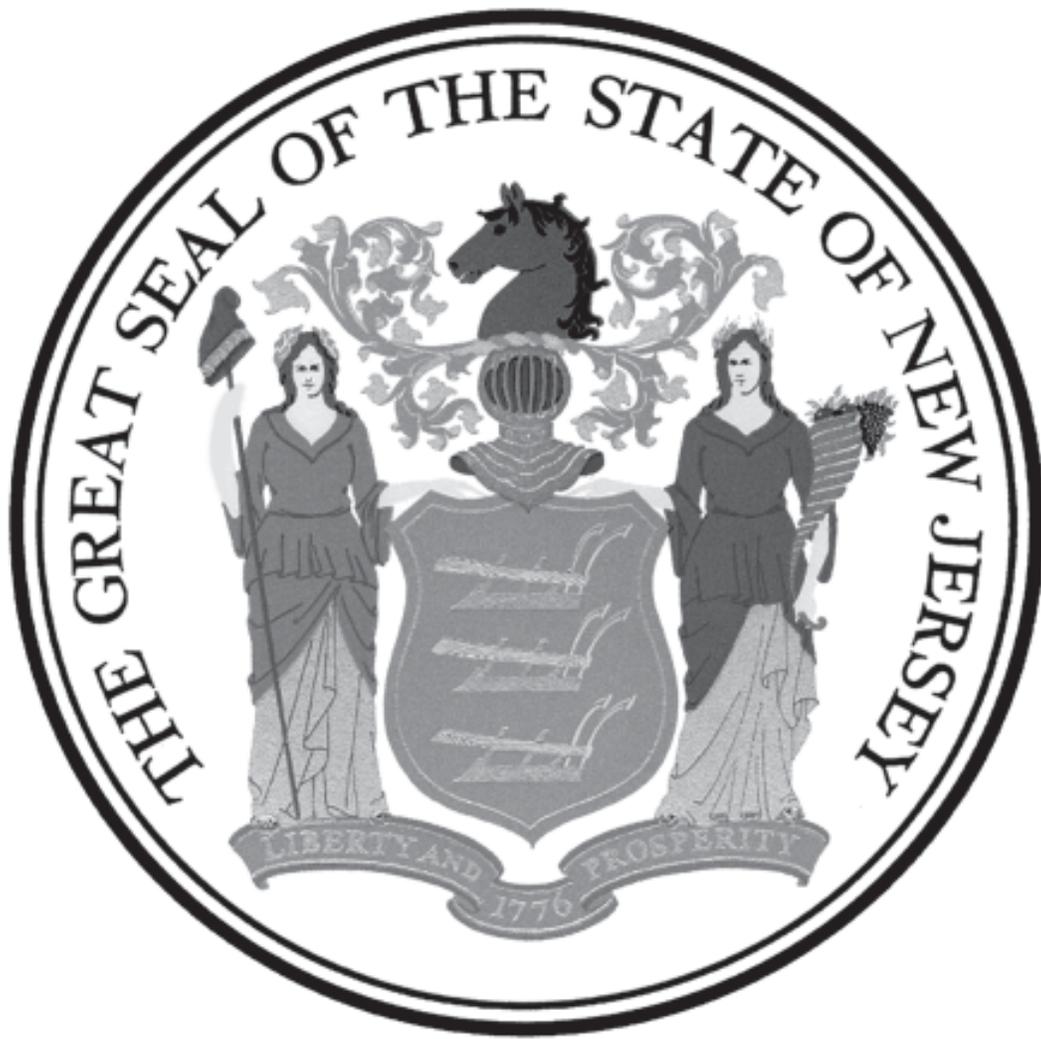


NEW JERSEY VETERANS GUIDE



DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

NEW JERSEY VETERANS GUIDE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Jon S. Corzine, Governor

**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Major General Glenn K. Rieth
The Adjutant General of New Jersey**

**Colonel (Ret) Stephen G. Abel
Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs**

A publication of the
New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Eggert Crossing Road, PO Box 340
Trenton, N.J. 08625-0340

1-888-8NJ-VETS

WWW.STATE.NJ.US/MILITARY

As a "guide," this booklet **does not** contain the complete details or descriptions of Federal or State legislated eligibility requirements or program components for included programs, entitlements and services. The intent of this booklet is not as a legal reference and should not be cited as such in applying for any entitlement or service. It is also not the intent of this booklet to contain complete details of every entitlement. Complete eligibility requirements and entitlement features should be obtained from the administering source by calling the phone number provided or a veterans service officer.

Phone numbers, addresses and services are subject to change.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Table of Contents
2	Special Note about DD-214s
3	Letter from the Governor
4	Letter from The Adjutant General
5	Overview of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
6	New Jersey War Dates
7	Overview of the United States Veterans Administration
7	New Jersey Medals
7	New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal
8	New Jersey Vietnam Service Medal
8	New Jersey Meritorious Service Medal
8	New Jersey Korean Service Medal
9	Replacement of Medals
10	Educational Benefits
10	Operation Recognition
10	State Approving Agency
10	POW and MIA Tuition Benefits Program
10	War Orphans Tuition Assistance
10	Vietnam Veterans Tuition Credit Program
11	Tuition Assistance
11	New Jersey National Guard Tuition Program
12	Veterans Preference for Civil Service and Other Employment Benefits
12	DMAVA Determines Veterans Preference and Pension Status
12	Veterans Preference for Hiring in New Jersey Civil Service
13	Veterans Status Benefits for Pension Plans
13	Other Civil Service Benefits for Veterans Preference
13	Appointment of Veterans
13	Application of statutes to promotions
13	Preference in appointment in noncompetitive division
13	Preference to veterans in layoffs
13	Hearing on dismissal of veterans
13	Veterans not to be discriminated against because of physical defects
13	Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross
14	Purchasing Military Service for Civil Service Pensions - PERS
14	Federal Employment Benefits
14	Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)
15	Home Ownership Benefits
15	New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFA)
16	VA Guaranteed Home Loan
16	Property Tax Exemption
17	Property Tax Deduction
18	Licenses
18	Professional Licenses
18	Licenses for Real Estate Brokers, Agents and Solicitors
18	No Fee Automobile Registration
18	Fishing and Hunting Licenses
19	State Parks Admission
20	Pensions and Compensation
20	Catastrophic Entitlement

TABLE OF CONTENTS

20	Disability Compensation
21	Homeless Veterans Programs
21	Veterans Haven
21	Stand Down
22	Healthcare Entitlements
22	Transportation Program
22	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Readjustment Counseling
22	Uniform Benefits Package
23	New Jersey Veterans Memorial Homes
24	Death, Burial and Related Benefits
24	Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery
25	Federal VA Benefits
26	Burial in a VA National Cemetery
27	Reimbursement of Burial Expenses in a Service-Connected Death
27	Burial Flag
27	Military Funeral Honors
28	Burial at Sea
28	Presidential Memorial Certificate
29	Memorials
29	New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial
30	New Jersey Korean War Memorial
31	Battleship USS New Jersey (BB-62)
32	State of New Jersey World War II Memorial
33	Appendixes
33	Appendix A - New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Veterans Service Offices
34	Appendix A - Veterans Organizations' Service Offices
34	Appendix B - New Jersey County Veterans Service Offices
35	Appendix C - One-Stop Career Centers
36	Appendix D - VA New Jersey Health Care System
38	Appendix E - Federal Cemeteries
39	Appendix F - New Jersey Veterans Service Agencies
40	Appendix G - Veterans Websites
41	Appendix H - Service Connected Disability Compensation
42	New Jersey Forms
43	Appendix I - Standard Form 180
46	Appendix J - NJ Civil Service Veterans Preference Claim Form
48	Appendix K - NJ Application for Award Program
50	Appendix L - NJ Operation Recognition Program
52	Appendix M - NJ Application for Veterans Designation for Pension

Special note about the DD-214 commonly called Discharge Papers

Your Separation Paper from active duty, commonly called Discharge Papers, (DD-214) or WD Form 53-55 (for World War II veterans) is your most important military document. In this book we use DD-214, Discharge Papers and Separation Papers interchangeably. For World War II veterans your equivalent is the WD Form 53-55. When applying for veteran benefits, your most important document is your DD-214. Never send away your original documents! Always submit a copy and keep your original. State Veterans Service Officers (VSOs) can certify original DD-214s for VA purposes.



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PO Box 001

TRENTON NJ 08625-0001

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

Throughout my years of service I have had the opportunity to meet many of New Jersey's more than half a million veterans. As your Commander-in-Chief, and former Marine, I know the level of commitment and sacrifice that so many men and woman make in serving our state and country. We as citizens must recognize and reciprocate that service by ensuring we protect those who have protected us.

Under my Administration, access to health care and affordable living for veterans will be a priority. With the continued leadership of Adjutant General Glenn Rieth, this Administration will do all it can to ensure that the needed services are available and accessible to veterans. I know you will find the newest edition of the New Jersey Veterans Guide a useful resource to the various benefits which veterans are entitled. These pages provide information on current services available at both the state and federal level.

Thank you for your devoted service. It is an honor to give back to those who have given our country so much.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon S. Corzine". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and end.

Jon S. Corzine



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
POST OFFICE BOX 340
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0340

JON S. CORZINE
Governor
Commander-in-Chief

☆☆
GLENN K. RIETH
Major General
The Adjutant General

I am proud to introduce the revised New Jersey Veterans Guide; this version continues the tradition started in 1992 of providing information to assist the nearly 600,000 veterans in the state.

Extensive research and preparation went into the revision of the Veterans Guide as the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs strives to meet its critical mission of communicating to the Veterans of New Jersey on the vast array of State and Federal benefits and programs. We believe the Veterans Guide will continue to be a handy and useful reference resource in providing relevant information and answers to our Veterans.

Keeping the Veterans community informed is part of the Department's continuing outreach efforts to the many Veterans and their families in the Garden State, that may be unaware of how to avail themselves of the wide range of entitlements, benefits and services that have been earned in service to this nation.

All Veterans and their families are encouraged to contact the Department's qualified Veteran Service Officers who are conveniently located throughout the state for additional information or if assistance is needed in applying for an entitlement, benefit or service.

"Serving Those Who Served" is this Department's commitment and honored vow to our Veterans whose courageous service and great sacrifice defended the freedom and liberty we hold so dear.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn K. Rieth".

GLENN K. RIETH
Major General, NJARNG
The Adjutant General

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS



The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs located in Lawrenceville, N.J.

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

For many veterans and their family members, keeping up with the constant changes in the rules, regulations and eligibility criteria for veterans entitlements is not paramount in their lives. Many believe that the information they received when leaving the service has not changed, so any changes, whether good or bad, that affect those entitlements and their eligibility may be overlooked. Entitlements added or lost may go unnoticed, until it is too late. State entitlements may be unknown. The information a World War II veteran received when leaving the service, in many cases, is different today -- in some cases, much different.

For those leaving the military now, the transition to civilian life can be just as difficult as the transition made when entering the military, frequently more so.

For disabled veterans, the adjustment can be even more complex and frustrating since the costs for required special services and medical attention are constantly rising and jobs may be scarce.

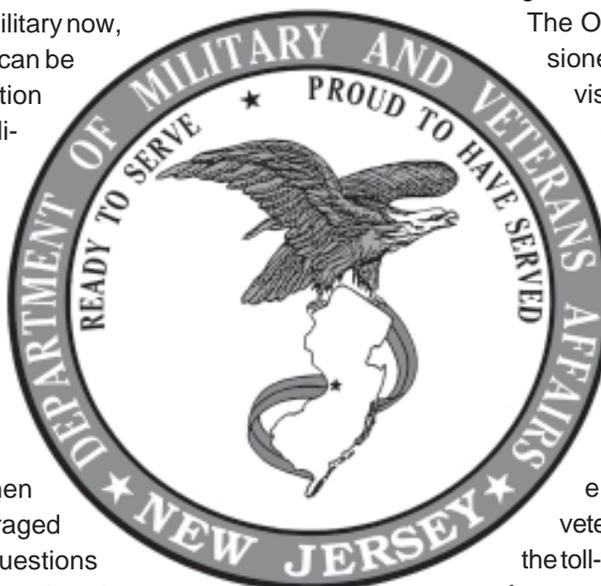
If there are times when you feel frustrated, discouraged or abandoned, or have questions that need to be answered, there is a place

to turn for help -- the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Has your disability case been denied by the VA? Are you having a problem with your military pension? Do you need information on educational entitlements or a home loan? Have you lost your discharge papers and need replacements? Those are just a few of the many questions the department's veterans service officers deal with daily. Our veterans service officers can provide assistance in obtaining state and federal entitlements, and give advice and support to the veteran re-entering civilian life.

The state of New Jersey provides many entitlements and services for those who served in the Armed Forces. Although most veterans entitlements are federally funded and administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), significant additional state entitlements are available.

To qualify for most services a veteran must have completed at least 90 days of active duty in the Armed Forces (except for training purposes) and have a discharge other than dishonorable. Veterans who were discharged before 90 days due to service connected disabilities are also eligible. Additionally, spouses, widows, widowers and parents of members of the military killed during a time of war and certain merchant seamen who served in active, ocean-going service from Dec. 7, 1941, to Aug. 15, 1945, may be eligible for certain federal entitlements. Receiving federal entitlements does not disqualify a veteran from receiving those offered by the state.



The Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs supervises two divisions, the Division of Veterans Healthcare Services and the Division of Veterans Services. The Division of Veterans Healthcare Services oversees the operation of the state's three long-term care veterans nursing homes, located in Vineland, Menlo Park and Paramus. The Division of Veterans Services oversees the veterans service offices, maintains the toll-free information line, veteran's preference determinations, veteran's sta-

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

tus determinations and the blind and catastrophic veteran pension entitlements. In addition, the Division of Veterans Services oversees the state's Veterans Cemetery, the operation of the states' Homeless Veterans Transitional Housing Program, the state-owned monuments and memorials and the State Approving Agency which is responsible for certifying the VA funded educational and training program.

Through its network of regional Veterans Service Offices, the Division of Veterans Services provides the state's veterans and dependents with information and guidance in filing claims for benefits. Trained Veterans Service Officers (VSO) at those offices also assist veterans with issues pertaining to employment, education, burial, counseling, housing, social

and medical services, and other areas of concern to veterans and their families. Office locations and phone numbers are listed in Appendix A.

Additionally, the department, along with other state and municipal agencies, administers many other programs important to veterans and their families, such as pensions for certain disabled veterans, PTSD counseling, transportation to veteran service facilities, tuition assistance for war orphans, real estate tax abatements and civil service preferences.

Some entitlements (e.g. state property tax abatements) require the veteran to have served during a specified war/conflict period. New Jersey "war period" dates are listed in the box below.

NEW JERSEY WAR/CONFLICT DATES

World War I	April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918
World War II	September 16, 1940 - December 31, 1946
Korea	June 23, 1950 - January 31, 1955
Vietnam	December 31, 1960 - May 7, 1975
Lebanon Crisis	July 1, 1958 - November 1, 1958*
Lebanon	September 26, 1982 - December 1, 1987*
Grenada	October 23, 1983 - November 21, 1983*
Panama	December 20, 1989 - January 31, 1990*
Persian Gulf	August 2, 1990 - February 28, 1991*
Somalia	December 5, 1992 - March 31, 1994*
Bosnia and Herzegovina	November 20, 1995 - June 20, 1998* (Operations Joint Endeavor/Joint Guard)
Haiti	September 19, 1994 - March 31, 1995*
Operation Enduring Freedom	On or after September 11, 2001*
Operation Iraqi Freedom	March 19, 2003 - Present*

****Must have served at least 14 days (one day if deployment results in injury) in a combat zone. Combat zone qualification is most frequently indicated by an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.***



The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) was established March 15, 1989, as a Cabinet position, succeeding the Veterans Administration and assuming responsibility for providing federal benefits to veterans and their dependents. Headed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, VA is the second largest of the 14 Cabinet departments and operates nationwide programs of health care, assistance services and national cemeteries.

Today, VA provides the world's most comprehensive and diverse benefit programs for veterans and dependents.

For online access to the latest edition of the VA booklet, "Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents," go to www.va.gov and click on "Veterans Benefits Booklet" in the lower right corner of the VA Home Page. That booklet lists federal benefits available to veterans and their dependents.

**For online access to
the United States
Department of
Veterans Affairs,
logon to:
www.va.gov**

New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal

The New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal was originally issued in 1858 for those who had distinguished themselves in the New Jersey Militia, but was infrequently used until re-authorized by Governor Kean in 1988.

After the Spanish American War, the Mexican Border Expedition and again after World War I, the State of New Jersey minted special medals for returning NJ veterans to honor their service.

After WWII, Korea, Vietnam and subsequent combat actions no such medal was available. The State of New Jersey was looking for an appropriate way to honor all of these returning combat veterans and acknowledge the debt the state owed them for their service. The NJDSM was authorized for that purpose. It is New Jersey's highest military award.

Eligibility - To be eligible, a veteran must meet all the following criteria:

- ~ combat veteran as defined by law.
- ~ current resident of New Jersey.
- ~ a resident of the state at the time they entered into military service.
- ~ honorably discharged.
- ~ proof of service in combat theater while on active duty during wartime. No one shall be entitled to more than one award of the medal and ribbon.

Oak Leaf Cluster - Those recipients whose service was recognized by the award of the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal or equivalent medal will receive a NJ Distinguished Service Medal with an oak leaf cluster.

Posthumous Award - The NJDSM can be awarded posthumously to the next-of-kin of a veteran who meets the criteria.

Application - Anyone interested in applying for the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal should send a completed application (see copy of application on page 48) together with copies of all pertinent information, discharge document, award citation, honorable discharge, together with your full name, home address and daytime telephone number to:

NJ Department of Military And Veterans Affairs
Attn: DVS-VBB-Medals
PO Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

NEW JERSEY MEDALS



New Jersey medals left to right: New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal, New Jersey Vietnam Service Medal, New Jersey Meritorious Service Medal and the New Jersey Korean Service Medal.

Contact - For more information call (609) 530-6980.

New Jersey Vietnam Service Medal Approved November 13, 2000

"The Legislature finds and declares the year 1998 marks the 25th anniversary of the United States, North Vietnam, South Vietnam and the National Liberation Front's provisional revolutionary government signing an agreement to end the war in Vietnam. The conflict that was declared over in 1973 was a uniquely important event in the political and domestic history of Southeast Asia and of this country. The United States' involvement in that conflict resulted in great domestic turmoil and dispute in this nation, as well as more than 50,000 American soldiers killed, including 1,515 from New Jersey. It is fitting and proper for this State to recognize and honor those among its residents who served proudly and those who died bravely in that conflict on the 25th anniversary of its ending, because in 1973 those same individuals were often ignored or scorned for their service to their country."

Eligibility - To be eligible, a veteran must meet all of the following criteria:

- ~ current resident of New Jersey.
- ~ were on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States in Vietnam, Thailand, Laos or Cambodia or the contiguous waters or airspace thereof on or after December 31, 1960 and on or before May 7, 1975.
- ~ meet one of the following four "in country" requirements:

- (a) were attached to or served for one or more days with an organization participating in or directly supporting military operations.

- (b) were attached to or served for one or more days aboard a United States Naval vessel directly supporting military operations.

- (c) participated as a crew member in one or more aerial flights into airspace above Vietnam and contiguous waters directly supporting military operations.

- (d) served on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in Vietnam or contiguous areas, except that this time limit may be waived for persons participating in actual combat operations.

Posthumous Award - The surviving spouse or immediate family member of any resident of the State meeting the above requirements for a medal and who was killed while on active duty or died after receiving an honorable discharge from the armed forces may apply for a posthumous awarding of the medal. See page 48 for a medal application form.

New Jersey Meritorious Service Medal

This medal is awarded to those combat veterans who were not residents of New Jersey when they entered the military service, but who are current residents of New Jersey and have resided in the state for the previous five years. All other qualifications are the same as for the Distinguished Service Medal. See page 48 for a medal application form.

New Jersey Korean Service Medal Approved February 3, 2003

"The Legislature finds and declares July 27, 2003 will mark the 50th anniversary of the signing of the armistice which ended the Korean War. The conflict, often referred to as the "Forgotten War" began on

NEW JERSEY MEDALS

June 25, 1950 when the North Korean Army crossed the border and invaded South Korea in an unprovoked attack. Their goal was the reunification of the Korean peninsula, divided after World War II along the 38th parallel. The United States involvement in that conflict resulted in 33,742 Americans dead and 92,134 Americans wounded. It is fitting and proper for this State to recognize and honor its residents who served and those who died in that conflict on the 50th anniversary of its ending.

The Adjutant General is hereby authorized to issue a medal and ribbon to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the armistice on July 27, 1953, which ended the Korean War."

Eligibility - To be eligible, a veteran must meet all of the following criteria:

~ New Jersey residents who were on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States in Korea, Japan, or the contiguous waters or airspace thereof on or after June 23, 1950 and on or before January 31, 1955, who have been given an honorable discharge for their service and:

~ were attached to or served for one or more days with an organization participating in or directly supporting military operations; or

~ were attached to or served for one or more days aboard a United States Naval vessel directly supporting military operations; or

~ participated as a crew member in one or more aerial flights into airspace above Korea or contiguous areas, except that this time limit may be waived for persons participating in actual combat operations; or

Posthumous Award - the surviving spouse or immediate family member of any resident of the State meeting the requirements for the medal who was killed while on active duty or who died after receiving an honorable discharge from the armed forces.

Application - Anyone interested in applying for the New Jersey Korean Service Medal should mail a completed application form (see page 48) together with copies of all pertinent information to the same address as the Distinguished Service Medal.

Replacement of Federally Issued Medals

Veterans may request issuance or replacement of their medals and awards. Family members may only request medals and awards of living veterans by obtaining their signed authorizations. For deceased



Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey awards a New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal to a World War II veteran.

veterans, requests will be accepted from next-of-kin (unremarried widow or widower, son or daughter, father or mother, brother or sister of the deceased veteran.)

For information contact a State Veterans Service Office listed in Appendix A.



New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal recipients compare certificates at a DSM ceremony.

EDUCATION BENEFITS

Operation Recognition: High School Diplomas for Veterans

The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA) and the Department of Education jointly launched a program on October 5, 2000 to honor World War II era veterans who left school to join the military and never received a high school diploma. Known as Operation Recognition, the program will award a state-endorsed high school diploma to any New Jersey veteran who left a New Jersey high school to enter military service during World War II. Because of the overwhelming success of this program, The Adjutant General and the Commissioner of Education expanded the program to include veterans from the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

Programs similar to Operation Recognition have been established in other states including New York, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Carolina, Wisconsin and West Virginia.

Eligibility - New Jersey veterans who are:

- ~ Current New Jersey residents.
 - ~ Left a New Jersey high school directly to join the military between:
 - September 16, 1940 - December 31, 1946
 - June 23, 1950 - January 31, 1955
 - December 31, 1960 - May 7, 1975.
 - ~ Discharged honorably or under honorable conditions.
 - ~ Veterans who were a member of any branch of service including Merchant Marine and Coast Guard, or those who have since earned a GED are eligible.
 - ~ Diplomas may also be issued posthumously.
- Surviving family members of eligible veterans are encouraged to apply.

Required Documentation - Submit the following (see page 50):

- ~ A copy of your DD-214 or discharge papers, do NOT send originals!
- ~ Name and address of the high school attended.
- ~ The year you would have graduated.
- ~ Your name, address and daytime phone.

Send your request to Operation Recognition, New Jersey Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340. For more information call 609-530-6876.

State Approving Agency

The office provides oversight, approval, and supervision of programs of education and training for the G. I. Bill. Eligible persons may use their entitlements at approved colleges and universities, non-college degree schools, apprenticeship, and on the job training programs, flight, and correspondence schools. In addition, certain license and certification tests are approved.

Contact the State Approving Agency directly at 609-530-6849 for information regarding the approval process or currently approved opportunities.

POW-MIA Tuition Benefit Program

Free undergraduate college tuition is available to any child born or adopted before, during or after the period of time his or her parent was officially declared a prisoner of war (POW) or person missing in action (MIA) after Jan. 1, 1960. The POW-MIA must have been a New Jersey resident at the time he or she entered the service or whose official residence is currently in New Jersey. The child must attend either a public or private institution in New Jersey. A copy of DD- 1300 must be furnished with the application.

War Orphans Tuition Assistance

Children of those service personnel who died while in the military or due to service-connected disabilities, or who are officially listed as missing in action by the U.S. Dept. of Defense may claim \$500 per year for four years of college or equivalent training. To qualify, the child must be a resident of New Jersey for at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the application and be between the ages of 16 and 21 at the time of application. The veteran must have been a state resident upon enlistment.

Vietnam Veterans Tuition Credit Program

The Veterans Tuition Credit Program provides additional education benefits to veterans eligible for federally funded education programs and who served on active duty from December 31, 1960 to May 7, 1975 and who were legal residents of New Jersey at the time of induction into the Armed Forces or at the time of discharge from active service or for a period not less than one year prior to making application. The amount of the award is \$400 annually or \$200 per semester for full-time attendance and \$100 per semester for part-time. For further information contact your school

EDUCATION BENEFITS

official in charge of veteran's affairs or by calling New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs at 609-530-6876. Deadlines for applying are October 1 and March 1 each year.



Education Benefits for current New Jersey Guardsmen

Two programs are available for currently serving New Jersey National Guardsmen (Army or Air).

Tuition Assistance

This program pays up to \$250 per credit hour to a maximum of \$4,500 per Fiscal Year (October 1 to September 30) for tuition costs at any accredited school, other than a state school. The tuition assistance cannot be used together with any other federal program such as the G.I. Bill.

New Jersey National Guard Tuition (Waiver) Program

Any member of the New Jersey National Guard shall be permitted to attend regularly scheduled courses at any of the thirty one public institutions of higher education in this state, and receive up to 15 credit hours per semester of free tuition.

Eligibility - In order to be eligible New Jersey National Guardsmen must:

- ~ Have completed Initial Active Duty Training.
- ~ Be in good standing with their unit.
- ~ Have been accepted to pursue a course of undergraduate or graduate study.

Once enrolled, the student must:

- ~ Complete a "Commander's Certification (NJDMAVA Form 621-2-R) every semester.
- ~ Maintain academic standards set by the school.

~ Must apply for financial aid annually (FAFSA, WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV.)

Contact the Financial Aid Office prior to registration for the college's policies and procedures in administering NJNGTP. This is a tuition waiver program, institutions are not reimbursed. All other costs are the responsibility of the student.

For information on these programs, contact the NJARNG Education Center at 3650 Saylor's Pond Road, Ft. Dix, NJ 08640 or phone 609-562-0654. You may also obtain information at WWW.STATE.NJ.US/MILITARY/EDUCATION.

ELIGIBLE STATE SCHOOL LIST:

Atlantic Cape Community College
Bergen Community College
Brookdale Community College
Burlington Community College
Camden County College
County College of Morris
Cumberland County College
Essex County College
Gloucester County College
Hudson County Community College
Kean University
Mercer County Community College
Middlesex County College
Montclair State University
New Jersey City University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
Ocean County College
Passaic County Community College
Ramapo College of NJ
Raritan Valley Community College
Richard Stockton College of NJ
Rowan University
Salem Community College
Sussex County Community College
The College of New Jersey
Thomas Edison State College
The State University of NJ - Rutgers
Union County College
Univ. of Medicine & Dentistry of NJ
Warren County Community College
William Paterson University of NJ

CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS

Veterans Preference and Pension Status

The NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is the agency that determines veterans preference for hiring in New Jersey civil service and veteran status for New Jersey civil service pension plans.

Veterans Preference for Hiring in New Jersey Civil Service

War period veterans who pass state civil service examinations are given absolute preference over non-veterans when applying for state, county or municipal employment. Absolute preference is not extended to promotions, but if a veteran ranks highest on a promotional certification, a non-veteran cannot be offered the appointment before the veteran. Veterans with service-connected disabilities (at least 10 percent) who pass civil service examinations are given preference over other veterans and non-veterans for state, county or municipal employment.

Spouses, widows, widowers and the parents of disabled or deceased veterans are eligible under specific circumstances.

Eligibility - To be eligible, veterans must have served at least 90 days of active duty during one of the following periods:

~ World War II: September 16, 1940 - December 31, 1946; Korea: June 23, 1950-January 31, 1955; or Vietnam: December 31, 1960 - May 7, 1975. The active duty service during these three wars does not have to be "in country" or "in combat." Merchant Marines from World War II are eligible.

~ a veteran who served at least 14 days in a combat zone during any one of the following:

Lebanon Crisis: July 1, 1958-November 1, 1958

Lebanon peace keeping mission: September 26, 1982-December 1, 1987

Grenada peace keeping mission: October 23, 1983-November 21, 1983

Panama peace keeping mission: December 20, 1989-January 31, 1990

Persian Gulf-Operation Desert Shield/Storm: August 2, 1990-February 28, 1991

Somalia Operation Restore Hope: December 5, 1992-March 31, 1994

Operations Joint Endeavor and Joint Guard in the Republic of Bosnia or Herzegovina: November 20, 1995-June 20, 1998

Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti: September 19, 1994 - March 31, 1995

Operation Enduring Freedom on or after September 11, 2001

Operation Iraqi Freedom: March 19, 2003-present

Combat zone qualification is most frequently indicated by the receipt of an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

~ a veteran with a service connected disability of at least 10 percent. The veteran must have received the disability during service in one of the wars or operations listed above, although the veteran need not meet either the 90 days of active duty requirement or 14 days in combat zone requirement. A service connected disability is indicated by federal Veterans Administration service connected compensation being received or entitlement to receive, a U.S. military medical board finding or retirement from active military service with a disability rating of 10 percent or more. Current proof of disability is required.

Family members who are eligible:

~ spouse of a disabled veteran. The veteran must be eligible for civil service veterans preference as a disabled veteran (see qualifications above), not be employed in a New Jersey civil service jurisdiction and agree to waive the preference for the duration of the spouse's employment.

~ a disabled (see qualifications above), veteran's surviving spouse who has not remarried. A copy of the Death Certificate is required with the "Veterans Preference Claim" form.

~ surviving spouse of veterans who died while on active duty in the U.S. Military service. A copy of the Report of Casualty is required with the "Veterans Preference Claim" form.

~ Gold Star Parent - parent of a veteran who died while on active duty in the U.S. Military service. A copy of the Report of Casualty is required with the "Veterans Preference Claim" form.

To Apply - Use "Civil Service Veterans Preference Claim Form" - NJDMAVA Form 05A-1. See Appendix H for a copy of the form.

File the claim form with a **copy** of your separation papers (DD Form 214). Mail to the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Bureau, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340. You must obtain a veterans preference from NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs **BEFORE** applying for a job or a test.

Contact - For information call Veterans Benefits

CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS

Bureau at (609) 530-6954, or visit any state Veterans Service Office listed in Appendix A or the One-Stop Career Centers listed in Appendix C.

Veterans Status for Civil Service and Pension Plans

A pension is available to qualified veterans. To qualify, a veteran must apply for veterans status for civil service pension plans after employment and must be in active employment until the effective date of retirement. These benefits cannot be deferred. Veterans who continue in employment covered by Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) until they are at least age 60 with 20 or more years of service credit are entitled to an annual benefit equal to one-half of the salary on which pension contributions were made in any consecutive 12-month period which would provide the largest possible benefit to the member.

Veterans who are at least age 55 with 35 or more years of service credit are entitled to an annual allowance based on the following formula: Years of Service divided by 55, multiplied by the last 12 months salary, which yields the Maximum Annual Allowance. Veterans benefits cannot be deferred and members must meet all the requirements to qualify. Veteran members may retire on the same basis as non-veteran members if it would result in a higher benefit.

Application - Use NJDMAVA Form 05A-02 (see page 52) for a copy of the form. Mail the claim form with a **copy** of your separation papers (DD Form 214) to the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Bureau, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340. NJDMAVA will mail you a letter of qualification or denial.

Contact - For information, call Veterans Benefits Bureau at 609-530-6954 or visit any state Veterans Service Office listed in Appendix A.

Other Civil Service Benefits for Veterans Preference

Appointment of veterans

Whenever a disabled veteran or veteran shall be certified to an appointing authority from an open competitive employment list, the appointing authority shall appoint the disabled veteran or veterans in the order of ranking.

Application of statutes to promotions

Nothing contained in New Jersey statute 11A:5-

4 through 11A:5-6 shall apply to promotions, but whenever a veteran ranks highest on a promotional certification, a non-veteran shall not be appointed unless the appointing authority shall show cause before the Merit System Board why a veteran should not receive such promotion.

Preference in appointment in noncompetitive division

From among those eligible for appointment in the noncompetitive division, preference shall be given to a qualified veteran. Before an appointing authority shall select a non-veteran and not appoint a qualified veteran, the appointing authority shall show cause before the Merit System Board why a veteran should not be appointed. In all cases, a disabled veteran shall have preference over all others.

Preference to veterans in layoffs

When a layoff occurs, preference shall be given first to a disabled veteran and then to a veteran, but the preference shall apply only where the disabled veteran or veteran has seniority in title equal to that of a non-veteran also affected by the layoff.

Hearing on dismissal of veterans

Before any department head shall dismiss any veteran, such department head shall show cause before the board why such veteran should not be retained, at which time such veteran or veterans may be privileged to attend. The Merit System Board shall be the sole judge of the facts constituting such qualification.

Veterans not to be discriminated against because of physical defects

Veterans suffering from any physical defect caused by wounds or injuries received in the line of duty in the military or naval forces of the United States during war service shall not be discriminated against in an examination, classification or appointment because of the defect, unless this defect, in the opinion of the Merit System Board, would incapacitate the veteran from properly performing the duties of the office, position or employment for which applied.

Employment or promotion of persons awarded Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross

Any individual who has served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States and who has been awarded the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy

CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS

Cross, while a resident of this State, and any individual who has served in the United States Coast Guard and who has been awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross while a resident of this State, shall be appointed or promoted without complying with the rules of the Merit System Board. The appointing authority to whom the individual applies for appointment or promotion shall, at its discretion, appoint or promote that person. Upon promotion or appointment, that person shall become subject to the rules of the Merit System Board. A person who qualifies under this section shall not be limited to only one appointment or promotion.

Purchasing Military Service for Civil Service Pension - PERS

Military Service Before Enrollment - Members of Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) may purchase up to 10 years of active duty military service rendered prior to enrollment provided the member is not receiving or eligible to receive a military pension or a pension from any other state or local source for such military service.

The statute specifically provides that the employer shall not be liable for any portion of the cost to purchase. The member is responsible for the full cost of the purchase.

Partial purchase is permitted.

Military Service After Enrollment - Members may purchase military service rendered after August 1, 1974 if:

~ you were a member of a New Jersey State-administered retirement system when you entered the peacetime military service, and

~ you return to employment within the time periods prescribed by federal law in a position covered by a New Jersey State-administered retirement system when you are discharged from or otherwise end your military service, and

~ within one year following the date of return to employment or the date initial pension contributions are certified to begin, you apply for or inquire in writing about the purchase.

To Apply - A member may obtain a quotation of the cost of purchasing additional service credit by submitting a written request to: Supervisor of Purchases, Division of Pensions and Benefits, PO Box 295, Trenton, NJ 08625-0295 or by calling 609.292.7524.

It is the member's responsibility to obtain certification of the employment from the former employer for the service credit being purchased if it is not on file with the Division of Pensions and Benefits. No quotation of cost will be calculated until verification of employment is received by the Division of Pensions and Benefits.

Federal Benefits

Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) - USERRA replaced the Veterans' Reemployment Rights (VRR.)

USERRA guarantees reemployed persons pension plan benefits that accrued during military service, regardless of whether the plan is a defined benefit plan or a defined contribution plan.

USERRA provides health benefits continuation for service members and their families during military service for up to 18 months.

USERRA is enforced by Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS).

Eligibility - The Act applies to persons who perform duty, voluntarily or involuntarily, in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Public Health Service commissioned corps, as well as the reserves of each. Federal training or service in the Army National Guard and Air National Guard is also included. Uniformed service includes active duty, active duty for training, inactive duty training (such as drills), and initial active duty training. USERRA covers all employees except those serving in positions where there is "no reasonable expectation that employment will continue indefinitely or for a significant period" i.e. seasonal work.

Basic Provisions/Requirements - Service members returning from a period of service in the uniformed services must meet five eligibility criteria to be covered by USERRA:

- ~ The person must have held a civilian job;
- ~ The person must have given notice to the employer that he or she was leaving the job for service in the uniformed services;
- ~ The period of service must not have exceeded five years;
- ~ The person must have been released from service under honorable conditions; and
- ~ The person must have reported back to the civilian job in a timely manner or have submitted a timely

CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS

application for reemployment.

USERRA establishes a 5-year cumulative total on military service with a single employer, with certain exceptions allowed for call-ups during emergencies, for reserve drills and annually scheduled active duty for training, etc. USERRA also allows an employee to complete an initial period of active duty that exceeds 5 years, not including reenlistments. Under USERRA, restoration rights are based on the duration of military service rather than the type of military duty performed, e.g., active duty for training, inactive duty, etc.

Time limits for returning to work under USERRA, with the exception of fitness-for-service examinations, depend upon the duration of a person's military service. The applicable time limits are as follows:

~ Less than 31 days service: By the beginning of the first regularly scheduled work period after the end of the calendar day of duty plus time required to return home safely. If this is impossible or unreasonable, then as soon as possible.

~ 31 to 180 days: Application for reemployment must be submitted no later than 14 days after completion of a person's service. If this is impossible or unreasonable through no fault of the person, then as soon as possible.

~ 181 days or more: Application for reemployment must be submitted no later than 90 days after completion of a person's military service.

~ Service-connected injury or illness: Reporting or application deadlines are extended for up to two years for persons who are hospitalized or convalescing.

Contact - Information regarding USERRA may be obtained by calling the U.S. Department of Labor at 1-866-487-2365 or going online to: www.dol.gov.

**New Jersey Department of
Military and Veterans
Affairs
Toll Free Number
1-888-8NJ-VETS**

HOME OWNERSHIP BENEFITS

HMFA Mortgage

The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFA) offers low interest rate HMFA mortgages that provide veterans and their families with increased buying power and a savings of thousands of dollars in interest over the life of the loan. HMFA offers residential mortgages to United States veterans through the Veterans Administration (VA) home buyer program. Most HMFA homeownership loans are originated by private lenders that are approved to participate in the programs.

Details - Veterans can apply for an HMFA mortgage for any of the following:

- ~ first time and urban home buyers.
- ~ purchase and rehabilitation mortgages.
- ~ reverse mortgages for seniors.

More than 55 participating lenders with hundreds of locations throughout the state offer HMFA mortgage products, and can help determine the right mortgage for you.

VA home buyer loans often require no down payment and HMFA offers a below-market, fixed interest rate. Closing costs may not be included in the loan, however the seller is allowed to pay most costs, which makes it possible for a veteran to buy with virtually no cash down. Closing costs generally include VA appraisal, credit report, escrow, title evidence, recording fees, a one percent loan origination fee and discount points.

A reverse mortgage loans allow seniors (62 and over) to access the equity in their home without a monthly repayment schedule for as long as they live in the home. Loan proceeds can be taken in a lump sum, monthly payments, line of credit or some combination of these options. The loan amount is determined by property value and borrower age. Counseling is required. No restriction on value of property. No income requirements or verification.

Eligibility - State residents must first be eligible for a federal VA guaranteed home loan. Contact any state Veterans Service Office see Appendix A.

Contact - For information on HMFA consumer mortgage programs, call 1-800-NJ-HOUSE. Speech or hearing impaired individuals may call the TTY hotline at 1-877-325-6524. New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, 637 South Clinton Avenue, PO Box 18550, Trenton, NJ 08650-2085.

Complete HMFA program information is also

HOME OWNERSHIP BENEFITS

available at WWW.STATE.NJ.US/DCA/HMFA/

Federal VA Guaranteed Home Loan

The loan is made by a lender, such as a mortgage company, savings and loan or bank. VA's guaranty on the loan protects the lender against loss if the payments are not made, and is intended to encourage lenders to offer veterans loans with more favorable terms. The amount of guaranty on the loan depends on the loan amount and whether the veteran used some entitlement previously. With the current maximum guaranty, a veteran who hasn't previously used the benefit may be able to obtain a VA loan up to \$240,000 depending on the borrower's income level and the appraised value of the property. The local VA office can provide more details on guaranty and entitlement amounts.

Note: Although the veteran may be approved for a VA home loan guarantee, the veteran still needs to have a good credit rating to obtain a loan from a lending institution, such as a bank or credit union. Contact State Veterans Service Offices listed in appendix B for more information on loans

New Jersey Property Tax Benefits

The New Jersey Property Tax Exemption and Deduction require veterans to serve during a specific war time period. See New Jersey War/Conflict Dates on page 6.

Note: For New Jersey Property Tax Exemption and Deduction, Haiti service is **not** included as a war time period.

The dwelling house is the veteran's primary legal residence.

The veteran or surviving spouse must own and occupy the house.

If the house is a multiple family building, the exemption is only granted for the portion actually occupied by the veteran or surviving spouse.

The definition of resident is the same for the property tax exemption and deduction. It is the legal domicile within the state. Seasonal or temporary residence in the state is not considered being a resident of New Jersey. Absence from the state for a period of 12 months shall be sufficient evidence of abandonment of domicile. The burden of establishing legal domicile in the state is the claimant's burden.



New Jersey Property Tax Exemption

Eligibility for Veterans - Applies to veterans who meet all of the following criteria:

- ~ Served during a specified wartime period.
- ~ Received an honorable discharge or under honorable conditions.
- ~ Rated 100 percent permanent service-connected by the VA. The 100 percent rating cannot be temporary or as a result of hospitalization, surgery or recuperation.

Eligibility for spouses who meet the following criteria:

- ~ Not remarried.
- ~ Even if the marriage is terminated by death/divorce, the spouse is no longer entitled. However, if the marriage is annulled, the surviving spouse regains eligibility.
- ~ Veteran previously received exemption prior to death.
- ~ Veteran would have been found eligible if an application had been filed prior to death.

And one of the following criteria:

- ~ The veteran had to be rated 100 percent permanent VA service-connected prior to death. A spouse is not eligible if the veteran was rated less than 100 percent

HOME OWNERSHIP BENEFITS

permanent service-connected, but died of that service-connected disability.

~ The veteran died in active service during wartime in any branch of the United States Armed Forces.

Application Process

Application forms are available at your local municipal property tax assessor's office. In addition the following documentation is required:

~ property deed

~ discharge (DD214)

~ VA Property Tax Exemption Letter. The letter must be requested by contacting the VA at 1-800-827-1000. Do **NOT** submit the VA Award Letter indicating the monetary award. That may delay the effective date of the exemption.

Do **NOT** submit any medical documentation except for the VA property tax exemption letter even if the tax assessor demands it. The VA deems a veteran 100 percent permanent service-connected disabled, not the tax assessor.

The spouse may need to submit the property deed, a marriage certificate, death certificate, discharge (DD-214) to the tax assessor especially if the veteran did not claim the exemption but would have been eligible. If the veteran or surviving spouse moves to another residence (dwelling house) in the same municipality, a new application must be filed to continue the exemption.

Effective Date of Abatement

The exemption unlike the deduction is PRO-RATED from the date the veteran or spouse filed the application with ALL required documentation. EXAMPLE: A veteran completes the application on April 7, but does not submit all the documentation until May 3. The veteran's property tax exemption is effective May 3. Many tax assessors exempt the property tax January 1 of the next year. The same proration process applies to the surviving spouse.

Retroactive Abatement

Each city council or governing body, at its discretion, may grant a retroactive abatement for 100 percent permanent VA rated service-connected disability cases. Taxing authorities are only mandated to exempt property tax from the date the application is filed with all required documentation.

From the effective date of 100 percent permanent VA service-connected disability rating is determined by each city council by resolution. The governing body

has the discretion to grant a retroactive payment. They are only mandated to exempt property tax from the date the application is filed with all required documentation.

New Jersey Property Tax Deduction

There is an annual property tax deduction of two hundred and fifty dollars.

Veterans - To be eligible:

~ a citizen of the United States

~ resident of New Jersey

~ honorably discharged or released under honorable conditions from active service in a war-time period, in any branch of the U.S. Armed Services.

Surviving spouse's - To be eligible:

~ The surviving wife or husband of a veteran who was a citizen of the United States and resident of New Jersey and one of the following:

~ Was receiving the deduction prior to the veteran's death.

~ Would have been eligible for the deduction had the veteran filed an application prior to death.

~ Has died on active duty in a wartime period.

Application process

The application must be filed with all required documentation prior to December 31 of the preceding tax year in order to be effective in the next year.. Documentation includes the property deed and discharge (DD-214) for the veteran. The widow may need to submit the property deed, marriage certificate, death certificate and discharge (DD-214).

Continuation of Deduction

The tax assessor **MAY** at any time require the filing of a new application or request documentation to determine continuation of the deduction. However, the tax assessor cannot require a new application from every veteran or spouse every year.

Deduction for Cooperatives

For cooperatives, the procedure is different. The manager or superintendent must submit forms to the tax assessor indicating the names and locations of the veterans or spouses within the co-op. The deduction is then granted to the co-op, the co-op is responsible to either reduce the rent or present a check to the veteran or spouse.

Refunds for Deductions

NO RETROACTIVE deduction is available for any previous year(s) where proper documentation was not filed in a timely manner.

LICENSES

Professional Licenses

License to Vend Honorably discharged veterans may obtain a no-fee license to vend any goods, wares or merchandise, or solicit trade within the state (NJSA 45:24-9). Licenses are procured from the county clerks office (NJSA 45:24-10) and regulated by municipalities. Contact your county clerk for an application.

Vendors must also register with the N.J. Division of Taxation, and collect and remit sales tax on required items. Contact the Division of Taxation for more information.

Food vendors must also comply with state and local health licensing requirements.

Licenses for real estate brokers, agents and solicitors are also available at no charge to a veteran who has served during a war period and a service-connected disability certified by VA . The veteran is required to take any prescribed qualifying courses and necessary state examinations. The 1947 statute providing honorably discharged wounded or disabled war veterans with a free license to operate as an insurance broker, agent or solicitor (NJSA 17:22-6) was partially repealed in 1972. In 1987, NJSA 17:22A-21 FEES; Section d provided "The commissioner may, by rule or regulation, provide for the waiving of fees for disabled war veterans of the U.S. Military Service."

Automobile Registration

The veteran must be 100 percent disabled and:
~ also be eligible for the automobile financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

In addition, the veteran must have sustained the following injuries incurred or aggravated during active military service:

- (1) loss or permanent loss of use of one or both feet
- (2) loss or permanent loss of use of one or both hands
- (3) permanent impairment of vision of both eyes to a prescribed degree. Veterans with best-corrected vision no better than 20/200 or less or field defect of 20 degrees or less are considered eligible.

To apply - Application for plates and registrations are processed by Motor Vehicle Services. Applications are available at local Motor Vehicle Agencies. For more information, call 888-486-3339.

No Fee Automobile Registration for Medal of Honor Recipients

Medal of Honor recipients are eligible for a no-fee registration and will receive special license plates noting their award.

Contact - For information call 1-888-486-3339.

Free Hunting and Fishing Licenses

The NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife will annually issue the following licenses **FREE** to each qualified disabled veteran: a fire arm, bow & arrow, fishing or all around hunting license, a pheasant and quail stamp, a state duck stamp and a trout stamp. In addition, disabled veterans may apply for free permits: one bow and arrow deer permit*; one firearm (muzzleloader or shotgun) deer permit*; and one spring and one fall turkey permit* for use during applicable hunting season.

*Special deer and turkey permit applications will be available at the Division offices listed below or by mail from the Trenton office. All rules and regulations pertaining to the lottery system and laws for each season still apply. In other words, you will be allowed to enter the lottery for free but will not be guaranteed a permit. Your odds of winning a permit depend upon what zone and/or time period you select. Additional permits for added hunting opportunities may be purchased.

Eligibility - To be eligible, the veteran must be:
~ A resident of New Jersey that has been honorably discharged, or released under honorable circumstances, from active service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States; **and**
~ Declared by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to have a service-connected disability of any degree.

Verification - Applicants must provide verification of discharge and service connected disability. This may be completed by presenting the following credentials:

~ Proof of disability by producing a letter of certification from the Department of Veterans Affairs, a wallet-sized card from the VA indicating status or a photocopy of your monthly disability check indicating your status.

~ Proof of honorable discharge (DD-214 or similar document).

~ Proof of residency by showing a driver's license, or

LICENSES

resident hunting/fishing license.

Details - If you wish to obtain the free hunting related offers, you must show proof of having satisfied the applicable state hunter education requirements by providing a previous year's Resident Firearm or Bow & Arrow license, All Around license, or a Resident Senior hunting license. A hunter education course completion card is also acceptable. Resident licenses from other states issued to hunters prior to establishing residency in NJ will also be accepted, if the license indicates which type of hunting it validates. Non-resident licenses from other states are **NOT** acceptable.

Contact - Documentation may be brought to a field office listed below or mailed in to the Division at the following address:

NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife

501 East State Street, 3rd floor,
PO Box 400

Trenton, NJ 08625-0400

Attn: Disabled Veteran Licensing

NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife Trenton Office

501 East State St., PO Box 400

Trenton, NJ 08625-0400

Mercer County 609-292-2965

The Central Region Office

386 Robbinsville/Clarksburg Road

Robbinsville

Monmouth County 609-259-2132

Nacote Creek

(Issues clamming and crabbing licenses only.)

Rt. 9, Mile Marker 51

Port Republic

Atlantic County 609-748-2020

The Pequest Trout Hatchery

605 Pequest Road

Oxford

Warren County 908-637-4125

The Southern Region Office

220 Blue Anchor Road

Sicklerville

Gloucester County 856-629-0555

STATE PARKS



Free admission to New Jersey State Parks for members of the New Jersey National Guard

The New Jersey Division of State parks and Forestry administers more than 325,000 acres of land. Facilities include 38 parks, 11 forest, three recreation areas, one golf course, 42 natural areas and 57 historic sites.

The New Jersey Division of State Parks and Forestry does not charge an admission fee for entrance into a State park or forest by any resident of the State who is an active member of the New Jersey National Guard who has completed Initial Active Duty Training.

As used in this section, "Initial Active Duty Training" means Basic Military Training, for members of the New Jersey Air National Guard, and Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training, for members of the New Jersey Army National Guard.

Note - This does not cover federal or local parks that are also located within the state of New Jersey. It only covers those run by the New Jersey Division of State Parks and Forestry.

Contact - New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry, 501 East State Street, PO Box 404, Trenton, NJ 08625 or call 609-984-0370.

PENSIONS AND COMPENSATION

Catastrophic Entitlements

A monthly entitlement of \$62.50 is provided to veterans who meet the following eligibility criteria:

Eligibility - The veteran or widow/widower is eligible if the veteran meets all the following criteria:
~ Is a wartime veteran. See page 6 for New Jersey approved war dates.

~ Was a legal resident of New Jersey at the time of initial induction into the Armed Services of the United States.

~ Provides proof of discharge from the Armed Services indicating character of service that was other than dishonorable or undesirable.

~ Was a legal resident of New Jersey at the time of application and continues to reside in New Jersey except for reasons of health or employment. Proof of residency may be a New Jersey driver's license, a New Jersey voters registration card, a paid New Jersey real estate tax bill with the appropriate name(s), a deed to New Jersey property in the appropriate name(s), utility bills with veteran's name and New Jersey address thereon or other similar documentation.

~ The veteran must be in receipt of a 100 percent permanent service-connected disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs that resulted from wartime service resulting in one of the following seven catastrophic disabilities or a combination of medical symptomatology of one or more of the catastrophic disabilities resulting in a 100 percent rating:

Loss of sight;

Amputation of both hands, both feet or one hand and one foot;

Hemiplegia and permanent paralysis of one leg and one arm or either side of the body;

Paraplegia and permanent paralysis of both legs and lower parts of the body;

Osteochondritis and permanent loss of use of both legs;

Multiple Sclerosis and the loss of use of both feet or both legs;

Quadriplegia

The widow/widower of those veterans who were in receipt of the entitlement prior to their death or would have been entitled to make such application, are also eligible.

Apply - Use New Jersey Catastrophic Entitlement Application. Contact a State VSO (see Appen-

dix A) for an application.

Approvals are retroactive to application date

If an application is approved, the starting date for veteran's approved payment is the date of the application. The widow's/widower's retroactive payment date is the date of the application when the application is filed within one year of the veteran's death.

Appeal - The appeal authority is the Director of the Division of Veterans Services. Veterans who have been denied the catastrophic entitlement may submit an appeal of the denial to:

State of New Jersey

Dept. of Military & Veterans Affairs

PO Box 340

Attention: Director, Division of Veterans Services
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

A veteran or the veteran's representative may submit an appeal to a denial regarding eligibility for entitlement within one year of their notification of the decision.

Appeals will be in writing and will contain any new and material evidence for consideration. The Director will respond within 60 days.

Note - An annual re-certification is necessary.

Contact - Division of Veterans Services at 609-530-7049.

Federal VA Benefits Disability Compensation

The VA compensation program provides you monthly benefits if you are disabled because of an injury or disease incurred in or aggravated during your military service and for certain conditions which may develop after your release from active duty. Benefits are authorized based upon the severity of your claimed disability(ies). If your service-connected disabilities are evaluated as 30 percent or more, you are entitled to additional allowances for your dependents. Contact State Veterans Service Offices listed in appendix A for more information on federal VA compensation and pensions.

HOMELESS VETERAN PROGRAMS



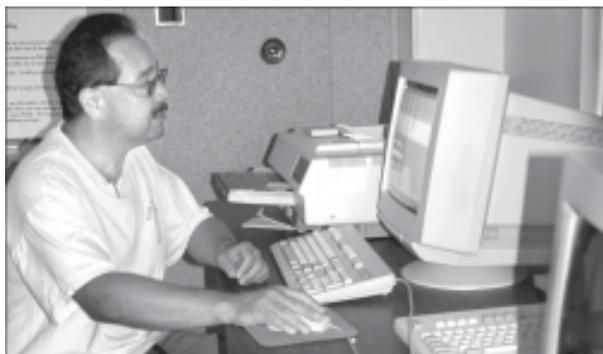
Veterans Haven is located at 202 Spring Garden Road, Winslow, NJ 08095.

Veterans Haven

The Transitional Housing Program for homeless veterans occupies one large building on state property in Winslow Township. The program is divided into three phases: treatment; self-reclamation; and community reintegration. Each phase lasts three to six months and is tailored to individual treatment needs and vocational interests.

Eligibility - Eligible veterans are referred from a VA Medical Center after receiving a medical evaluation. To be admitted into the program, the veteran must agree to a long-term program focusing on psychological, social and vocational rehabilitation. The program is drug and alcohol free, and has a staff comprised of professionals in the fields of mental health, addictions, social work, vocational rehabilitation and nursing.

Contact - For more information on the Transitional Housing Program (Veterans Haven) for homeless veterans call 609-561-0269.



Veteran learning computer skills at Veterans Haven.

Stand Down Operations

Stand Down helps the New Jersey's homeless veterans "combat" life on the streets by providing a broad range of necessities, including food, clothing, medical, legal and mental health assistance, job counseling, and referrals, in a venue that fosters companionship and camaraderie.

Program Goals:

1. Provide immediate short-term relief from the trauma and stress of homelessness and a safe haven for a short period;
2. Bring services and assistance into the field directly to the homeless veteran; provide access to short term services and assistance such as food and clothing;
3. Provide access to longer-term solutions such as VA and social services benefits;
4. To build strong long term interagency and volunteer community working relationships;
5. To raise local and national awareness of the plight of homeless veterans with the hope of increasing community involvement;
6. Start the healing process by returning self-respect to a lost segment of our nation's veteran's population;
7. To encourage replication of the program in other cities across the United States.

Contact - If you are interested in volunteering your time, efforts or resources in the Stand Down Program, call 1-888-8NJ-VETS.



Operation Stand Down at the National Guard Armory at Cherry Hill.

HEALTHCARE ENTITLEMENTS

Transportation Program

This program assists the veteran in need of transportation. The program originated due to the distance many N.J. veterans had to travel to get to a VA facility for medical care. Free transportation is offered to VA medical centers and clinics, other hospitals, private physicians, VA Regional Office and local Veterans Service Offices in most counties. The State Veterans Service Officer in the county should be contacted to explain the details of the program, level of service in that county, qualifications and requirements, and assist in scheduling the transportation.

Contact - For more information call a Veterans Service Office listed in Appendix A.



Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Readjustment Counseling

This program addresses the readjustment problems of veterans and offers treatment to veterans of all war periods. Treatment extends to family members affected by the veteran's affliction. State Veterans Service Officers assist the veteran with scheduling counseling and the filing of any applicable VA claims. Contracted clinicians, experienced in PTSD counseling, determine the best course of treatment for the veteran and the veteran's family. Assistance is not limited by VA regulations or restrictions.

Contact - For more information call a Veterans Service Officer listed in Appendix A.

Federal VA Uniform Benefits Package

Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 is the legislation that paved the way for the creation of the standard enhanced health benefits plan generally available to all enrolled veterans.

Eligibility - In October 1996, Congress passed Public Law 104-262, the Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996. This legislation paved the way for the creation of a Uniform Benefits Package - a standard enhanced health benefits plan available to

all enrolled veterans. The Law also simplified the process by which veterans can receive services.

Public Law 104-262 was enacted to simplify the rules for providing health care to veterans and to introduce improvements in the quality and timeliness of the care you receive. Like other standard health care plans, the Uniform Benefits Package emphasizes preventive and primary care, offering a full range of outpatient and inpatient services.

VA has also placed a priority on improved veterans satisfaction. Their goal is to ensure the quality of care and service you receive is consistently excellent, in every location, in every program.

Under the new Uniform Benefits Package, VA offers you, the veteran, a comprehensive health care plan that provides the care needed, when needed.

Eligibility Details - To be eligible for enrollment for healthcare, you must have:

- ~ Been discharged from active military service under honorable conditions.
- ~ Served a minimum of 2 years if discharged after September 7, 1980 (prior to this date there is no time limit.)
- ~ If a National Guardsmen or Reservist, served the entire period for which you were called to active duty other than for training purposes only.

Coast Guard - Individuals who served in the Coast Guard are veterans and are eligible for VA health care benefits in the same manner as any other veteran who served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Air Force.

Merchant Marine - Merchant Marines who served on U.S. flagged merchant ships between December 7, 1941 and August 5, 1945, may be eligible for enrollment for VA health care benefits. See Appendix A for a Veteran Service Office for information.

Priority Groups

Once you apply for enrollment, your application eligibility will be verified. Based on your specific eligibility status, you will be assigned a priority group.

There are currently eight priority groups for veterans healthcare. Priority groups are subject to change by VA regulation. All health services may not be available in each area of service.

Help and information on enrollment may be obtained by visiting, calling or writing any VA location of care or any Veterans Service Office. See Appendix B and Appendix D.

NEW JERSEY VETERANS MEMORIAL HOMES



NEW JERSEY VETERANS MEMORIAL HOME AT PARAMUS, (201) 634-8200, 1 Veterans Drive, PO Box 608, Paramus, NJ 07653-0608



NEW JERSEY VETERANS MEMORIAL HOME AT MENLO PARK, (732) 452-4100, 132 Evergreen Road, PO Box 3013, Edison, NJ 08818-3013



NEW JERSEY VETERANS MEMORIAL HOME AT VINELAND, (856) 405-4200, 524 North West Boulevard, Vineland, NJ 08360-2895

The Division of Healthcare Services of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs operates three Veterans Memorial Homes within the state. These homes provide long-term care for nearly 1,000 New Jersey veterans. The homes are conveniently located in Paramus (northern New Jersey), Menlo Park (central New Jersey), and Vineland

(southern New Jersey), providing effective and convenient service through out the state.

Facilities: The homes offer private and semi-private rooms, with special secured units available for residents who tend to wander. Each room is equipped with a nurse-call system for immediate nursing care. The homes are inspected and licensed annually by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Medical Services: Comprehensive services and a deep concern for the residents go hand-in-hand at New Jersey's three state-operated veterans nursing homes. Around-the-clock medical and nursing care is provided by a full-time staff of physicians, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants. Rehabilitative services, such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy are provided under the direct supervision of licensed therapists. A wide range of other medical services is also offered, including psychological counseling dental, podiatric, dermatological care, and short-term respite care.

Other Services: Spacious dining rooms provide a welcoming setting for residents to enjoy wholesome meals prepared under the supervision of licensed dietitians. Tray service is available when necessary, and special care is given to those who have individually prescribed diets.

For the convenience and comfort of the residents, the homes feature fully equipped barber and beauty shops, lounges for socializing and watching television, computers, snack bars, libraries outdoor patios and recreation areas, picnic grounds, and chapels for religious services for all faiths.

Activity Programs: The special camaraderie among veterans is recognized and incorporated into the daily experiences of our residents.

Activity programs include ceramics, dinner parties, socials, bingo, shopping, movies, arts and crafts and games. Off-site events include fishing excursions, bowling, day trips to places such as Atlantic City, the racetrack, and many sporting events.

Volunteers regularly visit residents and assist with a wide range of programs and musical events. They include local school groups, veteran's organizations, and military units from the New Jersey

NEW JERSEY VETERANS MEMORIAL HOMES

National Guard. These organizations add immensely to the quality of life of our residents.

Admissions: Resident accommodations are assigned based on the level of care required and vacancies. The facilities are open to veterans who were honorably discharged, to the veteran's spouse, and to spouses and parents of members of the military who were killed in action during a period of war (Gold Star Parent). A spouse or widow/widower must be at least 50 years of age and must have been married to the veteran for a period of not less than 10 years. Preference is given to applicants who were state residents for at least two years immediately prior to application for admission. Applicants must meet certain asset limitation criteria. Residents pay according to ability, based on income.

If you are responsible for the long-term care and well being of a New Jersey veteran, a New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home may be the right nursing home choice for your loved one. If you are interested in applying to one of our veterans homes, please contact the homes directly.

Transition: Before a resident is admitted to a veterans home, members of our staff work with family and loved ones to ease the transition. We strive to keep the family informed of important aspects of the resident's nursing home life.

We maintain a special association with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), all veteran's organizations, and many other civic groups to make the transition from community to assisted living less difficult.

Employment Opportunities: If you are interested in employment at one of the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Homes as a Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, or Certified Nurses' Aide, please call (609) 530-6767.



DEATH, BURIAL AND RELATED BENEFITS



The Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery is located at Wrightstown 350 Provinceline Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562. 609-758-7250.

Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery

The BG William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery provides eligible veterans the opportunity to be interred in a state operated cemetery dedicated to them. Located in Arneytown, North Hanover Township, Burlington County on 225 partially wooded acres, the cemetery provides a picturesque setting as a final resting place and memorial. The cemetery features a modern, nondenominational chapel and administration building, and will accommodate 215,000 veterans and eligible family members. Areas are provided for the interment of cremated remains and for those veterans whose remains have never been recovered.

Burial entitlements include a plot, grave liner, interment service, use of the chapel and maintenance in perpetuity, all at no charge to the veteran or veteran's family. The U.S. bronze grave marker is provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The state provides the granite base.

Eligibility - Applicant to be interred must have been a legal resident of the state of New Jersey at the time of death or have lived at least 50% of his or her life within the state. In addition, at least one of the following criteria must be met:

- ~ Service members who died while on active duty.
- ~ Veterans whose last active service ended under other than dishonorable or undesirable conditions.
- ~ Members of any reserve component of the Armed Forces (Army National Guard, Air National Guard or the Reserve Officers Training Corps of the Army, Navy

DEATH, BURIAL AND RELATED BENEFITS



View of the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

and Air Force) who died under honorable conditions while on active duty for training or performing full-time service.

~ Members of a reserve component who has attained 20 years of service creditable for retired pay.

~ Certain World War II Merchant Marines and those who have attained veteran status.

~ The spouse, widow, or dependent child of any eligible New Jersey veteran. Eligible children must be unmarried and under the age of 21 or be an unmarried adult child who became incapable of self support before reaching the age of 21 because of mental or physical impairment.

Application - Requests for burial may be made at the time of death through any funeral director. The family may make requests for interment of cremated remains directly to the cemetery-office.

Veterans are encouraged to pre-register their intent to be interred at the cemetery.

Pre-registration may be done at any state Veterans Service Office listed in Appendix A or at the cemetery itself.

Federal VA Benefits

All federal death-related veterans benefits must be applied for after the death of a veteran. You may not pre-register or file requests in advance.

Eligibility for VA burial, death and related benefits - To confirm your eligibility, call a Veteran's Benefits Counselor at 1-800-827-1000. Applicants must meet at least one of the following criteria:

~ Members of the Armed Forces of the United States (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard)

who died on active duty.

~ Veterans who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. Generally, an enlisted person with service beginning after September 7, 1980, and an officer with service after October 16, 1981, must have served for a minimum of 24 months or the full period for which the person was called to active duty. A VA Regional Office will make determination in the case of an undesirable, bad conduct, or other than honorable discharge.

~ Any citizen of the United States who served in the armed forces of an ally of the U.S. during any war, in which the United States has been engaged. The last active service must be terminated honorably. The person must have been a U.S. citizen at the time of entry into such service and at the time of death.

~ Reservists and National Guard members with 20 years of qualifying service, who are entitled to retired pay or would be entitled, if at least 60 years of age.

~ Members of reserve components who were disabled or died from a disease or injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty during a period of inactive duty training or active duty for training.

~ For members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service, and World War II Merchant Mariners, please call a Veteran's Benefits Counselor at 1-800-827-1000 for details.

~ The spouse or surviving spouse of an eligible person, even if that person is not buried or memorialized in a national cemetery, is eligible for interment in a national cemetery. In addition, the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States lost or buried at sea or officially determined to be permanently absent in a status of missing or missing in action or whose remains have been donated to science or cremated and the ashes scattered is also eligible.

~ Eligible children must be unmarried and under the age of 21; unmarried and under 23 years of age and pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution; or be an unmarried adult child who became incapable of self support before reaching the age of 21 because of mental or physical disability.

Persons **NOT ELIGIBLE** for Burial in a VA National Cemetery and other VA death related benefits:

~ Former Spouses - A former spouse of an eligible

DEATH, BURIAL AND RELATED BENEFITS

individual whose marriage to that individual has been terminated by annulment or divorce, if not otherwise eligible.

~ Discharge from Draft - A person who was ordered to report to an induction station, but was not actually inducted into military service.

~ Subversive Activities - Any person convicted of subversive activities after September 1, 1959, shall have no right from and after the date of commission of such offense, based on periods of active military service commencing before the date of the commission of such offense.

~ Active or Inactive Duty for Training - A person whose only service is active duty for training or inactive duty training in the National Guard or Reserve Component, unless the individual meets the eligibility criteria listed above.

~ A person convicted of any Federal Capital crime or any State capital crime involving the death of one or more people is denied burial or memorialization in a national cemetery. (Public Law 105-116, Nov. 1, 1997)

Burial in a VA National Cemetery

Eligibility - Criteria listed above. VA national cemetery directors have the primary responsibility for verifying eligibility for burial in VA national cemeteries.

Details - Gravesites in VA national cemeteries cannot be reserved in advance; however, reservations made prior to 1973 will be honored. No special forms are required when requesting burial in a VA national cemetery. The person making burial arrangements should contact the national cemetery in which burial is desired at the time of need. Scheduling can be done seven days a week for interments on Mondays through Fridays.

If possible, the following information concerning the deceased should be provided when the cemetery is first contacted: full name, military rank, branch of service, social security number, service number, VA claim number (if applicable), date and place of birth, date and place of death, date of retirement or last separation from active duty, and a copy of any military separation documents, such as the Department of Defense Form 214 (DD-214). The discharge documents must specify active military duty and show that release from active duty was under other than dishonorable conditions.

The same procedures are followed if the veteran's eligible spouse or dependent predeceases the veteran. In most cases, one gravesite is provided for the burial of all eligible family members and a single headstone or marker is provided.

When both spouses are veterans, two gravesites and two headstones or markers may be provided if requested.

Viewing facilities are not available and funeral services cannot be held at VA national cemeteries, but a final committal service may be performed.

For information on VA National Cemeteries near New Jersey see Appendix E.

VA Headstone for Burial in a Private Cemetery

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) furnishes upon request, at no charge to the applicant, a government headstone or marker to mark the grave of an eligible veteran in any cemetery around the world. Flat bronze, granite or marble markers and upright granite and marble headstones are available. The style chosen must be consistent with existing monuments at the place of burial. Niche markers are also available to mark columbaria used for interment of cremated remains.

Eligibility - Spouses and dependents buried in a private cemetery are not eligible for a government-provided headstone or marker.

Details - By law, government markers are not provided as foot stones and should not be used to double-mark a veterans' grave. VA frequently calls the cemetery to verify the grave is not, or will not be, marked with a private headstone or marker.

Application - A funeral director or Veterans Service Officer can assist the family, completing VA Form 40-1330, Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker for Installation in a Private or State Veteran's Cemetery. A Veterans Service Officer may also assist, see Appendix A.

Reimbursement of Burial Expenses Service-Connected Death

VA will pay a burial allowance up to \$2,000 if the veteran's death is service-connected. In some instances, VA also will pay the cost of transporting the remains of a service-disabled veteran to the national cemetery nearest the home of the deceased that has

DEATH, BURIAL AND RELATED BENEFITS

available grave sites. In such cases, the person who bore the veteran's burial expenses may claim reimbursement from the VA.

Death while eligible for pension or compensation

VA will pay a \$300 burial and funeral expense allowance for veterans who, at time of death, were entitled to receive pension or compensation or would have been entitled to compensation except for receiving military retirement pay. Eligibility also may be established when death occurs in a VA facility, a nursing home under VA contract or a state veterans nursing home. Additional costs of transportation of the remains may be paid.

VA will pay a \$300 plot allowance when a veteran is not buried in a cemetery that is under U.S. government jurisdiction under one of the following circumstances:

- ~ the veteran was discharged from active duty because of disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.
- ~ the veteran was in receipt of compensation or pension or would have been except for receiving military retired pay.
- ~ the veteran died in a VA facility.

The \$300 plot allowance may be paid to the state if a veteran is buried without charge for the cost of a plot or interment in a state-owned cemetery reserved solely for veteran burials. Burial expenses paid by the deceased's employer or a state agency will not be reimbursed.

Time Limits - There is no time limit for filing reimbursement claims of service-connected deaths. In other deaths, claims must be filed within two years after permanent burial or cremation.

Contact - For information on monetary benefits, call 1-800-827-1000.

Burial Flag

A United States flag may be issued for burial or memorial purposes in connection with the death of an eligible veteran. Funeral directors will often obtain this flag for the family. This is the same flag that is presented during military funeral honors.

Eligibility - The same veteran eligibility criteria used for burial in a VA cemetery is used for burial flags.

Contact - A funeral director can assist the family, complete VA Form 21-2008 in obtaining the flag. A Veterans Service Officer may also assist, see Appendix A.

Department of Defense Benefits Military Funeral Honors

The core elements of the funeral honors ceremony, which will be conducted on request, include a minimum two-person detail, flag folding, flag presentation and playing of taps, which may be from a recording. The veteran's parent service representative will present the flag. Military Funeral Honors are provided by the Department of Defense at no cost to the family.

The military service requires at least 48 hours advance notice in order to organize the funeral honors detail.

Eligibility - Veterans must meet one of the following criteria:

- ~ Military members on active duty or in the Selected Reserve.
- ~ Former military members who served on active duty and departed under condition other than dishonorable.
- ~ Former military members who completed at least one term of enlistment or period of initial obligated service in the Selected Reserve and departed under conditions other than dishonorable.
- ~ Former military members discharged from the Selected Reserve due to a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.

Points of Contact for Military Funeral Honors in New Jersey

Funeral Directors - Department of Defense tollfree hotline is only for funeral directors. 1-877-MIL-HONR (1-877-645-4667.)

Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard - Ft. Dix office covers entire state. 609-562-4453 or 562-3147.

Headquarters Marine Corps, 866-826-3628
Marine Corps including Reserves - USMC reserve units divide the state by counties.

Dover (Picatinny Arsenal) 973-724-4700/4701 covers Sussex, Passaic, Bergen, Warren, Morris, Essex, Hudson, and Union Counties.

Red Bank 732-530-4500 Ext. 548 or after hours

DEATH, BURIAL AND RELATED BENEFITS

732-239-7526 cell phone, covers Somerset, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

Trenton 609-882-5133 Ext. 1 or after-hours 609-743-2506 covers Hunterdon, Mercer, Burlington, and Atlantic Counties.

Wilmington, DE 302-998-6695 covers Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties.

Willowgrove, PA 215-443-6740 24-hour duty covers Camden and Gloucester Counties.

Navy including Reserves and Merchant Marines - All funeral honor requests must be through Groton, Connecticut. The phone number there is 860-694-3475. They will in turn contact either Naval Weapons Station Earle, or Lakehurst Naval Engineering Station, depending on geographic location of interment site (North or South of Interstate 195.)

Air Force, Air Force Reserves, and Air National Guard - The McGuire Air Force Base office covers the entire state. 609-754-4117.

U.S. Coast Guard contact 757-298-6390.

Comments or concerns may be directed to Military Funeral Honors, 9504 IH-35 North, Suite 320, San Antonio, TX 78233-6635, or go online to: **WWW.MILITARYFUNERALHONORS.OSD.MIL**

Burial at Sea

Burials at sea services are performed on naval vessels while deployed on official maneuvers. Due to operational commitments, allow a minimum of eight weeks for committal to take place. The commanding officer of the vessel will notify the family of the date, time, longitude and latitude of the committal.

Eligibility -

~ Members and retirees of the United States uni-



Remembering and honoring those who fell in defense of the United States.

formed services.

~ Veterans discharged honorably or under honorable conditions.

~ United States civilian marine personnel of the Military Sealift Command.

~ Dependents of members, retirees and honorable discharged veterans of the United States uniformed services.

Presidential Memorial Certificate

This is a parchment certificate with a calligraphic inscription expressing the nation's grateful recognition of service in the Armed Forces. The veteran's name is inscribed and the certificate bears the signature of the President.

Eligibility - Honorably discharged, deceased veteran. There is no time limit to apply for the certificate.

Application - The family may request a Presidential Memorial Certificate either in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail. Requests cannot be sent via e-mail. There is no form to fill out when requesting the certificate. When requesting by mail, a return address and a copy of the veteran's discharge documents must be enclosed.

Send requests to: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Cemetery Administration (403A), 810 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20420.

More information is available at: **WWW.CEM.VA.GOV/PMC.HTM**

NEW JERSEY VIETNAM VETERANS' MEMORIAL AND VIETNAM ERA EDUCATIONAL CENTER



The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial at Holmdel.

The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, located in Holmdel, New Jersey, allows us to remember and honor 1,557 New Jersey men and one woman who lost their lives or remain missing in action in Southeast Asia. It also publicly recognizes more than 80,000 New Jerseyans whose heroism and courage was unjustly ignored when they returned home.

Dedicated in May 1995, the Memorial is a circular, open-air structure containing 366 polished black granite panels - one for each day of the year. Engraved on those panels are the names of each of the 1,557 New Jersey soldiers, marines, sailors, or airmen killed or reported missing in action on that date. At the center of the Memorial stands a red oak, New Jersey's official state tree. It shades a grouping of three bronze statues representing those who died in Southeast Asia, those who came home, and the women who served.

The Vietnam Era Educational Center is the first educational center and museum of its kind in the United States or the world. Dedicated in September 1998, the center is devoted solely to gaining an understanding of the violent conflict in Southeast Asia and the surrounding political strife in America.

The Center enables visitors to attain a greater understanding of the myriad of forces that produced the conflict abroad and the dissension at home. It provides an atmosphere where appropriate materials and exhibits help visitors understand the significance of the Memorial, the reality of the conflict, and the social, political and cultural complexities of the war years. It complements the solemnity of the Memorial with a dynamic and lively learning environment.

The 10,000 square-foot facility includes an exhibition area with historic timeline, a circle of personal correspondence, flip books of personal photographs, touch-screen computers, and a testimony theater. The resource room contains hundreds of books, videos, and CD-ROMS. The multipurpose room serves as both a classroom and meeting room for various functions. There is also a gift shop with Memorial merchandise and items relating to the Vietnam Era.

Special, temporary exhibits, a film and lecture series, issue-related forums, ceremonies and other special events

held at the Memorial and Educational Center throughout the year. Guided tours and facilities rental are available.

The NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Vietnam Era Educational Center is open to the public Tuesday - Saturday, from 10 AM to 4 PM. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for senior citizens and students, children 10 and under are free. Veterans of military service and active military personnel are admitted free of charge.

For more information, call 1-800-648-VETS (8387) or 732-335-0033.



The Memorial and Education Center is located on the grounds of the PNC Bank Arts Center, Garden State, Parkway, Exit 116, Holmdel

NEW JERSEY KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL



New Jersey Korean War Memorial located at Brighton Park, Atlantic City where Park Place meets the Boardwalk.

The Korean Conflict, 1950-1953 claimed more than 540,900 lives, including 889 New Jersey veterans.



Mourning Soldier (right) and Combat Squad statues at the New Jersey Korean War Memorial.

Dedicated on November 13, 2000, The New Jersey Korean War Memorial stands on land donated by Atlantic City, in Brighton Park, where Park Place meets the Boardwalk.

Sculptors J. Tom Carrillo and Thomas Jay Warren designed the memorial featuring bronze figures of heroic proportions, representing the servicemen and women who fought in Korea, which include the "Mourning Soldier" clutching dog tags and remembering his lost comrades, a soldier and nurse helping a wounded soldier, and two battlefield reliefs behind sheets of water cascading into reflecting pools. It also includes a wall bearing the names of all the service members killed or missing in action, as well as a wall honoring the four New Jersey servicemen who were awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in Korea.

For more information, call the Division of Veterans Services at (609) 530-7049 or visit the New Jersey Korean War Memorial website at www.state.nj.us/military/korea.

BATTLESHIP USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62)

The Navy announced July 21, 2000, that Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig signed the donation contract officially transferring the historic battleship New Jersey (BB 62) to the Home Port Alliance for USS NEW JERSEY Inc. in Camden.

Built at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, the New Jersey was commissioned on May 23, 1943, and saw active service from 1944-1948, 1950-1957 and 1968-1969. After undergoing modernization, she was recommissioned in 1982, serving almost nine more years and demonstrating global U.S. naval presence as part of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force in Beirut, Lebanon and in developments to the Eastern Mediterranean and Western Pacific.

Beyond her imposing size, the "Big J" has an impressive record of service to her country, winning many awards for the noteworthy actions of her crew, including sixteen battle stars - nine in World War II, four during the Korean War, and three during the Vietnam War - as well as two Navy Unit Commendations, eight service medals and eight service ribbons.

The Navy donates ships as a way of preserving naval history and tradition, educating the public, and commemorating the men and women who built and sailed the vessels.

The USS New Jersey completed her final voyage home from Bremerton, Washington to the former Philadelphia Naval Ship Yard, arriving there appropriately enough, on Veterans' Day 1999. The Navy's decision to berth the Battleship permanently in Camden was announced on June 20, 2000.

The Battleship New Jersey, our Nation's most decorated battleship, is now a floating museum on the



Contemporary photo of the BB-62, The USS New Jersey. Courtesy United States Navy.

Delaware River, along the Camden Waterfront across from Center City, Philadelphia.

History comes to life as visitors experience a two-hour guided tour through the Iowa - class ship, one of the largest battleships ever built.

The tour takes visitors around the upper and lower sections of the Battleship complete with a multimedia room for disabled visitors.

Guided Tours are as follows:

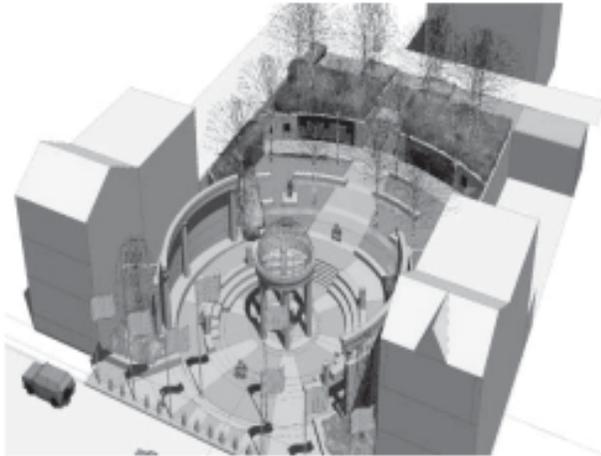
9 AM - 3 PM October - March

9 AM - 5 PM April - September

For general information and directions call The Home Port Alliance Group, 2500 Broadway, Drawer 18, Camden, NJ 08104; 856-966-1652, Fax 856-966-1883.

State of New Jersey World War II Memorial

World War II was by all accounts the greatest victory for the United States – along the front lines and the home front. Every individual alive during this period of history was involved and had a stake in the outcome.



Design Intent

The WWII Memorial unfolds around the overall theme of “Victory” with three core ideas, which are analogous to the WWII Generation: Service, Duty, and Sacrifice.

The central sculptural element, named “Lady Victory” symbolically encompasses the greatness of this effort and the grace and courage of the WWII Generation. Victory was the end goal and an image that was used to promote the war effort on posters, campaigns, events, and news releases. Encircling Lady Victory are six service markers and two arcing story walls. Each service marker bears a seal that represents the six branches of the military and the respective New Jersey Medal of Honor recipients. The story walls strive to communicate the war effort both by the home front and the front lines, in terms of technology, communication, and New Jersey’s contributions with stories told by local veterans. Located along an outer circle are four base reliefs depicting battle scenes from the Atlantic and Pacific Theatres. This generation sacrifice and courage is symbolized by a Battlefield Marker on the perimeter of the Memorial, which proceeds to a Lone Soldier advancing toward ultimate “Victory.”

Today, fewer and fewer Americans have a personal connection or awareness of the sacrifices and courage of New Jersey’s World War II Veterans & Generation.

Time is quickly passing. We urge you to support the New Jersey World War II Memorial through a tax-deductible contribution.

Fund-Raising Campaign Levels

Corporate & Foundation Donors:

Medal of Honor	\$500,000 and Up
Distinguished Service Cross	\$100,000 - \$499,999
Silver Star	\$50,000 - \$99,999
Bronze Star	\$10,000 - \$49,999

Veterans, State, County, & Organizational Donors:

Victory	\$10,000 and Up
Liberty	\$5,000 - \$9,999
Freedom	\$2,500 - \$4,999
Patriot	\$1,000 - \$2,499

Individual Donors:

Eagle	\$1,000 and Up
Falcon	\$500 - \$999
Hawk	\$100 - \$499
Osprey	\$25 - \$99

Donations are payable to “Treasurer, State of New Jersey” * Indicate on Memo: NJ WWII Memorial

Contact us at 609-530-7049

Or visit our web site: www.state.nj.us/military/WWII

APPENDIX A - NJDMAVA STATE VETERANS SERVICE OFFICES



ASBURY PARK 07712-6904

630 Bangs Avenue, Suite 320
732-775-7009 or -7005

ATLANTIC CITY 08401-6901

1601 Atlantic Avenue
7th Floor
609-441-3060 or -3061

BRICK 08724-3550

970 Route 70
(in the James J. Howard VA Clinic)
732-840-3033 or -3034

ELIZABETH 07201-1053

1196 Chestnut Street
908-820-3133 or -3134

HACKENSACK 07601-2570

385 Prosepect Avenue, 3rd Floor
201-996-8050 or -8051

JERSEY CITY 07306-3158

438 Summit Avenue
3rd Floor, Room 302
201-798-7040 or -7051 or -7026

MT. HOLLY 08060

555 High St., Suite 6A
609-518-2273 or 2274

NEWARK 07102-3174

(Liaison office)
20 Washington Place
973-297-3230

NEW BRUNSWICK 08901-2102

711 Jersey Avenue
732-937-6347 or -6348 or -6349

NEWTON 07860-5000

Armory, 5 South Park Dr.
(off U.S. Highway 206)
973-383-4949 or -1363
Dover (Wednesday)
973-366-8347

PATERSON 07505-2101

100 Hamilton Plaza, 6th Floor
973-977-4050, 4051 or -4556

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19144

(Liaison office)
5000 Wissahicken Avenue
215-381-3054

PORT MURRAY 07865-9482

Armory, 550 Route 57
908-689-5840 or -5845

THOROFARE 08086

215 Crown Point Road, Suite 300
856-853-4184, 4185 or -4186

TRENTON 08625-0671

28 W. State Street, 5th Floor, Room 514
609-292-5880 or -5881

VINELAND 08360-2895

524 Northwest Boulevard
NJ Veterans Memorial Home
856-696-6452 or -6445 or -6451

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS SERVICE OFFICES

All offices are Located at 20 Washington Place, Newark, NJ 07102

AMERICAN LEGION

973-297-3377

AMVETS

973-297-3376

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

973-297-3378

UNITED SPINAL ASSOCIATION

973-297-3387

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

973-297-3388

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

973-297-3389

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

973-297-3226

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

973-297-3227

APPENDIX B - NJ COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICES

ATLANTIC

Atlantic County office of
Veterans Affairs
6601 Ventnor Avenue,
Suite 307
Ventnor NJ 08406
609-487-6932

BERGEN

Division of Veterans
Services
One Bergen County Plaza,
2nd Floor
Hackensack NJ 07601
201-336-6325, 6328, 6329,
6326, 7406

BURLINGTON

Dept. of Veterans Affairs
795 Woodlane Road
Human Services Building
Mt. Holly NJ 08060
609-265-5008, 5154

CAMDEN

Department of Veterans
Affairs
315 South White Horse Pike
Magnolia NJ 08049
856-566-7297
856-566-7295 Fax

CAPE MAY

Veterans Bureau
4005 Rte 9 South
Rio Grande NJ 08242
609-886-2762

CUMBERLAND

Cumberland Veterans Affairs
Office
122 E. Main Street,
Suite 100
Millville NJ 08332
856-293-0437

ESSEX

Veterans Bureau
50 South Clinton Street,
Suite 3200
East Orange NJ 07018
973-395-8394

GLOUCESTER

Office of Veterans Affairs
211 County House Rd.
Washington Twp
Sewell NJ 08080
856-401-7660

HUDSON

Veterans Services
County of Hudson
Dept. of Health & Human
Services
595 Newark Avenue,
Room 104
Jersey City NJ 07306
201-795-5610

HUNTERDON

Interment Officer
24 Stryker Street
Lambertville NJ 08530
609-397-8190

MERCER

Department of Veterans
Affairs
2280 Hamilton Avenue
Hamilton NJ 08619
609-989-6120

MIDDLESEX

Dept. of Human Services
Middlesex County Admin.
Building
John F. Kennedy Square,
5th Floor
New Brunswick NJ 08901
732-745-4051

MONMOUTH

Interment Office
PO Box 3000, Kozloski
Road
Freehold NJ 07728
732-308-2988

MORRIS

County Dept. of Human
Services
Veterans Services
340 W. Hanover Avenue
Morris Township NJ
07960-2777
973-285-6868

OCEAN

Veterans Service Bureau
1027 Hooper Avenue,
Building 2
PO Box 2191
Toms River NJ 08754-2191
732-929-2096

PASSAIC

Veterans Service Office
Administration Building
309 Pennsylvania Avenue
Paterson NJ 07505
973-881-4173

SALEM

Veterans Service Office
92 Market Street
Salem NJ 08079
856-339-8603

SOMERSET

Department of Veterans
Services
92 E. Main Street
Somerville NJ 08876
908-704-6329

SUSSEX

Interment Officer
P.O. Box 844
Stanhope NJ 07874
973-347-8333

UNION

Office of Veterans Affairs
Union County Administration
Building
3rd Floor
10 Elizabethtown Plaza
Elizabeth NJ 07207
908-659-7407
or 866-640-7115
908-558-2566 Fax

WARREN

Interment Officer
8 Hughes Lane
Belvidere NJ 07823
908-475-2413
Assistant Supervisor
6 Hemlock Lane
Belvidere NJ 07823
908-475-5098

APPENDIX C - ONE-STOP CAREER CENTERS

Atlantic County One-Stop Career Center

2 South Main Street
Pleasantville, NJ 08232-2728
609-813-3900

Bayonne One-Stop Career Center

690 Broadway
Bayonne, NJ 07002-2920
201-858-3037

Bergen County One-Stop Career Center

60 State Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601-5427
201-996-8950

Bloomfield One-Stop Career Center

57 Park Street
Bloomfield, NJ 07003-2598
973-680-5550

Bridgeton County One-Stop Career Center

40 E. Broad Street
Bridgeton, NJ 08302-2876
856-453-3900

Burlington County One-Stop Career Center

795 Woodlane Road
Westhampton, NJ 08060-6100
609-518-3900

Camden County One-Stop Career Center

2600 Mount Ephraim Avenue
Camden, NJ 08104
1-877-995-2600

Clifton One-Stop Career Center

388 Lakeview Avenue
Clifton, NJ 07011
973-340-3400

Dover One-Stop Career Center

107 Bassett Highway
Dover, NJ 07801-3896
973-361-9050

East Orange One-Stop Center

50 S. Clinton Street
East Orange, NJ 07018
973-266-1990

Elizabeth One-Stop Career Centers

208 Commerce Place
Elizabeth, NJ 07201-2306
908-820-3181

Essex County College Continuing Education Yellow Section

Newark, NJ 07102
973-733-5370

Flemington One-Stop Career Center

1 East Main Street
Flemington, NJ 08822-1787
908-782-2371

Fort Dix One-Stop Career Center

USARTC-Fort Dix Delaware Avenue
Fort Dix, NJ 08640-6904
609-723-5494

Franklin One-Stop Career Center

12 Munsonhurst Road
Franklin, NJ 07416
973-209-0284

Hammonton One-Stop Career Center

44 No. White Horse Pike
Hammonton, NJ 08037-1860
609-561-8800

Jersey City One-Stop Career Center

438 Summit Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306-3175
201-795-8800

Jersey City One-Stop Career Center

121-125 Newark Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07302
201-860-0080

Lakewood One-Stop Career Center

231 3rd Street 2nd Floor
Lakewood, NJ 08701
732-905-5996

Mayor's Office of Employment and Training

57 Sussex Avenue 2nd Floor
Newark, NJ 07103
973-733-8500

Mercer County One-Stop Career Center

26 Yard Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08625-0954
609-292-0620

Morristown One-Stop Career Center

30 Schuyler Place
Morristown, NJ 07960-3834
973-631-6321

Neptune One-Stop Career Center

60 Taylor Avenue
Neptune, NJ 07753-4844
732-775-1566

New Brunswick One-Stop Career Center

506 Jersey Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1392
732-937-6200

Newark One-Stop Career Center

990 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102
973-648-3370

Newton One-Stop Career Center

Route 206 North
Newton, NJ 07860-1818
973-383-2775

Passaic County One-Stop Career Center

14-16 Howe Street
Passaic, NJ 07055-4007
973-916-2643

Paterson County One-Stop Career Center

370 Broadway
Paterson, NJ 07501-2192
973-977-4350

Perth Amboy One-Stop Career Center

339 Maple Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861-4193
732-293-5016

Phillipsburg One-Stop Career Center

75 South Main Street
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865
908-859-0400

Plainfield One-Stop Career Center

200 East 2nd Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060-1306
908-412-7980

Plainfield One-Stop Career Center

120 West Seventh Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060
908-757-9090

Red Bank One-Stop Career Center

170 Monmouth Street
Red Bank, NJ 07701
732-747-2282

APPENDIX C - ONE-STOP CAREER CENTERS

Rio Grande One-Stop Career Center

1304 Route 47 South
Rio Grande, NJ 08242
609-886-0975

Salem County One-Stop Career Center

174 East Broadway
Salem, NJ 08079
856-935-7007

Somerville One-Stop Career Center

75 Veterans Memorial Drive
Somerville, NJ 08876-2950
908-704-3001

Toms River One-Stop Career Center

1027 Hooper Avenue
Toms River, NJ 08753-6577
732-286-5616

Trenton One-Stop Career Center

650 S. Broad Street
Trenton, NJ 08611
609-989-6523

Union City One-Stop Career Center

4800 Broadway
Union City, NJ 07087
201-866-4100

Vineland One-Stop Career Center

275 North Delsa Drive
Vineland, NJ 08360-3670
856-696-6600

Wildwood One-Stop Career Center

3810 New Jersey Ave.
Wildwood, NJ 08260-0210
609-729-0997

Woodbury One-Stop Career Center

215 Crown Point Road
Woodbury, NJ 08086
856-251-6800

Cherry Hill One-Stop Career Center

1873 Route 70 East
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003
856-751-8550

Toms River One-Stop Career Center

Ocean County PIC
Toms River, NJ 08755
732-286-6446

APPENDIX D - VA NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Veterans Benefits Administration - Eastern Area Office

Newark Regional Office
20 Washington Place Newark, NJ 07102
1-800-827-1000

Philadelphia Regional Office

Ro and Ins. Center, PO Box 8079, 5000
Wissahicken Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19101
Information: 1-800-669-8477

Veterans Health Administration - VISN 3: Veterans Integrated Service Network

East Orange Campus of the VA New Jersey Health Care System

385 Tremont Avenue, East Orange, NJ 07018
973-676-1000

Elizabeth Community Clinic

654 East Jersey Street, Suite 2A, Elizabeth, NJ
07206
908-994-0120

Ft. Monmouth Community Clinic

Paterson Army Health Clinic, Building 1075,
Stephenson Ave. Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703
732-532-4500

Hackensack Community Clinic

385 Prospect Avenue Hackensack, NJ 07601
201-487-1390

James J. Howard Community Clinic (Brick, NJ)

970 Rt. 70 Brick, NJ 08724
732-206-8900

Jersey City Community Clinic

115 Christopher Columbus Drive Jersey City, NJ
07302
201-435-3055/3305

Lyons Campus of the VA New Jersey Health Care System

151 Knollcroft Road, Lyons, NJ 07939
908-647-0180

Morristown Community Clinic

340 West Hanover Ave Morristown, NJ 07960
973-539-9791/9794

New Brunswick Community Clinic

317 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901
732-729-0646

Newark Community Clinic

20 Washington Place, Newark, NJ 07102
973-645-1441

APPENDIX D - VA NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Paterson Community Clinic

275 Getty Avenue, St. Joseph's Hospital & Medical Center, Paterson, NJ 07503
973-247-1666

Trenton Community Clinic

171 Jersey Street, Bldg. 36, Trenton, NJ 08611-2425
609-989-2355

Veterans Health Administration - VISN 4: VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network

Cape May VA Outpatient Clinic

1 Monroe Avenue Cape May, NJ 08204
609-898-8700

VA Clinic NJ Veterans Memorial Home

520 Northwest Boulevard Vineland, NJ 08360
856-692-1588

VA Outpatient Clinic at Marshall Hall

8th and Alabama Ft. Dix, NJ 08640
609-562-2999

Ventnor VA Health Clinic

6601 Ventnor Avenue, Suite 303 Ventnor, NJ 08406
609-823-3122

Veterans Health Clinic at Gloucester County

211 County House Road Sewell, NJ 08080-2525
856-307-4825

VETERAN CENTERS

BLOOMFIELD 07003

2 Broad St.
Suite 703
973-748-0980

JERSEY CITY 07302

115 Christopher Columbus Drive
Suite 200
201-748-4467

PHILADELPHIA 19107

801 Arch St.
Suite 102
215-627-0238

PHILADELPHIA 19120

101 East Olney Ave.
Box C-7
215-924-4670

EWING 08618

934 Parkway Ave.
Second Floor
609-882-5744

VENTNOR CITY 08406

Ventnor Professional Campus
6601 Ventnor Ave.
Suite 105
609-487-8387

APPENDIX E - FEDERAL CEMETERIES

Beverly National Cemetery

R.D. #1, Bridgeboro Road, Beverly, NJ 08010
609-877-5460.

Finn's Point National Cemetery

RFD #3, Fort Mott Road, Box 542, Salem, NJ 08079.
Contact Beverly National Cemetery 609-877-5460

Bath National Cemetery

VA Medical Center, Bath, NY 14810.
607-776-5480, Ext. 1293

Calverton National Cemetery

210 Princeton Boulevard, Calverton, NY 11933-1031.
631-727-5410 or 631-727-5770

Cypress Hills National Cemetery

625 Jamaica Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208. Contact:
Long Island National Cemetery. 516-454-4949

Long Island National Cemetery

2040 Wellwood Avenue, Farmingdale, NY 11735-
1211. 516-454-4949

Saratoga National Cemetery

200 Duell Road, Schuylerville, NY 12871-1721. 518-
581-9128

Woodlawn National Cemetery

1825 Davis Street, Elmira, NY 14901. Contact: Bath
National Cemetery 607-776-5480, Ext. 1293

Indiantown Gap National Cemetery

R.R. #2, P.O. Box 484, Annville, PA 17003-9618.
717-865-5254

Philadelphia National Cemetery

Haines Street and Limekiln Pike, Philadelphia, PA
19138. Contact Beverly National Cemetery
609-877-5460

APPENDIX F - NJ VETERANS SERVICE AGENCIES

VETERANS ASSISTANCE OFFICES AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Veterans and eligible dependents may seek assistance with educational entitlements at veterans assistance offices located on the campus of most private and public colleges throughout the state. These offices are certified by the State Approving Agency, Division of Veterans Services, and will assist in processing the paperwork required to receive educational entitlements. Personnel are employees of each institution.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE OFFICES AT THE COUNTY LEVEL

Following honorable separation or discharge from the service, veterans are encouraged to bring their discharge papers to the clerk or registrar of deeds of their county of residence who will record the document without cost to the veteran. If the original is ever lost by the veteran, the clerk will provide a certified copy for a nominal fee.

Every county is required to hire a Supervisor of Veterans Interment to assist families of deceased veterans with information and arrangements concerning burial entitlements and services.

Some counties have gone one step further and have established a veterans affairs office which provides veterans with information on services and entitlements or can refer them to the proper agency equipped to handle the specific problem or question.

County-operated veterans service offices are listed in Appendix B.

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The seven member committee works to identify the needs and concerns of the veterans of N.J., explores various avenues of addressing those needs and concerns, and reviews and recommends legislation affecting veterans and their dependents to other assembly committees and the General Assembly. For Legislative information call 1-800-792-8630 or 609-292-4840.

SENATE SENIOR CITIZENS, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The six member committee reviews and recommends legislation affecting veterans and their dependents to other committees and the Senate. For Legislative information call 1-800-792-8630 or 609-292-4840.

VETERANS SERVICES COUNCIL

The Veterans Services Council was established by the legislature in 1948. It is composed of nine veterans, all of whom are appointed by the governor and serve four-year terms. Its principal responsibility is the formulation of policies and recommendations, which are subject to the approval of the Adjutant General, to improve the availability and coordination of services offered to veterans and their dependents. To achieve this goal, the council continually assesses and identifies the needs of the veterans of NJ; informs the public and legislative bodies of those needs; assists in the development of and recommends public policy to meet those needs; and monitors those agencies which provide services to veterans to ensure that public policy is being implemented effectively.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Coordinates numerous programs aimed at educating the public about legislative activity. For copies of bills, resolutions, legislative calendars or other publications, call the Legislative Information and Bill Room at 1-800-792-8630 or 609-292-4840. Information is also available online at: **WWW.NJLEG.STATE.NJ.US**

VETERANS FACILITIES ADVISORY COUNCILS

Under general policies established by The Adjutant General, the four Veterans Facilities Advisory Councils recommend standards and procedures for application and determination of eligibility for admission to state veterans facilities and recommend standards for quality care. The council also recommends standards and procedures for determination and payment of amounts which members may be required to contribute toward the cost of care and treatment in

APPENDIX F - NJ VETERANS SERVICE AGENCIES

accordance with their financial ability. There is a council for each veterans memorial home and the cemetery.

BLUE STAR MEMORIAL HIGHWAY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Originated as a joint project of the Garden Club of N.J. and the Highway Dept. in 1944, as a way to provide a living memorial to veterans. The original project established a five-mile planting of flowering dogwood trees in a landscaped area along US Route 29 (now Route 22) between Mountainside and North Plainfield. The project was named Blue Star Drive, for the blue star in the service flag that families would hang in their windows for each family member on active duty. In 1945, it became a national project. In 1948, the N.J. Blue Star Advisory Council was established.

New Jersey Interstates 78, 80, 287 and 295 have been dedicated as memorial highways; the entire length of Route 22 has been designated as the state's link in the national chain.

For more information on designated highways, by-ways and cemeteries contact the local Garden Club.

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

For information on the state memorial and educational center located at Exit 116 on the Garden State Parkway, Holmdel, call 1-800-648-VETS (8387).

WOMEN VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The committee serves as a forum for addressing the needs and concerns of women veterans, works to support equality of services and stresses the availability of entitlements to women.

APPENDIX G - VETERANS WEBSITES

NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
www.state.nj.us/military

Federal VA Home page
www.va.gov

TRICARE
www.tricare.osd.mil/

Federal Veterans' Preference
www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vetguide.asp

Small Business Administration
www.sba.gov/VETS/

Arlington National Cemetery
www.arlingtoncemetery.org/

Military Funeral Honors
www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil/

National Archives
www.archives.gov/index.html

Military Officers Association of America
www.moaa.org/

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
www.dod.mil/dfas/



APPENDIX H - SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY COMPENSATION

Service Connected Disability Compensation

12/01/2005 for 2006

	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Veteran only)	112.00	218.00	337.00	485.00	690.00	873.00	1,099	1277	1436	2393
Veteran & Spouse			377.00	539.00	757.00	954.00	1,193	1385	1557	2528
Veteran & child only			364.00	521.00	735.00	927.00	1,162	1349	1517	2484
Veteran & Spouse + 1 children			406.00	578.00	806.00	1012.00	1,262	1463	1645	2626
Veteran, Spouse, 1 parent, 1 child			438.00	621.00	860.00	1077.00	1338.00	1550.00	1743.00	2735.00
Veteran, Spouse, 2 parents			441.00	625.00	865.00	1084.00	1345.00	1559.00	1753.00	2746.00
Each additional child			20.00	27.00	34.00	40.00	47.00	54.00	61.00	68.00
Each add. child >18 in school			64.00	86.00	107.00	129.00	150.00	172.00	193.00	215.00
Additional for A&A spouse			\$37.00	48.00	61.00	73.00	85.00	97.00	110.00	122.00

Service Connected Death (DIC) **HB = 122.00 A & A = 257.00** Increase due to 100% rating => 8 years **221.00**

	Spouse		No Surviving Spouse			
	1,033.00		Number of Children	Total	Each child share	
added amount per child	\$257					
added for school child 18-23	\$218	81	1	438.00	←-----→	438
added for child >18 disabled	\$438	82	2	629.00	divided equally	314
		83	3	819.00	divided equally	273
		84	4	976.00	divided equally	244
For each child 18-23 in school					218.00	
For each additional child add					157.00	
For each helpless child > 18 add					257.00	

Non-Service Connected Benefits

12/01/2005 for 2006

	Base		A & A allow.		Housebound allow.		5% of MAPR		
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly			
Veteran	10,579	881	17,651	1,470	12,929	1,077	\$528.00		
Veteran + spouse(or child)	13,855	1,154	20,924	1,743	16,205	1,350	\$692.00		
each additional child	1,806	150							
Widow	7,094	567	11,340	945	8,670	722	\$354.00		
plus one child	9,287	742	13,529	1,127	10,860	905	\$464.00		
each additional child	1,806	150							
Two Vets Married	13,855	1,154	1-A&A	20,924	1,743	1-HB	16,205	1,350	\$692.00
Both receiving same SMP				27,921	2,326		18,555	1,546	
One-A&A, One-HB		23,270	1,939						

SPECIAL BENEFIT ALLOWANCES

Service Connected Burial	2,000	(SC)	Automobile Allowance	11,000
Non SC Burial	300			
Plot Allowance	300	(SC)	Clothing Allowance	641
State Cemetery	0			
Plot Allowance	300		Medal of Honor	1,069

NEW JERSEY FORMS

The following forms have been included for your convenience. The forms may be removed from the book or copied. If you copy the form, remember to copy the reverse side. New Jersey Forms pages are not numbered.

The forms are included in the following order:

<i>Appendix/Page</i>	<i>Form/Title</i>	<i>Number of pages in form</i>
Appendix I/43	Standard Form 180 Request For Military Records	3
Appendix J/46	NJDMAVA Form 05A-1NJ Civil Service Veterans Preference Claim Form	2
Appendix K/48	NJ Application for Award Program	2
Appendix L/50	NJ Operation Recognition Program	2
Appendix M/52	NJDMAVA Form 05A-2 NJ Application for Veterans Designation for Pension	1

A note about obtaining New Jersey Army and Air National Guard records

To obtain New Jersey Army National Guard records (some New Jersey Air National Guard records are available) from all time periods and any service branch discharge after 1974 contact 609-530-6823.

To obtain discharges from any service branch, logon to <http://vetrecs.archives.gov> or fill out a Standard Form 180.

INSTRUCTION AND INFORMATION SHEET FOR SF 180, REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS

1. Information needed to locate records. Certain identifying information is necessary to determine the location of an individual's record of military service. Please try to answer each item on the SF 180. If you do not have and cannot obtain the information for an item, show "NA," meaning the information is "not available." Include as much of the requested information as you can.

2. Restrictions on release of information. Release of information is subject to restrictions imposed by the military services consistent with Department of Defense regulations and the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act of 1974. The service member (either past or present) or the member's legal guardian has access to almost any information contained in that member's own record. An authorization signature, of the service member or the member's legal guardian, is needed in Section III of the SF180. Others requesting information from military personnel/health records must have the release authorization in Section III of the SF 180 signed by the member or legal guardian, but if the appropriate signature cannot be obtained, only limited types of information can be provided. If the former member is deceased, surviving next of kin may, under certain circumstances, be entitled to greater access to a deceased veteran's records than a member of the public. The next of kin may be any of the following: unremarried surviving spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, sister, or brother. Employers and others needing proof of military service are expected to accept the information shown on documents issued by the military service departments at the time a service member is separated.

3. Where reply may be sent. The reply may be sent to the member or any other address designated by the member or other authorized requester.

4. Charges for service. There is no charge for most services provided to members or their surviving next of kin. A nominal fee is charged for certain types of service. In most instances service fees cannot be determined in advance. If your request involves a service fee, you will be notified as soon as that determination is made.

5. Health and personnel records. Health records of persons on active duty are generally kept at the local servicing clinic, and usually are available from the Department of Veterans Affairs a week or two after the last day of active duty. (See page 2 of SF180 for record locations/addresses.)

6. Records at the National Personnel Records Center. Note that it takes at least three months, and often up to seven, for the file to reach the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis after the military obligation has ended (such as by discharge). If only a short time has passed, please send the inquiry to the address shown for active or current reserve members. Also, if the person has only been released from active duty but is still in a reserve status, the personnel record will stay at the location specified for reservists. A person can retain a reserve obligation for several years, even without attending meetings or receiving annual training. (See page 2 of SF180 for record locations/addresses.)

7. Definitions and abbreviations. DISCHARGED -- the individual has no current military status; HEALTH -- Records of physical examinations, dental treatment, and outpatient medical treatment received while in a duty status (does not include records of treatment while hospitalized); TDRL -- Temporary Disability Retired List.

8. Service completed before World War I. National Archives Trust Fund (NATF) forms must be used to request these records. Obtain the forms by e-mail from inquire@nara.gov or write to the Code 6 address on page 2 of the SF 180.

PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 COMPLIANCE INFORMATION

The following information is provided in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(3) and applies to this form. Authority for collection of the information is 44 U.S.C. 2907, 3101, and 3103, and Public Law 104-134 (April 26, 1996), as amended in title 31, section 7701. Disclosure of the information is voluntary. If the requested information is not provided, it may delay servicing your inquiry because the facility servicing the service member's record may not have all of the information needed to locate it. The purpose of the information on this form is to assist the facility servicing the records (see the address list) in locating the correct military service record(s) or information to answer your inquiry. This form is then filed in the requested military service record as a record of disclosure. The form may also be disclosed to Department of Defense components, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS, U.S. Coast Guard), or the National Archives and Records Administration when the original custodian of the military health and personnel records transfers all or part of those records to that agency. If the service member was a member of the National Guard, the form may also be disclosed to the Adjutant General of the appropriate state, District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico, where he or she served.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

Public burden reporting for this collection of information is estimated to be five minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to National Archives and Records Administration (NHP), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001. **DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND COMPLETED FORMS AS INDICATED IN THE ADDRESS LIST ON PAGE 2 OF THE SF 180.**

REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS

To ensure the best possible service, please thoroughly review the accompanying instructions before filling out this form. Please print clearly or type. If you need more space, use plain paper.

SECTION I - INFORMATION NEEDED TO LOCATE RECORDS (Furnish as much as possible.)

1. NAME USED DURING SERVICE (last, first, and middle)		2. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.		3. DATE OF BIRTH		4. PLACE OF BIRTH	
5. SERVICE, PAST AND PRESENT (For an effective records search, it is important that all service be shown below.)							
BRANCH OF SERVICE		DATES OF SERVICE		CHECK ONE		SERVICE NUMBER DURING THIS PERIOD (If unknown, write "unknown")	
		DATE ENTERED	DATE RELEASED	OFFICER	ENLISTED		
a. ACTIVE SERVICE							
b. RESERVE SERVICE							
c. NATIONAL GUARD							
6. IS THIS PERSON DECEASED? If "YES" enter the date of death.				7. IS (WAS) THIS PERSON RETIRED FROM MILITARY SERVICE?			
<input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES _____				<input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES			

SECTION II - INFORMATION AND/OR DOCUMENTS REQUESTED

1. REPORT OF SEPARATION (DD Form 214 or equivalent). This contains information normally needed to verify military service. A copy may be sent to the veteran, the deceased veteran's next of kin, or other persons or organizations if authorized in Section III, below. NOTE: If more than one period of service was performed, even in the same branch, there may be more than one Report of Separation. Be sure to show EACH year that a Report of Separation was issued, for which you need a copy.

An UNDELETED Report of Separation is requested for the year(s) _____

This normally will be a copy of the full separation document including such sensitive items as the character of separation, authority for separation, reason for separation, reenlistment eligibility code, separation (SPD/SPN) code, and dates of time lost. An undeleted version is ordinarily required to determine eligibility for benefits.

A DELETED Report of Separation is requested for the year(s) _____

The following information will be deleted from the copy sent: authority for separation, reason for separation, reenlistment eligibility code, separation (SPD/SPN) code, and for separations after June 30, 1979, character of separation and dates of time lost.

2. OTHER INFORMATION AND/OR DOCUMENTS REQUESTED _____

3. PURPOSE (Optional - An explanation of the purpose of the request is strictly voluntary. Such information may help the agency answering this request to provide the best possible response and will in no way be used to make a decision to deny the request.) _____

SECTION III - RETURN ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE

1. REQUESTER IS:

<input type="checkbox"/> Military service member or veteran identified in Section I, above	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal guardian (must submit copy of court appointment)
<input type="checkbox"/> Next of kin of deceased veteran _____ (relation)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____

2. SEND INFORMATION/DOCUMENTS TO:
 (Please print or type. See item 3 on accompanying instructions.)

3. AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURE REQUIRED (See item 2 on accompanying instructions.) I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the information in this Section III is true and correct.

Name _____

Street _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Signature (Please do not print.) _____

Date of this request _____ Daytime phone _____

Email address _____

** This form is available at <http://www.archives.gov/research/order/standard-form-180.pdf> on the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) web site.**

LOCATION OF MILITARY RECORDS

The various categories of military service records are described in the chart below. For each category there is a code number which indicates the address at the bottom of the page to which this request should be sent. Please refer to the Instruction and Information Sheet accompanying this form as needed.

BRANCH	CURRENT STATUS OF SERVICE MEMBER	ADDRESS CODE	
		Personnel Record	Health Record
AIR FORCE	Discharged, deceased, or retired before 5/1/1994	14	14
	Discharged, deceased, or retired 5/1/1994 – 9/30/2004	14	11
	Discharged, deceased, or retired on or after 10/1/2004	1	11
	Active (including National Guard on active duty in the Air Force), TDRL, or general officers retired with pay	1	
	Reserve, retired reserve in nonpay status, current National Guard officers not on active duty in the Air Force, or National Guard released from active duty in the Air Force	2	
	Current National Guard enlisted not on active duty in the Air Force	13	
COAST GUARD	Discharge, deceased, or retired before 1/1/1898	6	
	Discharged, deceased, or retired 1/1/1898 – 3/31/1998	14	14
	Discharged, deceased, or retired on or after 4/1/1998	14	11
	Active, reserve, or TDRL	3	
MARINE CORPS	Discharged, deceased, or retired before 1/1/1905	6	
	Discharged, deceased, or retired 1/1/1905 – 4/30/1994	14	14
	Discharged, deceased, or retired 5/1/1994 – 12/31/1998	14	11
	Discharged, deceased, or retired on or after 1/1/1999	4	11
	Individual Ready Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve	5	
	Active, Selected Marine Corps Reserve, TDRL	4	
ARMY	Discharged, deceased, or retired before 11/1/1912 (enlisted) or before 7/1/1917 (officer)	6	
	Discharged, deceased, or retired 11/1/1912 – 10/15/1992 (enlisted) or 7/1/1917 – 10/15/1992 (officer)	14	14
	Discharged, deceased, or retired 10/16/1992 – 9/30/2002	14	11
	Discharged, deceased, or retired on or after 10/1/2002	7	11
	Reserve; or active duty records of current National Guard members who performed service in the U.S. Army before 7/1/1972	7	
	Active enlisted (including National Guard on active duty in the U.S. Army) or TDRL enlisted	9	
	Active officers (including National Guard on active duty in the U.S. Army) or TDRL officers	8	
	Current National Guard enlisted not on active duty in Army (including records of Army active duty performed after 6/30/1972)	13	
NAVY	Discharged, deceased, or retired before 1/1/1886 (enlisted) or before 1/1/1903 (officer)	6	
	Discharged, deceased, or retired 1/1/1886 – 1/30/1994 (enlisted) or 1/1/1903 – 1/30/1994 (officer)	14	14
	Discharged, deceased, or retired 1/31/1994 – 12/31/1994	14	11
	Discharged, deceased, or retired on or after 1/1/1995	10	11
	Active, reserve, or TDRL	10	
PHS	Public Health Service - Commissioned Corps officers only	15	

ADDRESS LIST OF CUSTODIANS (BY CODE NUMBERS SHOWN ABOVE) – Where to write/send this form

1	Air Force Personnel Center HQ AFPC/DPSRP 550 C Street West, Suite 19 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4721	6	National Archives & Records Administration Old Military and Civil Records (NWCTB-Military) Textual Services Division 700 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, DC 20408-0001	11	Department of Veterans Affairs Records Management Center P.O. Box 5020 St. Louis, MO 63115-5020
2	Air Reserve Personnel Center /DSMR HQ ARPC/DPSSA/B 6760 E. Irvington Place, Suite 4600 Denver, CO 80280-4600	7	U.S. Army Human Resources Command ATTN: AHRC-PAV-V 1 Reserve Way St. Louis, MO 63132-5200	12	Army National Guard Readiness Center NGB-ARP 111 S. George Mason Dr. Arlington, VA 22204-1382
3	Commander, CGPC-adm-3 USCG Personnel Command 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1100 Arlington, VA 22203-1804	8	U.S. Army Human Resources Command ATTN: AHRC-MSR 200 Stovall Street Alexandria, VA 22332-0444	13	The Adjutant General (of the appropriate state, DC, or Puerto Rico)
4	Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps Personnel Management Support Branch (MMSB-10) 2008 Elliot Road Quantico, VA 22134-5030	9	Commander USAEREC ATTN: PCRE-F 8899 E. 56th St. Indianapolis, IN 46249-5301	14	National Personnel Records Center (Military Personnel Records) 9700 Page Ave. St. Louis, MO 63132-5100
5	Marine Corps Reserve Support Command (Code MMI) 15303 Andrews Road Kansas City, MO 64147-1207	10	Navy Personnel Command (PERS-313C1) 5720 Integrity Drive Millington, TN 38055-3130	15	Division of Commissioned Corps Officer Support ATTN: Records Officer 1101 Wootton Parkway, Plaza Level, Suite 100 Rockville, MD 20852

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS' AFFAIRS
CIVIL SERVICE VETERAN'S PREFERENCE CLAIM FORM
INSTRUCTIONS**

- Please print or type all answers • Complete the first section and any other section(s) that apply to you
- Sign your name at the bottom • Please mail this form and a copy of your Veteran's Separation Papers (Form DD214) to NJ Dept of Military & Veterans' Affairs, ATTN: DVP-VBB, P.O. Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340 • If you do not have Form DD 214, a copy can be obtained from the National Personnel Records Center. If your records have been destroyed, a letter from the National Personnel Records Center attesting to the destruction of your records and a notarized statement indicating the dates of active service, branch, rank, and type of discharge must be submitted.

1. Your Name (Last, first, middle initial - Please Print)	2. Your Social Security Number	4. Veteran's Name (If you are not the veteran)
3. Your address Street		5. Veteran's Social Security Number (If you are not the veteran)
City State Zip Code		6. Date Starting Active Duty
8. Has veteran received a dishonorable discharge? YES NO		7. Date Ending Active Duty
9. Branch of Service		10. Rank at Discharge

DISABLED VETERAN CLAIMANTS - If the veteran is eligible for or receiving 10% or more disability compensation or pension for a service connected disability incurred during one of the covered periods of service **CURRENT PROOF OF DISABILITY IS REQUIRED.**

11. Give percent disability receiving Or entitled to receive	12. Present location veteran's disability records (V.A. Office)
13. Nature of Disability	⇒ 14. Claim Number

SPOUSE OF A DISABLED VETERAN - The spouse of veteran who is eligible for or receiving 10% or more disability compensation or pension for a service connected disability incurred during one of the covered periods is entitled to the same preference as the veteran provided the veteran is not in the employment of the State, or of any County, Municipality, or School District covered by the Department of Personnel and further provided that the veteran waives all preference as long as the spouse is employed by any of the aforementioned jurisdictions.

15. Are you presently married to the Veteran named in Item 4 above? YES NO	16. Will the veteran waive the right to use of the D.V. Status in your favor? YES NO (If Yes, veteran must sign here)
17. Is the veteran now employed by the State or any other Jurisdiction covered by the Department of Personnel? YES NO	⇒ Veteran's Signature

SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A DISABLED VETERAN (OR) SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A VETERAN WHO DIED IN SERVICE - Until s/he remarries is entitled to the same preference as a disabled veteran. **Copy of Death Certificate or Report of Casualty required.**

18. Date of Death	19. Has a parent of the veteran named in Item 4 above used the parent's preference with the New Jersey Department of Personnel? YES NO
20. Were you married to the veteran named in Item 4 above at the time of the veteran's death? YES NO	21. Have you remarried since the death of this veteran? YES NO

SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A VETERAN WHO DID NOT DIE IN THE SERVICE - is entitled, until the surviving remarries, to the same preference to which the veteran, if living, would be entitled. **Copy of Death Certificate required.**

22. Were you married to the veteran named in Item 4 above at the time of the veteran's death? YES NO	23. Date of Death
24. Have you remarried since the death of this veteran? YES NO	

GOLD STAR PARENT - The parent of a veteran who died while in service is entitled to Disabled Veteran's Preference. If both a parent and spouse survive, the use of such preference by either shall suspend the right of the other. **Report of Casualty required.**

24. Date of Death	27. Name and Address of surviving spouse	28. Has surviving spouse ever used the spouse's Veterans Preference in securing public Employment in New Jersey? YES NO
25. Was deceased veteran married? YES NO (If Yes, complete items 27 and 28)		

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the statements made by me to the foregoing questions are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. If any of the statements in this application are false, I am aware that I am subject to criminal proceedings.

YOUR SIGNATURE **DATE**

CIVIL SERVICE VETERAN'S PREFERENCE CLAIM FORM

To be eligible for veteran's preference/status under New Jersey Law, one must have served on active duty during one of the following periods or incurred a service-connected injury irrespective of length of service:

1. **World War II:** 90 days active duty on or after September 16, 1940, and must have begun on or before December 31, 1946.
2. **Korean Conflict:** 90 days active duty on or after June 23, 1950, and must have begun on or before January 31, 1955.
- *3. **Lebanon Crisis:** 14 days on or after July 1, 1958, commencing on or before November 1, 1958.
4. **Vietnam Conflict:** 90 days active duty on or after December 31, 1960, and must have begun on or before May 7, 1975.
- *5. **Lebanon:** 14 days on or after September 26, 1982 and must have begun on or before December 1, 1987.
- *6. **Grenada:** 14 days on or after October 23, 1983 and must have begun on or before November 21, 1983.
- *7. **Panama:** 14 days on or after December 20, 1989 and must have begun on or before January 31, 1990.
- *8. **Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm:** 14 days on or after August 2, 1990 to February 28, 1991.
- *9. **Somalia:** 14 days on or after December 5, 1992 and must have begun on or before March 31, 1994.
- *10. **Bosnia and Herzegovina (Operation Joint Endeavor/Operation Joint Guard):** 14 days on or after November 20, 1995 and on or before June 20, 1998.
- *11. **Haiti (Operation Uphold Democracy):** 14 days on or after September 19, 1994 and on or before March 31, 1995.
- *12. **Operation Enduring Freedom:** 14 days on or after September 11, 2001
- *13. **Operation Iraqi Freedom:** 14 days on or after March 19, 2003

*NOTE: To be eligible for preference for the above peacekeeping missions, one must have served in Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Haiti, Operation Enduring Freedom, or Operation Iraqi Freedom, or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a period of at least 14 days beginning on or before the date of termination of that mission or operation.

To be eligible for disabled veteran's preference, one must be a "veteran" as described above (except that such person receiving an actual service-incurred disability need not fulfill the 90/14 day requirement) and must have incurred a disability for which the veteran is eligible for or receiving ten percent or greater disability compensation. Spouses of disabled veterans, surviving spouses of disabled veterans or veterans and parents of veterans who died in service are eligible for preference, if the veteran would have been eligible for veteran's preference.

NOTE: Individuals whose only active service was for training in connection with a Reserve or National Guard obligation are not eligible for Veteran's Preference.

NOTE: Merchant Marine Personnel who served in World War II, and who present a DD-214 which establishes 90 days of active service during the period noted above, are entitled to Veteran's Preference.

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS
APPLICATION FOR AWARD / PROGRAM**

INSTRUCTIONS

- Print or type information. • Attach a copy of DD Form 214 or WD Form 53 • Attach a copy of death certificate (if applicable)
- Mail to: NJ Dept of Military & Veterans Affairs, ATTN: DVP-VBB, PO Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340
- For further information - Phone 609-530-7035

Program or Award Requested: (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NJ Distinguished Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> NJ Vietnam Service Medal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NJ Meritorious Service Medal | <input type="checkbox"/> NJ Korean Service Medal |

VETERAN'S INFORMATION

1. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	2. Service Number / SSN	3. Rank/Grade Held Upon Honorable Discharge
4. Address: Street: City: State Zip Code		5. Residency Upon Entry on Active Duty: City: State:
County Phone (.....)		

MILITARY SERVICE INFORMATION

6. Branch of Service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard)

7. War Time Service (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> World War I	<input type="checkbox"/> World War II	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean War	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam War	<input type="checkbox"/> Desert Shield/Storm
--------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--

8. Type of Combat

<input type="checkbox"/> Ground	<input type="checkbox"/> Air	<input type="checkbox"/> Sea
---------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------

9. What Veteran's Organizations do you belong to? (If any)
.....

8a. Theater of Operations: (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> European-African-Middle Eastern	<input type="checkbox"/> Asiatic Pacific	<input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/> American	<input type="checkbox"/> Southeast Asiatic	<input type="checkbox"/> Southwest Asiatic
--	--	---	-----------------------------------	--	--

POSTHUMOUS AWARD YES NO (If YES - Complete the following) (Attach copy of Death Certificate)

10. Name of Person to Receive Award (Last, First, Middle Initial) Relationship to Deceased Veteran
.....

11. Address
Street City State Zip Code

Daytime Phone

12. Presentation Ceremony Requested <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	SIGNATURE:	Date
---	------------------	------------

For Use by Approving Authority: NJ Dept of Military & Veterans Affairs:

Remarks:

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

<p>NJ Distinguished Service Medal</p>	<p>Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in time of war or national emergency. Current resident of NJ Resident of NJ upon entry on Active Duty. Served in a combat theater or was officially listed as a prisoner of war or missing in action by US Dept of Defense. Posthumous award authorized.</p>
<p>NJ Vietnam Service Medal</p>	<p>Current Resident of NJ. Served on Active Duty on or after Dec. 31, 1960 and on or before May 7, 1975 in Vietnam; Thailand, Laos, Cambodia (or contiguous waters or airspace). Attached to or served one or more days w/organization participating in or directly supporting military operations. Attached to or served for one or more days aboard a United States Naval vessel directly supporting military operations. Participated as a crew member in one or more aerial flights into airspace above Vietnam and contiguous waters directly supporting military operations. Served on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in Vietnam or contiguous areas, except that this time may be waived for persons participating in actual combat operations. Must have received an Honorable Discharge (General Discharge [Under Honorable Conditions] or a Discharge Under Other Than Honorable Conditions shall not be considered valid for this award). Posthumous award authorized.</p>
<p>NJ Meritorious Service Medal (Only for those not eligible for DSM)</p>	<p>Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in time of war or national emergency. Current Resident of NJ, having resided in NJ for at least the past 5 years. Served in a combat theater or was officially listed as a prisoner of war or missing in action by US Dept of Defense. Posthumous award authorized.</p>
<p>NJ Korean Service Medal</p>	<p>Current resident of NJ Served on active duty on or after June 23, 1950 and on or before January 31, 1955 in Korea, Japan or the contiguous waters or airspace thereof, and Attached to or served for one or more days with an organization participating in or directly supporting military operations, or Attached to or served for one or more aerial flights into airspace over Korea or contiguous waters directly supporting military operations, or Served on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in Korea or contiguous areas, except that this time limit may be waived for persons Participating in actual combat operations. Posthumous award authorized.</p>

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Complete and sign application on front side of this form.

Provide a copy of: **(DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS)**

- _____ Proof of residency (Any document showing name and home address)
- _____ DD Form 214 indicating Honorable Discharge
- _____ Evidence of active duty service in qualifying areas or contiguous waters or airspace

Submit completed application and documents to:

The Adjutant General
 New Jersey Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
 ATTN: DVP-VBB
 PO Box 340
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

NEW JERSEY'S OPERATION RECOGNITION

WORLD WAR II, KOREAN, AND VIETNAM VETERANS APPLICATION FOR NEW JERSEY HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

SECTION I			
VETERAN'S FIRST NAME:	VETERAN'S LAST NAME		VETERAN'S MIDDLE
SOCIAL SECURITY #:	DATE OF BIRTH:	TELEPHONE #:	
STREET ADDRESS:			
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:	COUNTY:
SECTION II			
NAME AND CITY/STATE OF HIGH SCHOOL THE VETERAN ATTENDED PRIOR TO ENTERING MILITARY SERVICE:			
DATE ATTENDED THIS HIGH SCHOOL:		DATE VETERAN ENTERED MILITARY SERVICE:	
SECTION III			
VETERAN'S BRANCH OF SERVICE ACHIEVED:		HIGHEST RANK:	
DATES OF SERVICE: (Optional)	COPY OF DD214: (Discharge) Attached?	MAIL DIPLOMA:	
	YES / NO	YES / NO	
SECTION IV			
SIGNATURE OF VETERAN APPLYING FOR DIPLOMA:			
			DATE: _____

SECTION V

COMPLETE ONLY IF APPLYING ON BEHALF OF A DECEASED VETERAN.

NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE OF NEXT OF KIN APPLYING FOR NEW JERSEY HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA ON BEHALF OF A DECEASED WWII, KOREAN, AND VIETNAM ERA VETERANS.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE #: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN: _____

SIGNATURE OF NEXT OF KIN APPLYING FOR DIPLOMA: _____

DATE: _____

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND BY NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

SIGNATURE OF NJ DMAVA OFFICER: _____

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF NJ DOE OR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICER: _____

DATE: _____

DIPLOMA ISSUED: _____

Submit completed applications to:

**Patricia Richter, Administrative Assistant
 Division of Veterans Programs
 New Jersey Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
 PO Box 340
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0340
 Phone: (609) 530-6854**

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS' AFFAIRS APPLICATION FOR VETERAN DESIGNATION FOR PENSION

INSTRUCTIONS

• Please print or type all answers. • Sign your name at the bottom of the application. • Please mail this form and a copy of your Veteran's Separation Papers (DD Form 214) to NJ Dept of Military & Veterans' Affairs, ATTN: DVP-VBB, P.O. Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340 • If you do not have DD Form 214, a copy may be obtained from the National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132. If your records have been destroyed, a letter from the National Personnel Records Center attesting to the destruction of your records and a notarized statement indicating the dates of active serve, branch, rank, and type of discharge, must be submitted.

1. Name (Last, first, middle initial - Please Print)	2. Social Security Number
3. Address Street	4. Phone Daytime
City State Zip Code	

4. Veteran Status (Attach Copy of Discharge or DD Form 214)	
a. Date of Induction	b. Date of Discharge

5. Retirement System: (Check block that applies to retirement system that you are enrolled in)
<input type="checkbox"/> Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF)
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS)
<input type="checkbox"/> Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS)

REMARKS (Optional)

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the statements made by me to the foregoing questions are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. If any of the statements in this application are false, I am aware that I am subject to criminal proceedings.

SIGNATURE: **DATE:**

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES



**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY
AND
VETERANS AFFAIRS**