

Oklahoma State Veteran's Benefits & Discounts



The state of Oklahoma 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

Oklahoma Veteran Housing Programs

State Veterans Center

The following are state nursing homes located in Oklahoma:

- Ardmore--175 nursing care beds
- Claremore--302 nursing care beds
- Clinton--148 nursing care beds--8 domiciliary beds
- Lawton--200 nursing care beds
- Norman--301 nursing care beds
- Sulphur--132 nursing care beds
- Talihina--175 nursing care beds

To obtain additional information on homes go to the State Veterans Home WVC Report at <http://www.ok.gov/odva/documents/October%20Homes%20Report.pdf>

Visit the Oklahoma Dept. of Veteran Affairs website <http://www.ok.gov/odva> or call (888) 655-2838 for contact information and benefits assistance.

Oklahoma Financial Assistance Benefits

Tax Exemption

Tax Exemption for 100% Disabled Veterans for sales tax, excise tax, and ad valorem tax (Spouse included for ad valorem tax only)

Emergency/Disaster Financial Assistance Program

The Oklahoma War Veterans Commission recognized the need for a program to provide financial aid to veterans, their wives, widows and children who are experiencing an emergency. Such emergencies must be due to an interruption or loss of job and income resulting from illness, injury or a disaster such as loss of home due to fire, flood or storm. Unemployment not resulting from the above cannot be considered a reason for granting emergency funds. These funds are designed for one-time emergency aid and not as a recurring source of income.

Financial aid grants are available to eligible war veterans discharged under honorable conditions, who meet the one year residency requirements and who:

1. Meets the definition of a war veteran as defined in Oklahoma Statute ,Title 72 Section 67.13
2. Has ninety (90) days of actual wartime service, unless discharged from Active duty for a service-connected disability, in the Armed Forces for the United States during the period of time in which the United States participated in a war, campaign or battle, but excluding any person who shall have served on active duty for training only, unless discharged from active duty for service connected disability falling within these dates.

Wartime dates are:

WWI	04-06-17 to	11-11-18
WWII	12-07-41 to	12-31-46
Korean Conflict	06-27-50 to	01-31-55
Vietnam Era	08-05-64 to	05-07-75
		(02-28-61 for veterans who served "in country" before 08-05-6)
Persian Gulf War	08-01-90 through	future date to be set by Law or Presidential Proclamation

3. One (1) year residence in the State of Oklahoma immediately prior to date of application for financial aid.
4. Other than death cases, a recent medical statement showing veterans inability to work, is required for payment of financial aid. No medical statement is required for emergencies involving disasters such as fire, flood or storm damage to home. We request a statement from the investigating agency concerning disaster claims.
5. The widow or minor child's eligibility is based on the veteran's wartime service; however, on child welfare, the guardian or custodian of the child must have one (1) year residence as required in item number 3.

GENERAL APPLICATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. Application for aid available through the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs must originate at the local post or chapter level of the veterans service organizations.
2. Application will be completed by a Post Service Officer according to instructions and forwarded to the Muskogee Claims Officer for adjudication.
3. Application should be accompanied by a copy of the veterans' discharge which will remain as a permanent record.
4. Upon approval of a claim for emergency aid, a warrant will be mailed to the Post Service Officer, who will supervise the proper use of the grant funds and maintain accurate and complete records of expenditures on each warrant received and return receipts to the Muskogee Claims Office.
5. Financial Assistance funds are to be used **ONLY** for the actual necessities of **FOOD, RENT and UTILITIES** for veterans and their dependents. The funds cannot be used for old debts, doctor or hospitals bills, car payment, etc.

Oklahoma Employment Benefits

Veterans Preference

In establishing employment lists of eligible persons for competitive and noncompetitive appointment, certain preferences shall be allowed for veterans honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States.

1. Five points shall be added to the final grade of any person who has passed the examination and has submitted proof of having status as a veteran or unremarried surviving spouse of a veteran.
2. Ten points shall be added to the final grade of any war veteran of the Oklahoma Statutes who has passed the examination and has submitted proof of having a service-connected disability as certified by the Veterans Administration or Agency of the Defense Department within six months of date of application.
3. In addition to the 10 points preference such eligible war veterans who are in receipt of benefits payable at the rate of 30% or more because of the service-connected disability, shall be considered Absolute Preference Veterans. Their names shall be placed at the top of the register, ranked in order of their examination scores. Absolute Preference Veterans shall not be denied employment and passed over for others without showing cause.

Visit the Oklahoma Dept. of Veteran Affairs website <http://www.ok.gov/odva> or call (888) 655-2838 for contact information and benefits assistance.

Other Oklahoma State Veteran Benefits

Free Hunting and Fishing Permit

Free hunting and fishing permit for legal residents with 60% or more disability.

Reduced Fee Auto Tags

Reduced Registration Fees	
US Military	\$21.00
Disabled American Veterans	\$5.00
Physically Disabled (vehicle modified)	\$31.00
Lost, Stolen or Mutilated	\$9.00
Tag Replaced at Renewal	\$4.00

Note: There are no military related specialty license plates available for Oklahoma vehicles.

The Claims and Benefits Division

The Claims and Benefits Division provides many different services to the veterans and their dependents. The primary function is to assist veterans and their dependents with their claims before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Claims worked through the Muskogee Claims Office help claimants obtain compensation and pension benefits. Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officers and Claims Officers are accredited with a number of service organizations in order to better represent the claimant with their claims and appeals. The Claims Officers will assist in the appeals process, and if necessary, represent the claimant at a personal hearing before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Hearing Officer. The Muskogee Claims Office handles lifetime hunting & fishing permits, special veterans license plates, and the Financial Assistance Program.

Veterans Education Guide. Refer to <http://www.ok.gov/odva/documents/Veterans%20Education%20Guide.pdf>.

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[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/oklahoma-state-veterans-benefits.html?comp=7000023431425&rank=2> Nov 2013 ++]

Military Discounts in Oklahoma

1. MVDC has close to 3200 business locations in Oklahoma that have discounts for military personnel and veterans. In addition to businesses providing discounts, the state of Ohio 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/ohio.html>

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

3. **Discounted Fees and Taxes - None**

- Tax Exemption for 100% Disabled Veterans for sales tax, excise tax, and ad valorem tax (Spouse included for ad valorem tax only)
- Reduced vehicle Fees.
- Free hunting and fishing permit for legal residents with 60% or more

4. **Property tax and Financial Benefits - War Veterans Commission Emergency/Disaster Financial Assistance Program.**

5. **Education Discounts - None**

6. To find businesses that provide military and veteran discounts refer to <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com>. Also, there is a listing provided by the Oklahoma VA for veterans at <https://tulsage.wordpress.com/2012/10/09/veterans-discounts-tulsa-area/>

[Source: <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/oklahoma.html> Nov 2013 ++]