



COUNTY BENEFITS

For County Benefits, contact your County Director of Veterans Affairs office.

Burial Allowance

County burial allowances are provided to veterans and spouses of deceased veterans as indicated in the County Code. The allowance is provided whether or not the person died in the county or was buried in the county. Application for the burial allowance must be made within one year after date of his or her death.

Grave Markers

A county grave marker is provided to deceased veterans as indicated in the County Code. The initial grave marker is provided free of charge by the county in which the deceased service person had legal residence at the time of death, whether or not the veteran died in the county or was buried in the county. Future replacements or deteriorated or missing markers may be replaced by the county in which the veteran is buried.

Government/Private Headstones

County headstone allowances are provided for qualified veterans as indicated in County Code. The one time expense shall be borne by the county in which the veteran had legal residence at the time of death, whether or not the veteran died in the county, or was buried in the county. There is no time limit to apply for this benefit.

Marriage & Divorce Records

Certified copies of marriage and divorce records are issued without cost to disabled wartime veterans or members of the armed forces, of any war or armed conflict in which the United States has been, is now or shall hereafter be engaged, or by or on behalf of any dependent of any such veteran, or member of the armed forces.

Discharge Certificates

Honorable Discharge certificates are recorded free at the Court House of the County Seat.

Statements in this pamphlet are intended for general information and do not have the effect of law or regulation.

BUREAU FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Bureau for Veterans Affairs operates the following three field offices to assist Pennsylvania's veterans, widows and children.

■ EASTERN

The Adjutant General's Office
Veterans Administration Center • Federal Building
Wissahickon Avenue & Manheim Street
P.O. Box 42938 • Philadelphia, PA 19101-2938
Telephone: 215-381-3040 • Fax: 215-381-3492
Toll Free: 1-800-54 PA VET (547-2838)

■ CENTRAL

The Adjutant General's Office
1123 East End Boulevard • Suite 8 • Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
Telephone: 570-821-2530 • Fax: 570-821-2534
Toll Free: 1-800-54 PA VET

■ WESTERN

The Adjutant General's Office
1000 Liberty Avenue • Suite 432C • Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4003
Telephone: 412-395-6225 • Fax: 412-395-6224
Toll Free: 1-800-54 PA VET

GOVERNOR'S VETERANS OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE CENTERS

- 600 Rugh Street • Greensburg, PA 15601-5630
Telephone: 724-837-7988 • Toll Free: 1-800-442-6815
Center Director: William "Bill" Kish
- 15 East 12th Street • Erie, PA 16501-1905
Telephone: 814-453-5719 • Toll Free: 1-800-352-0915
Center Director: Elmer C. Smith, Jr.
- Pittston Career Link • 300 Kennedy Blvd. • Pittston, PA 18640-1799
Telephone: 570-654-9589 • Toll Free: 1-800-432-9735
Center Director: Ronald Faust
- 3525 North 6th Street • Harrisburg, PA 17110-1469
Telephone: 717-234-1681 • Toll Free: 1-800-932-0930
Center Director: William E. Woodman
- 25 Moser Road • Pottstown, PA 19464-5047
Telephone: 610-326-5233 • Toll Free: 1-800-247-2323
Center Director: Ronald Pennypacker

MISCELLANEOUS

- Indiantown Gap National Cemetery
RR #2 • Box 484 • Indiantown Gap Road • Annville, PA 17003-9618
Telephone: (717) 865-5254
Cemetery Director: Leon Murphy



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
Annville, PA 17003-5002

VETERANS BENEFITS IN PENNSYLVANIA

www.vets.state.pa.us

Compliments of

SENATOR WAYNE D. FONTANA

42nd Senatorial District

BROOKLINE DISTRICT OFFICE

930 Brookline Boulevard • Pittsburgh, PA 15226-2106
(412) 344-2551 • Fax: (412) 344-3400

KENNEDY DISTRICT OFFICE

Kenmawr Plaza
524 Pine Hollow Road • Kennedy Township, PA 15136-1661
(412) 331-1208 • Fax: (412) 331-2079

HARRISBURG OFFICE

Senate Box 203042 • Harrisburg, PA 17120-3042
(717) 787-5300 • Fax: (717) 772-5484

Senate of Pennsylvania: 1-800-364-1581 (TTY)

E-MAIL: fontana@pasenate.com

WEB SITE: www.senatorfontana.com



VETERANS BENEFITS IN PENNSYLVANIA



STATE BENEFITS

Veterans Emergency Assistance

Provides financial aid in an emergency on a temporary basis (not to exceed three month period) to veterans, their widows, infant children or dependents who reside in Pennsylvania for the necessities of life (food, dairy, shelter, fuel and clothing). An honorably discharged veteran must have served in the Armed Forces of the United States during established war service dates or during peacetime hostile fire or terrorist attack as determined by the Department of Military Affairs. Upon recent death of a veteran, his widow or orphan children are eligible provided the veteran would have qualified prior to his/her death.

Educational Gratuity

Payment of Educational Gratuities are for children of honorably discharged veterans who have been certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as having *wartime service-connected disabilities rated as totally and permanently disabling or children of veterans who die or died in service during a period of war or armed conflict*. Children must be between the ages of sixteen (16) through twenty-three (23), living within this Commonwealth for five (5) years prior to application and must attend a school within this Commonwealth to be eligible for this Educational Gratuity.

Real Estate Tax Exemption

Any honorably discharged veteran who is a resident of the Commonwealth shall be exempt from the payment of all real estate taxes levied upon any building, including the land upon which it stands, occupied by him as his principal dwelling, provided that as a result of *wartime military service the veteran has a 100% service-connected disability rating by the DVA*; that such dwelling is owned by him solely or jointly with his spouse (an estate by the entirety), and the **FINANCIAL NEED** for the exemption from the payment of real estate taxes has been determined by the State Veterans' Commission. Upon death of the qualified veteran, the tax exemption passes on to unmarried surviving spouses if the need can be shown.

Paralyzed Veterans' Pension

Provides for a pension of \$150 per month for any person separated under honorable conditions from the Armed Forces of the United States; who gave the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as his/her place of residence at time of entering the military or naval forces of the United States. Veterans qualify for the pension if they suffered an injury or disease resulting in the loss or loss of use of two or more extremities (arms/hands or legs/feet) during an established period of war or armed conflict or as a result of hostilities during combat-related activities in peacetime.

Blind Veterans' Pension

Provides for a pension of \$150 per month for any person who served in the military or naval forces of the United States, or a women's organization officially connected therewith, who gave the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as his/her place of residence when entering the military and while performing duties connected with the service, suffered an injury or incurred a disease which resulted in loss of vision so that the visual acuity with the best correcting lens is 3/60 or 10/200 or equivalent, or less normal vision in the better eye. Less normal vision than 3/60 or 10/200, or equivalent, includes circumstances where the widest diameter of the visual field of the better eye has contracted to such an extent that it subtends an angular distance of not greater than 20°. The term does not include a person separated from the military or naval forces of the United States or a women's organization officially connected therewith under other than honorable conditions.

Scotland School for Veterans Children

To be eligible for admission to Scotland School for Veterans Children, the following requirements must be met: (1) the natural, adopted, step-parent, grandparent, or parent's sibling must be an honorably discharged veteran from the military or have died while on active duty; (2) parents of the child must have resided in the Commonwealth of PA for a continuous period of three years prior to the time of application; (3) children must be ages 6 through 15 in order to be admitted. Further information concerning admission can be secured by writing to the Director of Admissions at: Scotland School for Veterans Children, 3583 Scotland Road, Scotland, PA 17254. Telephone: 717-264-7187, Ext. 699.

Grants for Veterans and POW/MIA Dependents

Call 1-800-692-7435.

Civil Service Preference

For information contact the Civil Service Commission, P.O. Box 569, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0569. Telephone: 717-787-6039.

Birth and Death Records

For information contact the Division of Vital Records, Central Building, Suite 401, 101 South Mercer Street, New Castle, PA 16101. Telephone: 724-656-3100.

Vehicle Registration for Severely Disabled Veterans & Ex-Prisoner of War; Purple Heart Recipient; Parking Placard for Disabled Veterans

Applications for any of the special license plates/parking placard can be obtained from any County Director of Veterans Affairs office, any state Bureau for Veterans Affairs office or by calling the Department of Transportation at 717-391-6190 or 1-800-932-4600.

State Retirement

Honorably discharged veterans employed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a period of three (3) years may buy back their time spent in the U.S. Armed Services (not to exceed five (5) years) for retirement purposes. For more information contact SERS toll free at 1-800-633-5461.

Veterans Employment

Veterans Employment Representatives are located throughout the Commonwealth to assist veterans with job counseling and placement information. For assistance, contact your local Job Service Office.

Free Hunting License for Certain Disabled Veterans

Application can be made at your county treasurer.

Antlerless Deer License

Application can be made at a county treasurer of their choice, regardless of the county allocation.

State Veterans Homes

Veteran must have served in the U.S. Armed Forces or Pennsylvania Military Forces, released from service under honorable conditions. Veteran must be a bona fide resident of this Commonwealth upon making application. Applications are processed on a "first come, first serve" basis. For information or application contact your County Director of Veterans Affairs or one of the following agencies:

- **Hollidaysburg Veterans Home**
700 Old Route 220 • P.O. Box 319 • Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-0319
814-696-5201 • Fax: 814-696-5260
- **Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home**
560 East Third Street • Erie, PA 16512-6239
814-871-4531 • Fax: 814-871-4617
- **Southeastern Veterans Center**
One Veterans Drive • Spring City, PA 19475-1230
610-948-2400 • Fax: 610-948-2405
- **Gino J. Merli Veterans Center**
401 Penn Avenue • Scranton, PA 18503-1239
570-961-4300 • Fax: 570-961-4400/4405
- **Southwestern Veterans Center**
7060 Highland Drive • Pittsburgh, PA 15206-1259
412-665-6707 • Fax: 412-665-6799
- **Delaware Valley Veterans Home**
2701 Southampton Road • Philadelphia, PA 19154-1205
215-965-0301 • Fax: 215-965-5917
- **Department of Military & Veterans Affairs**
Veterans Homes Division
Fisher Avenue • Building P-O-47 • Annville, PA 17003-5002
717-861-8906 • Fax: 717-861-8589



“Pennsylvania cares for its veterans, their spouses and children.”

