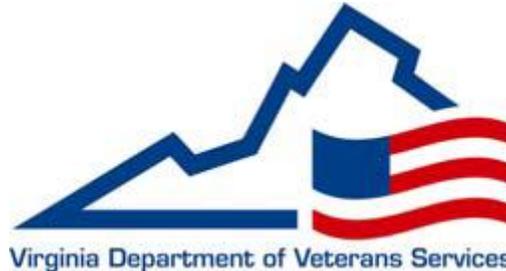


Virginia State Veteran's Benefits & Discounts



The commonwealth of Virginia provides several veteran benefits. Following is a brief description of each of the following benefits.

- Housing Benefits
- Financial Benefits
- Employment Benefits
- Education Benefits
- Recreation Benefits
- Other Commonwealth Sponsored Veteran Benefits

Virginia Veteran Housing Benefits

The commonwealth of Virginia runs two long term care centers: the Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center in Richmond, and the Virginia Veterans Care Center in Roanoke. Honorably discharged veterans who are residents of Virginia are eligible for admission.

Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center

Named for two Medal of Honor recipients—Colonel Van Barfoot and Colonel Carl Sitter—this care center provides the gold standard in quality care for Virginia’s veterans. The Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center (SBVCC) is located on the campus of the McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia and is operated by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services.

This single-level facility features 200 single-occupancy rooms in four nursing units: two 60-bed skilled nursing care units, one 40-bed skilled nursing care unit and one 40-bed secure Alzheimer’s dementia unit with enclosed courtyards.

Admission Criteria: Honorable discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces, Virginia residency at the time of admission or entry into active duty from Virginia, and meet medical requirements for nursing home care. SBVCC accepts payment from private insurers, Medicare and Medicaid. Most veterans also qualify for the VA per diem facility credit.

Amenities include Private rooms with private baths—all are handicap accessible and include a roll-in shower, Barber/beauty shop, Pharmacy, Activity rooms, Lounges, Library, Game room, Computers with Internet access, Walking trail, and Landscaped inner courtyards, If you have any questions or would like an information packet sent to you, contact the Admissions Director Kim Elliott at Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center, 1601 Broad Rock Blvd., Richmond, VA 23224 Tel: (804) 371-8000 or email kim.elliott@dvs.virginia.gov



Virginia Veterans Care Center

The Virginia Veterans Care Center (VVCC) is one of two state homes for veterans in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The mission of the VVCC is to provide affordable, high quality, comprehensive nursing and domiciliary care to Commonwealth of Virginia residents who are admitted to the VVCC, are aged or infirm, and are honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

The Virginia Veterans Care Center has 240 beds in the facility and provides comprehensive, high quality care with on-site laboratory work, x-rays, physical therapy, podiatry care, and many other ancillary health care services. The Salem VA Medical Center is also located next door for additional services for those qualified.

Additionally, the building and grounds offer an array of amenities to include wheelchair accessible nature trails and deck, library, chapel, barber shop, and billiard room. The facility is nestled in the landscape of the Blue Ridge mountainside and has been enjoyed by our veterans since it was opened on Veterans Day, 1992.

The Virginia Veterans Care Center is now a Smoke Free property. If you have any questions or would like an information packet sent to you, contact the Admissions Director Patti Smith, Virginia Veterans Care Center, 4550 Shenandoah Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24017 Tel: (540) 982-2860 ext. 4107 or email patti.smith@dvs.virginia.gov.



Veteran Financial Benefits

Income Tax

Up to \$15,000 of military basic pay received during the taxable year may be exempted from Virginia income tax. For every \$1.00 of income over \$15,000, the maximum subtraction is reduced by \$1.00. For example, if your basic pay is \$16,000, you are entitled to deduct only \$14,000. You are not eligible for the subtraction if your military basic pay is \$30,000 or more. Military personnel must serve on active duty for 90 days or more and can be stationed inside or outside of Virginia.

For VA National Guard, up to 39 calendar days of service or \$3,00 (whichever is less) may be deducted from your income when filing. This deduction is only available for O-3 and below.

Real Estate Tax Exemption

Veterans rated by the VA as having a 100%, permanent and total, service-connected disability or who have a service-connected individual unemployable disability rating are exempt from paying real estate taxes on their primary residence. The exemption is based on the veteran's disability rating rather than the level of compensation. The exemption includes property held jointly by a husband and wife, and applies to the residence and up to one acre of land.

The surviving spouse of an eligible veteran may also receive the real estate tax exemption if the veteran died on or after January 1, 2011.

Veteran Employment Benefits

Veterans Education Training & Employment (VETE)

The Veterans Education Training and Employment (VETE) directorate of the Virginia Department of Veteran's Services ensures that every Veteran or eligible person has a full and fair opportunity to reach his or her fullest potential through access to the G.I. Bill approved post-secondary educational, training/licensure/certification, entrepreneurial institutions, V3 certified employers and Virginia Colleges and Universities. Currently, more than 1000 institutions with various programs are approved in Virginia.

VETE houses the:

- <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/education-employment/state-approving-agency> State Approving Agency for Veterans Education and Training (SAA)
- <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/education-employment/virginia-military-survivors-and-dependents-education-program> Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP)
- <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/education-employment/employmentv3-vtap-programs> Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program
- <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/education-employment/virginia-transition-assistance-program-vtap> Virginia Transition Assistance Program

State Employment

If an agency uses a scored test by which to evaluate applicants, veterans must receive a credit of an

additional 5% of his or her score or, if the applicant is a veteran having a service-connected disability rating fixed by the VA, he or she must receive a credit of an additional 10% of his or her score.

Education Assistance Benefits

Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program

The Military Survivors and Dependents Program (VMSDEP) provides education benefits to spouses and children of military service members killed, missing in action, taken prisoner, or who became at least 90 percent disabled as a result of military service in an armed conflict. Military service includes service in the United States Armed Forces, United States Armed Forces Reserves, the Virginia National Guard, or the Virginia National Guard Reserves. Armed conflict includes military operations against terrorism or as the result of a terrorist act, a peace-keeping mission, or any armed conflict after December 6, 1941. This program may pay for tuition or fee at any state-supported college or university in Virginia. Benefits are available for up to 36 months.

Honorary Diplomas for World War II Veterans

Veteran Honorary High School Diplomas recognize the life experiences of veterans who were unable to complete their high school education because of service in the armed forces during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Since the first honorary diplomas were issued in 2001, more than 1,000 have been awarded to veterans of these three wars.

To obtain an honorary diploma, a veteran may submit a statement to the Veterans Education Unit of the Virginia Department of Education describing his or her service, the location of the last school attended, and affirming that he or she was unable to complete high school upon return to civilian life. The guidelines also allow family members and veterans' organizations to submit this information on behalf

Veterans Recreation Benefits

Hunting and Fishing Licenses for Disabled Veterans

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries offers a free lifetime hunting and fishing license, and a discounted saltwater license for Virginia resident veterans who are totally and permanently service-connected disabled. They also offer annual discounted hunting and freshwater fishing licenses to 70% and greater service-connected disabled veterans as well as a discounted hunting, fishing, and saltwater license for non-resident permanently disabled veterans.

Other Virginia State Veteran Benefits

License Plates

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offers a variety of veteran and military-related

license plates. To obtain eligibility requirements, personalization, and purchase information click on the below titles of the plates shown.

[173rd Airborne](#)



[Air Force Cross](#)



[Air Force Reserve](#)



[Army](#)



[Army Reserve](#)



[Bronze Star](#)



[Bronze Star Motorcycle](#)



[Bronze Star Valor](#)



[Chosin Reservoir Survivor](#)



[Coast Guard](#)



[Coast Guard Auxiliary](#)



[Coast Guard Reserve](#)



[Combat Infantryman](#)



[Desert Shield/Storm Veteran](#)



[Disabled Veteran](#)



[Disabled Veteran Motorcycle](#)



[Distinguished Flying Cross](#)



[Distinguished Service Cross](#)



[Enduring Freedom Veteran](#)



[Former Prisoner of War](#)



[Gold Star](#)



[Iraqi Freedom Veteran](#)



[Korean War Veteran](#)



[Legion of Valor of the USA](#)



[Marine Corps - Semper Fidelis](#)



[Marine Corps League](#)



[Marine Corps Motorcycle](#)



[Marine Corps Reserve](#)



[National Guard](#)



[National Guard Retired](#)



[Naval Aviator](#)



[Naval Reserve](#)



[Navy Cross](#)



[Oceana Naval Air Station](#)



[Pearl Harbor Survivor](#)



[Purple Heart](#)



[Purple Heart Motorcycle](#)



[Silver Star](#)



[Special Forces Association](#)



[Support Our Troops](#)



[U.S. 3rd Infantry Regiment](#)



[USS Cole](#)



[Veteran Armed Forces](#)



[Veteran Armed Forces Motorcycle](#)



[Veterans of Foreign Wars](#)



[Vietnam Veteran](#)



[Vietnam Veterans of America](#)



[Virginia Defense Force](#)



[World War II Veteran](#)



Burial Services

Upon request VA will assign a gravesite, open and close the grave, order and place the grave marker, and provide perpetual care for the veteran and their spouse/ eligible dependent. Additionally, they offer the veteran the three following choices: Casketed Ground Burial, Cremation Ground Burial, or Cremation Above-Ground inurnment in our Columbarium Niches. There is no cost to the veteran for these services. For the spouse/ eligible dependent, the cost is \$300. Go to <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Cemetery-Brochure-2013-07.pdf> to download cemetery brochure.

For expediency, the veteran may apply prior to death to determine eligibility for interment in the cemetery. You can download a copy of the pre-application form at www.dvs.virginia.gov. Please remember that in addition to the pre-application form, you must submit documentation of military service (DD 214 or equivalent) and a copy of a marriage certificate, if applicable. You must also inform cemetery management of other dependent eligibility status at time of application.

Eligibility Requirements for Interment - Members of the U.S. Armed Forces who die on active duty, who retire from military service, or who are honorably discharged are eligible for burial in one of Virginia's veterans cemeteries. Under certain conditions, the following persons are also eligible for interment:

- Members of the reserve components of the Armed forces, such as the Army National Guard or Air National Guard.
- Members of the Reserve Officer's Training Corps of the Army, Navy, or Air Force.
- Any Citizen of the United States who served in the Armed Forces of any government allied with the United States during wartime.
- Any Commissioned officer of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service.
- American merchant seamen who served actively during World War II.
- Anyone who dies while enroute to be inducted into military service.

Dependents - The legal spouse (or widow or widower) and/or an unmarried minor child under age 21 meets eligibility requirements. In addition, an unmarried adult child who, before the age of 21, became permanently incapable of self-support because of physical or mental disability may also be interred.

Unclaimed Cremains – The Virginia VA invites all funeral homes, hospitals, prisons, crematories, and other facilities holding unclaimed cremains to join the Virginia Military Funeral Honors for Unclaimed Veterans' Cremains Program. To provide a list of unclaimed cremains at your facility or to request assistance or information, contact: Virginia Department of Veterans Services, Albert G. Horton, Jr., Memorial Veterans Cemetery, 5210 Milners Road, Suffolk, VA 23434 Tel: (757) 255 · 7217. Participating organizations will receive a certificate recognizing their participation in the Virginia Military Funeral Honors for Unclaimed Veterans' Cremains Program. Participating organizations will also be recognized on the program's website once it is established. And, as support for this program grows, we expect positive media coverage recognizing the commitment made by all program participants.

Cemetery Locations -

- Virginia Veterans Cemetery at Amelia, 10300 Pridesville Road Amelia, VA 23002. The cemetery is open to the public for visitation everyday during daylight hours. Cemetery administrative offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cemetery administrative office may be reached at (804) 561-1475. After normal business hours funeral directors can call (757)-272-2283 to schedule interment services.
- Albert G. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery, 5310 Milners Road, Suffolk, VA 23434. The cemetery is open to the public for visitation everyday during daylight hours. Cemetery administrative offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cemetery administrative office may be reached at (757) 255-7217. After normal business hours, funeral directors can call (757) 272-2283 to schedule interment services.

- Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, 5550 Bagging Plant Road , Dublin, VA 24084. The cemetery is open to the public for visitation everyday during daylight hours. Cemetery administrative offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cemetery administrative office may be reached at (540) 674-6893. After normal business hours, funeral directors can call (757)-272-2283 to schedule interment services.

Lifetime Hunting and Fishing Licenses

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) offers a lifetime hunting and fishing license to service-connected, totally and permanently disabled veterans for minimal fee.

Visit the Virginia Dept. of Veterans Services website <http://www.dvs.virginia.gov/> for contact information and benefits assistance.

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/virginia-state-veterans-benefits.html>
February 2017 ++]

Military Discounts in Virginia

- 1. MVDC** has close to 7,000 business locations in Virginia that have discounts for military personnel and veterans. In addition to businesses providing discounts, the state also provides discounts for those that have served. To find business discounts, enter your zip code and category in the search box at the top of <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/virginia.html>.
- 2. Veterans Designation on drivers license:** Qualified veterans can receive a Veterans Identification Card (VIC) issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles for a one-time fee of \$10
- 3. Discounted Fees and Taxes** - Resident and non-resident veterans with a service-connected disability may qualify for a special hunting and fishing license.
- 4. Property tax and Financial Benefits** - A property tax exemption for veterans with a 100% service-related disability applies to the principal residence and up to one acre of the land upon which it sits
- 5. Education Discounts** - Spouses and children of service members who were 90% disabled resulting from military service in armed conflict, missing in action, taken prisoner, or killed may receive education benefits through the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents program. This program may pay tuition and fees at any state-supported college or university for up to 4 years.

[Source: <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/virginia.html> February 2017 ++]