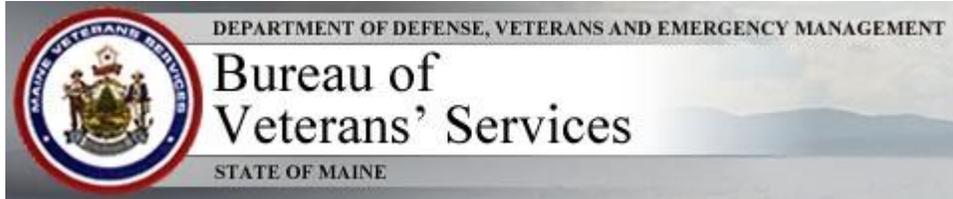


Maine State Veteran's Benefits



The state of Maine 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

Maine Veteran Housing Programs

Maine Veterans' Homes

To qualify for admission, the applicant must be an honorably discharged veteran who served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces for no less than 180 days.

Eligible veterans must either be residents of Maine at the time of application, or have resided in Maine at the time of entry into the United States Armed Forces. Spouses, widows, widowers, and gold star parents of eligible veterans may also be eligible for admission. Gold star parents are parents of a son or a daughter killed in the line of duty.

Learn more about Maine Veterans' Homes at <http://www.maineveteranshomes.org>

Maine Financial Assistance Benefits

Veterans Small Business Loan Program

To learn about the Veterans Small Business Loan Program, visit the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) website <http://www.famemaine.com>.

Property Tax Exemption

This bulletin has been prepared in order to outline the complex provisions relating to property tax exemption of

veterans. Particular notice should be given to the different classifications of exemption so that the municipality may claim the appropriate reimbursement from the State for taxes lost by reason of such exemption.

Prior to April 1, 1978, municipalities were not reimbursed for property taxes lost due to the granting of veterans exemptions. In 1978, the Constitution was amended to reimburse municipalities not less than 50% of property tax revenue loss because of statutory property tax exemptions enacted after April 1, 1978.

Visit the Bureau of Maine Veterans Services website <http://www.maine.gov/dvem/bvs> for contact information and benefits assistance.

Maine Education Benefits

Veterans Dependents Education Benefits Program

Spouses of veterans who are attending state-supported postsecondary vocational schools or institutions of collegiate grade must be admitted free of tuition including mandatory fees and lab fees for associate's, bachelor's and master's degree programs. Room and board may not be waived.

Children of veterans who are attending state-supported postsecondary vocational schools or institutions of collegiate grade must be admitted free of tuition including mandatory fees and lab fees for associate's and bachelor's programs. The tuition waiver provided under this paragraph may be reduced by an amount necessary to ensure that the value of this waiver, combined with all other grants and benefits received by the student, does not exceed the total cost of education. Room and board may not be waived.

A child of a veteran has 6 academic years from the date of first entrance to complete 8 semesters. The director may waive the limit of 6 consecutive academic years when the Recipient's education has been interrupted by severe medical disability or illness making continued attendance impossible.

Visit the Bureau of Maine Veterans Services website <http://www.maine.gov/dvem/bvs> for contact information and benefits assistance.

Other Maine State Veteran Benefits

Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery

The Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery System consists of three cemeteries. The three cemeteries are contemporary parks of memorial design with all grave markers placed flush with the ground level. By law, the State of Maine holds title to all grave lots. The State will, without charge, open and close the grave and furnish perpetual care.

Recreational Licenses

For information about recreational licenses, refer to <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/license/index.htm>

Veteran License Plates

To find Veteran Plates Issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, visit <http://www.maine.gov/sos/bmv/registration/vetplatesavailable.htm>.

Claims Representation

For contact information refer to http://www.mainebvs.org/BVS_3.pdf.

Benefits Available from the Division of Motor Vehicles

Qualified veterans can get a special veteran plate containing the disability symbol to enable them to park in designated parking spaces. The new plate is an expanded design of the standard "Special Veteran" plate which bears the red "V". This new plate also bears the red "V" on the left hand side of the plate and has the universal disability symbol on the far right. This plate does not replace the current "Disabled Veteran" plate which bears a flag and is available to those veterans who qualify based on a service connected disability.

Visit the Bureau of Maine Veterans Services website <http://www.maine.gov/dvem/bvs> for contact information and benefits assistance.

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/maine-state-veterans-benefits> Mar 2013 ++]