



VETERANS STATE BENEFITS & SERVICES GUIDE

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Larry J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
The Wineland Building
16 Francis Street, 4th Floor
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-260-3838

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lieutenant Governor

George W. Owings, III
Secretary

Pete Pantzer, MBA
Finance & Administration

Katie Sonntag
Executive Assistant

Mark Hendricks
Grant Administrator

Veterans Service & Benefits Program

Phil Munley, Director
Debra Hynes, Deputy Director
Gerard Taylor, Chief, Veterans Appeals
Federal Building, Room 3020
31 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201
Phone: 410-230-4444
Toll Free: 800-446-4926
Fax: 410-230-4445
mailto:mdveteransinfo@maryland.gov

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home Program

Sharon Mattia, Director
Mike Farr, Deputy Director
29449 Charlotte Hall Road
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
Phone: 301-884-8171
Toll Free: 800-522-8387
Fax: 301-884-8036
www.charhall.org

Outreach & Advocacy Program

Dana Hendrickson, Director
Denise Nooe, Outreach Coordinator
16 Francis Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: 410-260-3842 or
410-260-3840
Toll Free: 866-793-1577
Fax: 410-216-7928

Veterans Cemetery & Memorial Program

Chris Piscitelli, Director
1122 Sunrise Beach Road
Crownsville, MD 21032
Office: 410-923-6981
Fax: 410-987-3920
Patrick Tracy, Assistant Director
2825 South Hanover Street
Baltimore, MD 21225
Office: 410-354-3550
Fax: 410-354-6558

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LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Welcome Home Maryland Veterans and Families

Dear Friends and Families:

With sincere gratitude, Lt. Governor Rutherford and I wish to thank you for your dedicated military service. It is because of your commitment to this great nation, that the freedoms we hold so dear are preserved. I am honored to serve as Governor of the great State of Maryland and I will work to ensure we remain veteran friendly to both you and your families.

Whether you are preparing to transition from active duty service or you are a military retiree, please review the information on services contained in this guide. The Veterans State Benefits and Services Guide is a valuable reference tool as you seek to learn about veteran programs in Maryland.

Programs operated by the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs are described in this guide, along with a number of additional services offered by other state and federal agencies. I encourage you to schedule an appointment with a Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Service Officer who can explain these benefits. They can also provide representation on your behalf should you decide to file for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs compensation or pension benefits.

Please contact the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs should you have questions about veteran services. To our brave men and women who have served, thank you and welcome home!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Hogan".

Larry Hogan
Governor, State of Maryland

STATE HOUSE, ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
(410) 974-3901 1-800-811-8336
TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY



Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs

Office of the Secretary

LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD
LT. GOVERNOR

GEORGE W. OWINGS III
SECRETARY

Greetings Maryland Veterans and Families!

It is with great enthusiasm that I return to the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA). On behalf of the entire staff at MDVA we welcome you home and thank you for your service. Our veterans and families are a top priority for the Hogan Administration. As you committed yourself to our country, the MDVA is dedicated to ensuring you have access to the benefits earned through military service.

The MDVA Service Program stands ready to help with USVA claims for disability compensation and pension. Our Outreach and Advocacy Program is touching every corner of the state to educate our veterans on services and benefits to which they are entitled. Charlotte Hall Veteran Home, located in Southern Maryland, is dedicated to providing quality care for our older veterans and eligible spouses, as well as rehabilitative services.

We are honored to provide a final resting place for our veterans and dependents at one of five state veterans' cemeteries and pay proper respect to our service men and women by maintaining a number of veteran memorials. The Maryland Veterans Trust has awarded over \$100,000 in grants to assist veterans across the state who are experiencing financial difficulties.

In the coming months, MDVA will be busy collaborating with federal, state, and local partners to elevate our services in innovative ways to the over 430,000 veterans who call Maryland home. Please visit our website, veterans.maryland.gov, for more information on the services described in this guide. If you have questions or need assistance, do not hesitate to reach out to our staff.

With great respect,

George W. Owings, III
Secretary

THE WINELAND BUILDING, FOURTH FLOOR
16 FRANCIS STREET, ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
TOLL FREE: 866-793-1577 • ANNAPOLIS: 410-260-3838 • FAX: 410-216-7928
veterans.maryland.gov
TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY



INTRODUCTION

MARYLAND STATE BENEFITS AND SERVICE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

VETERAN DEFINED

To qualify for most Veterans' benefits, programs or services, you must first establish eligibility. A Veteran is defined by Title 38 U.S.C. §101 as the following:

- A person who served on full time active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, other than active duty for training, and was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.
- An individual who died while serving on active duty, or was disabled or died from a disease or injury incurred or aggravated in the line of duty while performing active duty for training or inactive duty training.
- Certain members of a reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- Certain members of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (formerly the Coast and Geodetic Survey) and the regular or reserve Corps of the Public Health Service.

Note: *There are various state programs, benefits and resource providers that define veteran as "someone who has served" and/or those that may have additional requirements. We encourage you to ask rather than assume that you are ineligible.

*Spouses and dependents of deceased veterans may also qualify for certain programs and services.

DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY

Whenever a veteran requests benefits and services, a copy of the individual's discharge papers are required to verify eligibility. This form is called Form DD214. To obtain a copy you may exercise one of the following options:

- World War II Veterans, who were Maryland residents at the time of entry into the service, and veterans who were discharged after October 15, 1979 and had a Maryland address at the time of discharge, can contact our Baltimore Veterans Service Office at 800-446-4926 x6450 to determine if we have a copy of their DD214.
- Veterans and their next of kin can also request a copy of the service member's DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty from the National Archives at www.archives.gov/veterans/ or www.ebenefits.va.gov (Access My Documents).
- If you do not have access to the Internet, you may contact the National Archives at **The National Archives & Records Administration**, 8601 Adelphi Road College Park, MD 20740-6001, 1-866-272-6272. You may also contact one of our Veterans Benefits Specialist (See pages 7-9).

VETERANS SERVICE DEPARTMENT MARYLAND BENEFITS AND SERVICE PROGRAM

Statistic indicates that veterans represented by accredited organizations receive significantly greater disability benefits than their non-represented counterparts. Our U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs certified Service Officers honor and assist veterans, their dependents and survivors with all aspects of their Federal and State benefits. The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs has 10 Service Offices and 14 Satellite Outreach Offices throughout the state ensuring quality representation in the community.

Baltimore: Regional Office

Cardell Bass, Veterans Benefit Specialist
Rose Bean, Veterans Benefit Specialist
Gary Brown, Veterans Benefit Specialist
31 Hopkins Plaza, Room 3020
Baltimore, MD 21201
800-446-4926, ext. 6450

Bel Air

Russ Biondo, Veterans Service Officer
State Office Building
Bel Air, MD 21014
410-836-4900

Camp Springs

Telisha Johnson, Veterans Service Officer
Harriet Hunter Building, 6420 Allentown Road
Camp Springs, MD 20748
301-248-0463

Charlotte Hall

29431 Charlotte Hall Road, Room 211
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
301-884-8171 extension 7155

Cumberland

Aaron Clark, Veterans Service Officer
12501 Willowbrook Road, Room 2-014
Cumberland, MD 21502
301-759-5251/5252

Easton

Janet C. Thomas, Area Supervisor
11 South Harrison Street
P.O. Box 1148 (mailing address)
Easton, MD 21601
410-690-7181

Frederick

George Kauffman, Area Supervisor
Multi-Service Center
100 West Patrick Street, Rm 2120
Frederick, MD 21701
301-600-2155

Hagerstown - District Court

James Lichtinger, Veterans Service Officer
33 W. Washington Street, Room 201
Hagerstown, MD 21740
301-791-0356

Rockville

Montgomery College, Counseling & Advising Bldg,
Room CB103
51 Mannakee Street
Rockville, MD 20850
240-567-5405, 240-567-4361

Salisbury

Michelle Licata, Veterans Service Officer
201 Baptist Street
Salisbury, MD 21801
410-713-3482

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

SERVICE OUTREACH LOCATIONS

Call the Baltimore Regional Office (800-446-4926, ext. 6450) to schedule an appointment at these locations:

- Baltimore VA Medical Center, 10 North Greene Street, Baltimore, MD
- Dundalk Vet Center, 1553 Merritt Boulevard, Dundalk
- Ft. Meade VA Community Outpatient Clinic, 2479 5th Street, Ft. Meade, MD
- VA Loch Raven Community Living and Rehabilitation Center, 3901 The Alameda, Baltimore, MD

Call the Bel Air Full Time Office (410-836-4900) to schedule an appointment at these locations:

- Aberdeen Proving Ground, 4305 Susquehanna Avenue, Aberdeen, MD
- Perry Point VA Medical Center, Perry Point, MD

Call the Cumberland Full Time Office (301-759-5251/5252) to schedule an appointment at this location:

- American Legion Home, 423 Memorial Drive, Oakland, MD

Call the Easton Full Time Office (410-690-7181) to schedule an appointment at these locations:

- County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Room 101, Cambridge, MD
- Queen Anne's County Senior Citizen's Center, 4802 Main Street, Gransonville, MD

Call the Rockville Full Time Office (240-567-5405) to schedule an appointment at these locations:

- Silver Spring VET Center, 2900 Linden Lane, Silver Spring MD
- Montgomery Works One Stop Center, DLLR, 1002 Veirs Mill Road, Wheaton MD

Call the Salisbury Full Time Office (410-713-3482) to schedule an appointment at these locations:

- Ocean Pines Library, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, MD
- Snow Hill Library, 307 N. Washington Street, Pocomoke, MD

ADDITIONAL VETERANS' SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING CLAIMS ASSISTANCE

American Legion 410-230-4420

AMVETS (American Veterans) 410-230-4430

Disabled American Veterans 410-230-4440

Military Order of the Purple Heart 410-230-4460

Veterans of Foreign Wars 410-230-4480

Paralyzed Veterans of America 410-230-4470

For information on Federal Benefits visit http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp



Charlotte Hall
Veterans Home

CHARLOTTE HALL VETERANS HOME

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home meets the needs of those veterans who are looking for Assisted Living, Skilled or Long-term Care, or a Rehabilitation Program. Located on 125 acres of beautifully maintained lush green landscaping, Maryland's Veterans Home provides continuum of care from its 168-bed Assisted Living Unit to a higher level of care in its 286-bed Nursing Home. In 2012, a 16-bed women's nursing care unit was opened to accommodate the growing female veteran population. An electronic medical records system was implemented in 2014 and an on-site pharmacy in 2015. Both of these services ensure patient care, safety and accountability.

ASSISTED LIVING PROGRAM

- Admission assessment and regular interval post-admission assessments
- Attending physician with 24 hours a day availability
- Private or Semi-Private living spaces
- Well-balanced meals with a variety of menu choices
- Housekeeping services
- Onsite religious service
- Onsite Social Worker, Mental Health Counselor, and Psychiatrist
- Sobriety Maintenance Program
- Onsite Outpatient VA Clinic and/or transportation to DC VA Medical Center at no additional cost
- Pharmacy cost included

SKILLED NURSING

- Medical Director provides medical oversight and contracts with a Dentist, Optometrist, and Podiatrist to provide care to our Residents
- On-site dental, podiatry, optometry
- On-site rehabilitation services including Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
- A complete range of clinical services under the direction of physicians and other licensed healthcare professionals, for 24 hour care, seven days a week.
- Design safety and security features for memory care

PRELIMINARY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Honorably discharged Maryland State Veterans, and their legal non-veteran spouse, may be eligible for admission. You must be at least 62 years of age or older to apply, with the exception of Veterans deemed disabled by either the Social Security Administration or the Veterans Administration. Veterans are not required to be ambulatory or capable of sustaining intensive multidisciplinary daily therapy to be admitted. For health, safety or welfare reasons Charlotte Hall Veterans Home may decline to accept an applicant. For additional admission requirements and/or an application, please contact the Admissions Office at 301-884-8171 Ext. 409 or email admissions@charhall.org.



Cheltenham



Rocky Gap



Eastern Shore



Crownsville



Garrison Forest

MARYLAND CEMETERIES AND MEMORIAL PROGRAMS

MARYLAND VETERANS CEMETERIES

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs' Cemetery Program is the largest State Veterans Cemetery Program in the nation and provides a dignified and compassionate interment for veterans and their dependents. Interment services are conducted Monday through Friday, excluding State holidays and weekends. Cemeteries are open to visitors daily from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM. The gates close at 4:45 p.m. to allow visitors to exit the cemetery; however, on Memorial Day (the date of State observance) the cemetery remains open until 8:00 p.m.

Honorably discharged veterans, who meet the state residency requirements may choose one of five State Veterans Cemeteries as their final resting place. There is no cost associated with the Veteran's burial plot, opening/closing, headstone and state liner (if used); however, eligible dependents have a minimal opening/closing cost and a direct cost for state liner (if used). Plots are available on a first come, first-served basis. Veterans have the option of participating in the Pre-interment Program which allows the eligible veteran to select their preferred Veteran Cemetery and verify their eligibility for burial in advance. To obtain an application or for additional information call one of the cemeteries listed below or visit www.veterans.maryland.gov.

Allegany County, Rocky Gap Veterans Cemetery

14205 Pleasant Valley Road, NE
Flintstone, MD 21530
301-777-2185

Anne Arundel County, Crownsville Veterans Cemetery

1122 Sunrise Beach Road
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-987-6320

Baltimore County, Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery

11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117
410-363-6090

Dorchester County, Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery

6827 East New Market Ellwood Road
Hurlock, MD 21643
410-943-3420

Prince George's County, Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery

11301 Crain Highway
Cheltenham, MD 20623
301-372-6398

Washington Confederate Cemetery

Closed to new burials
(located in Rose Hill Cemetery)
600 South Potomac Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740

The rendering of Military Funeral Honors is the ceremonial paying of respect and the final demonstration of our country's gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended our nation. Military Funeral Honors are provided at no cost to veterans. To request the well-trained Maryland National Guard Honor Guard (MDNGHG) you may contact them at 410-576-6133 or visit their website at <http://www.mdmildep.org/FuneralProgram>.

MARYLAND VETERANS MEMORIALS

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs manages three Veterans Memorials—the Maryland World War II Memorial, the Maryland Korean War Memorial and the Maryland Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The Department also shares joint responsibility with the City of Baltimore for the War Memorial Building.

Maryland World War II Memorial

Route 450 at Naval Academy Bridge
1920 Ritchie Highway
Annapolis, MD 21401

Maryland Korean War Memorial

Canton Water Park
2903 Boston Street
Baltimore, MD 21224

Maryland Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Middle Branch Park
2825 South Hanover Street
Baltimore, MD 21225

War Memorial Building

101 North Gay Street
Baltimore, MD 21201



Maryland Vietnam Veterans Memorial

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM

The Outreach & Advocacy Program's mission is to develop innovative ways to seek out and inform Maryland's veterans about benefits and services that are available from federal, state, and local organizations, as well as solicit feedback from veterans regarding their requests and needs for additional services.

To accomplish its mission the Outreach & Advocacy Program works closely with multiple local, state and federal agencies and non-profit organizations to coordinate efforts to locate and inform Maryland's veterans as well as to expand benefits and services available to Maryland veterans.

The Program is also responsible for:

- The agency newsletter, The Maryland Veteran
- The agency website, veterans.maryland.gov
- The MDVA Welcome Home Maryland Veterans mailings
- The MDVA social media presence
- MDVA communications and public relations

In addition, the Outreach and Advocacy Program provides briefings on MDVA programs and benefits available to Maryland Veterans and their families. The Program also staffs tables at various community events to provide education and outreach materials pertaining to Maryland benefits and MDVA programs. If your organization or group is interested in receiving a briefing or having a table staffed at your event, please email mdveteransinfo@maryland.gov or call the Outreach and Advocacy Program.

Outreach and Advocacy Program Contact Information

Dana S. Hendrickson, Director
410-260-3842

Denise G. Nooe, Outreach Coordinator
410-260-3840



Outreach and Advocacy Resource Table

ADDITIONAL SERVICES AND BENEFITS

EDUCATION

Two state scholarships are available to veterans, military personnel, and dependents in Maryland. The requirements and availability of funds vary. To get the most up-to-date information and eligibility requirements please visit Maryland Higher Education Commission's website at <http://www.mhec.state.md.us/financialaid/descriptions.asp>.

Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship

The veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship Program is designed to provide financial assistance to United States Armed Forces personnel who served in the Afghanistan or Iraq Campaigns. The sons, daughters, or spouses of veterans enrolled in an eligible accredited Maryland post-secondary institution may also be eligible.

Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship

The Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship is designed to provide veterans, and their family members, with tuition assistance and financial aid for other educational expenses, if they are attending a Maryland post-secondary institution.

EMPLOYMENT

Expedited Professional Licensing & College Credits

The Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013 went into effect on July 1, 2013. It helps veterans acquire professional credentials, earn college credits, and makes it easier for military spouses to continue their careers as they transfer to the state. Servicemembers, veterans and their spouses who are licensed in another state will see expedited licensing procedures, including the issuance of temporary licenses, if they relocate to Maryland and meet our requirements for reciprocity. For additional information visit <http://dllr.maryland.gov/license/opvetlic.shtml>.

Employment Services

As a Veteran of the Armed Services, you are a valued member of Maryland's civilian workforce with the

skills, training, and character to meet the toughest challenges faced by today's employers. The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) provides grant funds to the State of Maryland providing employment and training services to eligible residents and workers. As a condition to receiving those funds, Priority of Service (POS) is given to qualified veterans when referring individuals to job openings, USDOL funded training programs and related services. Veterans' services representatives, specifically Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialists, commonly referred to as DVOPs, provide specialized employment services to veterans. For additional information on eligibility for veteran services contact your local One Stop Career Center. Visit <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/county/> to find your closest center.

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs sends bi-weekly Jobs for Maryland Veterans emails which consist of position announcements shared by employers seeking veteran candidates. If you would like to become a subscriber, email mdveteransinfo@maryland.gov.

For Employers Seeking Veteran Candidates

The State of Maryland, under the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, provides specialized business services for companies desiring to learn more about veteran recruitment. Local Veteran Employment Representatives, or LVERs, assist businesses with recruiting veterans and are located within every One Stop Career Center. Contact your closest center to learn more about services for employers. Locate a center by visiting <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/county/>.

If you are interested in sharing vacancy announcements in the Jobs for Maryland Veterans email, contact the MDVA Outreach Coordinator at 410-260-3840.

If you would like to learn more about how to hire veterans and ways to support them in the civilian workplace, visit the MDVA Veteran Employer Toolkit at <http://veterans.maryland.gov/veteran-employer-tool-kit/>.

MILITARY PERSONNEL AND VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS NO-INTEREST LOAN PROGRAM

The State of Maryland supports Veterans who have served our country, as well as the small businesses that employ them. The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED), in consultation with the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, provides no-interest financial assistance to small businesses that fall within one of the listed categories of businesses:

- A small business owned by a military reservist or a National Guard member called to active duty
- A small business that employs a military reservist or National Guard member called to active duty
- A veteran small business owner or a veteran seeking to start a small business
- A small business that employs a service disabled veteran

No interest loans range from \$1,000 to \$50,000. For more information about the program, eligibility requirements, or to acquire an application please contact us at 410-260-3838.

MARYLAND VETERANS TRUST FUND

Legislation establishing the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund was passed during the 2009 Session of the Maryland General Assembly and signed into law on May 19, 2009. In 2013, the law was amended to establish the Maryland Veterans Trust as a 501(c)(3) fund. The legislation authorizes the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs to receive donations, and then make grants and loans to veterans and their family members who are in dire financial situations, or to private organizations that help veterans (homeless programs, substance abuse programs, etc.).

Applications for grants/loans from the Trust Fund are reviewed by the Maryland Trust Fund Review Committee, which consists of MDVA Directors, and representatives from the Maryland Veterans Commission and the Maryland Veterans Home Commission. Recommendations are made to the Secretary or designee, who makes the final decision on whether or not an application is approved.

For more information, and/or to request an application please contact the MDVA Grant Administrator, at 410-260-3838.

FREE COPY OF VITAL RECORDS

For purposes of a claim before the Federal Government, one copy of marriage licenses, and birth or death certificates, may be acquired free of charge from the appropriate source. A veteran or the veteran's surviving spouse can obtain one copy of marriage licenses, or birth and death certificates, from the clerk of the Circuit Court and marriage licenses and divorce certificates from the Department of Mental Health and Hygiene – Vital Statistics Division.

There is no fee for, a copy of a certificate of a current or former Armed Forces member that is requested by the member, a copy of a certificate of a current or former Armed Forces member or of a surviving spouse or child of the member, or if the copy will be used in connection with a claim for a dependent or beneficiary of the member. Proof of service in the Armed Forces must be provided. Fees are not waived on certificates ordered online through the VitalCheck network. Call the local office of the clerk of the Circuit Court (marriage and divorce) or the Bureau of Vital Statistics, 800-832-3277 or 410-764-3038.

VOTING

Absentee Voting Service members and their spouses who are citizens of the State of Maryland are eligible to vote in their local jurisdiction by absentee ballot. Call your county Board of Election or 800-222-8683.

TAX BENEFITS

Property Tax Exemption

A property tax exemption is available to the following individuals, for their primary residence located in the State of Maryland:

- Veterans who are 100 percent disabled for service-connected causes. The exemption passes to the veteran's spouse upon their death.
- Surviving spouse of active duty military personnel who died in the line of duty

- Surviving spouse of a 100% disabled veteran

You may also contact your county's tax assessor's office, or go to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation website at www.dat.state.md.us/.

Military Retired Pay Income Tax Exemption

Military retirees are exempt from Maryland income tax on the first \$5000 of their retirement income. The retirement income must have been received as a result of any of the following military service:

- Induction into the U.S. Armed forces for training and service under the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 or a subsequent Act of similar nature
- Membership in a reserve component of the U.S. armed forces
- Membership in an active component of the U.S. armed forces
- Membership in the Maryland National Guard

The benefit also applies to persons separated from active duty employment with the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Maryland Pension Exclusion

If you are 65 or older, totally disabled, or your spouse is totally disabled, you may qualify for Maryland's maximum pension exclusion of \$27,100 based on instruction 13 of the Maryland resident tax booklet. If you're eligible, you may be able to subtract some of your taxable pension and retirement annuity income from your federal adjusted gross income. This subtraction applies only if:

- You were 65 or older or totally disabled, or your spouse was totally disabled, on the last day of the tax year; and
- You included on your federal return income received as a pension, annuity or endowment from an "employee retirement system." A traditional IRA, a Roth IRA, a simplified employee plan (SEP), a Keogh Plan or an ineligible deferred compensation plan does not qualify.

To speak with the Maryland Taxpayer Service call 410-260-7980 (Central Maryland) or 1-800-MD-TAXES (all other areas of Maryland).

Vessel Excise Tax

A member of the active-duty Armed Services residing in Maryland is exempt from the 5% vessel excise tax for one year. This exemption applies only to vessels currently registered elsewhere and brought into Maryland because of a permanent duty station change. New purchases are not exempt.

For more information on the vessel excise tax credit visit the Department of Natural Resources website at <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/boating/registration/>.

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax - Exemption for Returning Military Members

As a new resident of Maryland, you must title your vehicle within 60 days of moving to Maryland. Proof of military status (i.e. military ID or equivalent) must be submitted to be eligible for an excise tax credit.

Active duty military personnel who are residents of Maryland seeking to register an out-of-state vehicle may not be required to pay the full Maryland excise tax if they apply for a transfer of title and tags to Maryland within one year of becoming a Maryland resident or within a year of returning from deployment.

For more information on titling an out-of-state vehicle in Maryland visit the Motor Vehicle Administration website. Visit www.mva.maryland.gov for more information.

VETERAN DESIGNATION ON MARYLAND DRIVER'S LICENSES

Maryland residents can now have 'veteran' designated on driver's licenses. Please request this designation at renewal time at no cost to you; or, you may request the veteran designation before your license is up for renewal at the cost of \$20. Please take a copy of your DD214 with you to your local Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Branch Office.

VETERAN DESIGNATION ON MARYLAND LICENSE PLATES

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) has branch of service license plates available for veterans who wish to convey their sense of pride in having served in the U.S. Military. Honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces are

eligible to apply for one of the license plates which display the logos of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, or Navy.

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs in partnership with the MVA is proud to announce its newest license plate honoring women Veterans. The population of Women Veterans numbered 2,271,222, as of September 30, 2013. Maryland is home to more than 64,000 women Veterans who have served honorably. It is with great pride that we honor them in this way.

You may request your branch of service license plate at our local Motor Vehicle Administration Branch Office. Please take a copy of your DD214 with you. For additional information please visit mva.maryland.gov.

LICENSING, GAMING LICENSING, STATE PARKS

A number of services and benefits designed to enhance living are available to veterans in Maryland. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and State Parks offers various benefits. Visit veterans.maryland.gov, Living in Maryland for additional details.

State Park Admission

Active duty military, may enter free of charge by showing military I.D. For visitors with a disability, you may apply for a universal disability pass which is a free lifetime pass. For visitors over the age of 62, you may apply for a Golden Age Pass. This pass has a one-time \$10 administrative fee.

Hunting

Maryland residents serving in the United States Armed Forces and stationed in Maryland must purchase a Resident Hunting License before hunting, unless they are on official leave and possess a copy of their official leave orders. Maryland residents serving in the United States Armed Forces, while hunting during official leave in Maryland, do not need to purchase a hunting license, deer stamps, or DNR Managed Hunt Permit; however, they must purchase a Maryland Migratory Game Bird Stamp, a federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, and a Furbearer Permit.

Any nonresident serving in the United States Armed Forces whose duty station is in Maryland must purchase

a Resident Hunting License before hunting. Any non-resident serving in the United States Armed Forces who is on leave in Maryland, but not stationed in Maryland, must purchase a Nonresident Hunting License before hunting.

A complimentary lifetime hunting license is available to Maryland residents certified as a former prisoner of war or a 100% service connected disabled American veteran (Veterans Administration documentation required). The lifetime license is available only at DNR Licensing and Registration Service Centers and includes the bow stamp, muzzleloader stamp, and furbearer permit.

Department of Natural Resources Wounded Warrior and Veteran Outreach Program

The Maryland Park Service offers recreational opportunities for wounded warriors, veterans and their families to enjoy. The Wounded Warrior and Veteran Outreach Program is designed to provide Maryland's servicemen and women with unique opportunities to work, learn, volunteer and relax in the rich natural habitats of Maryland. To learn more visit the Wounded Warrior and Veteran Outreach Program website. To speak with someone regarding the Wounded Warrior and Veteran Outreach Program call 1-800-830-3974.

LEGAL RESOURCES

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs maintains a legal resource directory on our website. If you are in need of legal services, visit the directory at <http://veterans.maryland.gov/legal-services/>.

HOUSING SERVICES

In Maryland, there are a number of agencies, organizations, and non-profits who provide services for homeless veterans and veterans who are at risk of homelessness. For a list of resources visit the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs website at <http://veterans.maryland.gov/housing-services/>. If you have questions about these resources, contact our office at 410-260-3838.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Maryland Commitment to Veterans (MCV) assists Veterans and their families with coordinating behavioral health services, including mental health and substance abuse, with either the VA or Maryland's public health system. MCV also coordinates transportation to behavioral health appointments. Call 1-877-770-4801, 24hrs/7days a week.

The Maryland Crisis Line

For state-wide 24-hour crisis intervention and supportive counseling call 800-422-0009.

Military One Source is a Department of Defense-funded program providing comprehensive information on every aspect of military life at no cost to active duty, Guard and reserve service members, and their families. This personalized support is available 24/7 no matter where you live or serve. To speak with a Military One Source consultant call 800-342-9647. To learn more visit www.militaryonesource.mil.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Eligibility and Enrollment

For questions regarding U.S. VA Health Care eligibility, you may contact an MDVA service officer. Or, you may also contact the VA directly.

To speak with someone at the VA regarding health care enrollment and eligibility call:

Residents of Central Maryland/Eastern Shore:
VA Maryland Health Care System (Baltimore, Perry Point, Loch Raven), Eligibility and Enrollment, 1-800-463-6295, ext. 7324

Residents of Western Maryland:
Martinsburg VA Medical Center, Eligibility and Enrollment, 304-263-0811 ext. 3758 or 800-817-3807

Residents of Montgomery County & Prince Georges County/Southern Maryland:
Washington D.C. VA Medical Center, Eligibility and Enrollment, 202 745-8251

CALL CENTERS AND HOTLINES

VA Women Veterans Hotline—1-855-VA-WOMEN (1-855-829-6636)—is an incoming call center that receives and responds to questions from women veterans, their families, and caregivers across the nation about available VA services and resources. Callers are informed about eligibility, benefits, health care and other services, and can route calls within VA when needed. Agents are also trained to respond to crisis situations such as suicidal behavior, homelessness, sexual trauma, and domestic violence. Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

VA Help for Homeless Veterans Hotline

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has a number of services to assist veterans who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of becoming homeless. If you need assistance or would like to coordinate assistance for a veteran, call the Help for Homeless Veterans Hotline, a 24/7 VA services access line, at 877-424-3838.

THE VETERANS CRISIS LINE

The Veterans Crisis Line connects veterans and their families or friends to trained VA professionals who can provide immediate assistance. For 24-hour crisis intervention call 800-273-8255 and press 1. Callers can also send a text message to 838255.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTERS

Baltimore VA Medical Center

10 North Greene Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-605-7000

Martinsburg VA Medical Center

510 Butler Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25405
304-263-0811

Perry Point VA Medical Center

VA Medical Center
Perry Point, MD 21902
410-642-2411

Loch Raven VA Community Living and Rehabilitation Center

3900 Loch Raven Blvd
Baltimore, MD 21218
410-605-7000

Washington DC VA Medical Center

50 Irving Street NW
Washington, DC 20422
202-745-8000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS

Cambridge

830 Chesapeake Drive
Cambridge, MD 21613
410-228-6243

Charlotte Hall

29431 Charlotte Hall Road
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
301-884-7102

Cumberland

200 Glenn Street
Cumberland, MD 21502
301-724-0061

Fort Detrick

1433 Porter Street
Frederick, MD 21702
301-624-1200

Fort Howard

9600 North Point Road
Ft. Howard, MD 21052
410-477-1800

Fort Meade

2479 5th Street
Ft. Meade, MD 20755
410-305-5300

Glen Burnie

808 Landmark Drive, Suite 128
Glen Burnie, MD 21061
410-590-4140

Greenbelt

7525 Greenway Center Dr.
Greenway East Professional
Center, Suite T-4
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2463

Hagerstown

1101 Opal Court
Hub Plaza Bldg.
Hagerstown, MD 21742
301-665-1462

Loch Raven VA Outpatient Clinic

3901 The Alameda
Loch Raven (Baltimore), MD 21218
410-605-7650

Pocomoke City

1701 Market Street, Unit 211
Pocomoke, MD 21851
410-605-7650

Southern Prince George's County

820 Chesapeake Street, SE
Washington, DC 20032
202-745-8685

Southeast Washington DC

820 Chesapeake Street, SE
Washington, DC 20032
202-745-8685

Community Resource and Referral Center

1500 Franklin Street, NE
Washington, DC 20018
202-636-7660

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS VET CENTERS

The VA provides readjustment counseling at community-based Vet Centers located near veterans and their families. All Vet Center services are prepaid through military service. Readjustment counseling is offered to eligible Veterans and their families to help make a successful transition from military to civilian life. If you, or a family member, served in any combat zone and received a military campaign ribbon (Vietnam, Southwest Asia, OEF, OIF, etc.) then your family is eligible for Vet Center services.

Aberdeen Vet Center Outstation

223 W. Bel Air Avenue
Aberdeen, MD 21001
410-272-6771

Annapolis Vet Center

100 Annapolis Street, Suite 102
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-605-7826

Baltimore County – Dundalk Vet Center

1553 Merritt Blvd.
Dundalk, MD 21222
410-282-6144

Baltimore Vet Center

1777 Reisterstown Road, Suite 199
Baltimore, MD 21208
410-764-9400

Elkton Vet Center

103 Chesapeake Blvd., Suite A
Elkton, MD 21921
410-392-4485

Prince George’s County Vet Center

7905 Malcolm Road, Suite 101
Clinton, MD 20735
301-856-7173

Salisbury Vet Center Outstation

926 Snowhill Road, Bldg.3
Salisbury, MD 21804
443-257-1487

Silver Spring Vet Center

2900 Linden Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-589-1073

Washington DC Vet Center

1250 Taylor Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011
202-726-5212



Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs
16 Francis Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

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*The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs
thanks you for your service.*