funerals for deceased veterans.

Veteran Transportation Service

Provides statewide transportation for veterans to the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and its satellite clinics for scheduled appointments. DVS contracts with DAV.

Native American Outreach Services

Coordinates outreach and training programs for tribal members statewide to provide information and assistance for Native veterans.

Veterans' License Plates

Any veteran who was honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the U.S. is eligible for a New Mexico license plate. A fee and registration is required for some plates.

Gold Star Families (Motor Vehicle Code Section 66-3-424.24 NMSA 1978)



The Gold Star Family registration plate is available to the surviving mother, father, step parent or spouse of a service member killed in an armed conflict with an enemy of the United States. There is a limit of four Gold Star Family registration plates for each eligible family.

Fee: None, other than regular registration fees; registration fee also waived for first plate issued to the service member's mother or spouse.

Application form MVD10100

Medal of Honor (Motor Vehicle Code Section 66-3-409 NMSA 1978)



A distinctive Medal of Honor plate is available for any person who has been awarded the Medal of Honor and submits proof satisfactory to the division that he has been awarded that medal. No fee, including the regular registration fee, shall be collected for the issuance of a Medal of Honor plate.

Fee: None for plate or registration

Application form MVD10353

Prisoner of War (Motor Vehicle Code Section 66-3-411 NMSA 1978)



Prisoner of War (POW) plates are available to any person, or to the surviving spouse of a deceased person, who was held as a prisoner of war by an enemy of the United States during any armed conflict, upon submission of proof satisfactory to the division. If the applicant is the surviving spouse, a copy of the marriage certificate and death certificate must accompany the application. No fee, including the regular registration fee, shall be collected for issuance of a POW plate. Fee: None for plate or registration

Application form MVD10353

50% Disabled Veteran (Motor Vehicle Code Section 66-3-412 NMSA 1978)



The 50 percent disabled veteran plate is available for up to two vehicles, including motorcycles, to a veteran of the armed forces of the United States, upon the submission of proof satisfactory to the department that he was fifty percent disabled while serving in the armed forces of the United States. No fee, including the regular registration fee, shall be collected for issuance of 50 percent disabled veteran plate.

A 50% disabled veteran who would also qualify for the disabled person (HP) plate may elect to have the disability wheelchair symbol included on his disabled veteran plate.



Fee: None for plate or registration

Application form MVD10353

National Guard (Motor Vehicle Code Section 66-3-413 NMSA 1978)



The National Guard plate is available to any person who is an active member of the New Mexico national guard, upon the submission by the person of proof satisfactory to the division that the person is currently a member of the guard. No fee, including the regular registration fee, shall be collected for issuance of a National Guard plate. Fee: None for plate or registration

Application form MVD10247

Purple Heart (Motor Vehicle Code Section 66-3-414 NMSA 1978)



The Purple Heart plate is issued for up to two vehicles to any person who is a veteran and a bona fide purple heart medal recipient and submits proof that he has been awarded that medal. No fee, including the regular registration fee, shall be collected for issuance of a Purple Heart plate. Fee: None for plate or registration

Application form MVD10353

Armed Forces Veterans (Motor Vehicle Code Secs. 66-3-419 and 66-3-412.1 NMSA 1978)



Section 66-3-419 authorizes special registration plates for Armed Forces Veterans. Section 66-3-412.1 adds specific authorization for an Armed Forces Veterans motorcycle plate. Armed Forces Veterans plates are available for any individual who is a veteran of the armed forces of the United States or is retired from the national guard or military reserves, with proof satisfactory to the department of honorable discharge from the armed forces or of retirement from the national guard or military reserves.

Each armed forces veteran may elect to receive a veteran-designation decal to be placed across the top of the plate, centered above the registration number. Available decals include:

- Medal of Honor recipient
- Silver Star recipient
- Bronze Star recipient
- Navy Cross recipient
- Distinguished Service Cross recipient
- Air Force Cross recipient
- Distinguished Flying Cross recipient
- Combat Wounded
- Merchant Marine
- Atomic Veteran
- Pearl Harbor survivor
- Bataan Survivor
- Navajo Code Talker
- Vietnam Veteran
- Korean Veteran
- Disabled Korean Veteran
- World War II Veteran
- World War I Veteran
- Grenada Veteran
- Panama Veteran
- Desert Storm Veteran

- Iraqi Freedom Veteran

\$8.00 of the \$17.00 fee collected for each non-motorcycle plate is transferred to the Armed Forces Veterans License Fund, for the purpose of expanding services to rural areas of the state, including Native American communities and senior citizen centers.

Fee: \$17.00 initially (\$9.00 for motorcycles); no added fee upon regular registration renewal

Application form MVD10353

Woman Veteran (Motor Vehicle Code Secs.(66-3-424.20 NMSA 1978)



"Women Veterans Serve Proudly", indicating that the recipient is a woman veteran of the armed forces of the United States, as defined in Section 9-22-3 NMSA 1978, or is retired from the national guard or military reserves, if that person submits proof satisfactory to the department of honorable discharge from the armed forces or of retirement from the national guard or military reserves.

Each armed forces veteran may elect to receive a veteran-designation decal (see above) to be placed across the top of the plate, centered above the registration number.

The revenue from the special registration plates for the women armed forces veteran fee imposed by Subsection B of this section shall be distributed as follows:

Seven dollars (\$7.00) of the fee collected for each registration plate shall be retained by the department and is appropriated to the department for the manufacture and issuance of the registration plate. Eight dollars (\$8.00) of the fee collected for each registration plate shall be transferred to the state treasurer for credit to the armed forces veterans license fund.

Fee: \$17.00 initially no added fee upon regular registration renewal

Application form MVD10353

Patriot (Motor Vehicle Code Section 66-3-424.17 NMSA 1978)



The Patriot registration plate is available to any motor vehicle owner who is a patriot. No proof of patriotism is required. \$8.00 of the \$27.00 fee collected for each Patriot plate is transferred to the Armed Forces Veterans License Fund, for the purpose of expanding services to rural areas of the state, including Native American communities and senior citizen centers. Fee: \$27.00 upon initial registration

Application form MVD11300

Visit the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services website <http://www.dvs.state.nm.us/benefits.html> for contact information and benefits assistance

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/nevada-state-veterans-benefits.html> Sep 2013++]

Military Discounts in New Mexico

1. MVDC has close to 1700 business locations in New Mexico that have discounts for military personnel and veterans. In addition to businesses providing discounts, the state of New Mexico also provides discounts for those that have served. To find business discounts, enter your zip code and category in the search box at <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/new-mexico.html> .

2. Veterans Designation on drivers license: Yes

3. Discounted Fees and Taxes

- Any veteran who has suffered the loss, or complete loss of use of one or more limbs due to their service in the military is exempt from excise taxes when purchasing a new vehicle
- Free veterans license plates for veterans with a 50% service-connected disability, Medal of Honor recipients, Gold Star Families, Purple Heart recipients, Pearl Harbor Survivors and former Prisoners of War
- Woman veteran and Armed Forces license plates for a one-time fee of \$17
- Free or reduced hunting and fishing licenses for disabled veterans
- Free annual day-pass into any state park, state museum, or state monument for eligible disabled veterans and free camping for three nights

4. Property tax

- Veterans qualify for \$4,000 reduction in the taxable value of any property that the veteran or their qualifying widow(er) owns; this benefit can instead be used to obtain a 1/3 discount off a vehicle registration fee when registering a vehicle in New Mexico
- Property taxes on the primary residence are completely waived for property owned by a 100% service-connected disabled veteran or their qualifying widow(er)

5. Education Discounts

- In state tuition rates for veterans and all military, including the National Guard, and their spouses and children
- Scholarships for eligible Vietnam veterans and children of deceased veterans

[Source: <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/new-mexico.html> Sep 2013 ++]