

CHAPTER 5 VETERAN RESOURCES & ASSISTANCE

*"Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do.
Attitude determines how well you do it." ~ Lou Holtz*

Veterans play a vital role in ensuring the strength of the United States by dedicating their lives to the safety and security of its citizens. Veterans and their dependents are entitled to a wide range of services and benefits based on their level and duration of service.

VETERANS SERVICES & BENEFITS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

<http://www.va.gov>

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs administers federal benefits for veterans and their families. Some programs include home loans, life insurance, financial assistance, job training, and health resources.

National Contact:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
1722 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20421
P: 800.827.1000

Additional Resources:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, *Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors*
<http://publications.usa.gov/USAPubs.php?PubID=1050>

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS | VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

<http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA>

The Veterans Benefits Administration within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs helps veterans receive benefits, such as educational and financial resources. For information regarding specific benefit eligibility, visit the Veterans Benefits Administration website at <http://www.ebenefits.va.gov>.

National Contact:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits Administration
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420
P: 800.827.1000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS | VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

<http://www.va.gov/health>

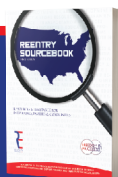
The Veterans Health Administration within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs serves the needs of America's veterans by providing primary care, specialized care, and related medical and social support services. For information regarding specific benefit eligibility, visit the Veterans Health Administration eligibility website at <http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits.gov>.

National Contact:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420
P: 877.222.8387

Additional Resources:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, *Veterans Health Benefits Guide*
<http://publications.usa.gov/USAPubs.php?PubID=861>



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR | VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

<http://www.dol.gov/vets>

The Veterans Employment and Training Service of the U.S. Department of Labor, provides resources to prepare and assist veterans obtain meaningful careers and maximize their employment opportunities.

National Contact:

U.S. Department of Labor
Veteran's Employment and Training Service
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S1325
Washington, DC 20210
P: 866.487.2365

THE AMERICAN LEGION

<http://www.legion.org>

The American Legion is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting veterans in obtaining benefits, including health care and compensation, from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The American Legion also provides assistance with locating employment and educational opportunities throughout the United States.

National Contact:

The American Legion
1608 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
P: 202.861.2700

INCARCERATED & HOMELESS VETERAN ASSISTANCE**HEALTH CARE FOR RE-ENTRY VETERANS**

<http://www.va.gov/homeless/index.asp>

The Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Program is designed to address the community reentry needs of incarcerated veterans.

The goals of the Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Program are to prevent homelessness, reduce the impact of medical, psychiatric, and substance abuse programs upon community re-adjustment, and decrease the likelihood of re-incarceration for those leaving prison. Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Programs services include:

- Outreach and pre-release assessment services for veterans in prison.
- Referrals and linkages to medical, psychiatric, and social services, including employment services upon release.
- Short term case management assistance upon release.

While the Veterans Health Administration may not provide medical services that are part of care to be provided by correctional institutions, the Veterans Health Administration may provide outreach and pre-release assessment.

Each Veterans Integrated Service Network has a Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Specialist who is the regional point-of-contact for incarcerated veteran services. Each state also has a Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Specialist who is the designated point-of-contact for incarcerated veteran services in the state.

A critical part of the Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Program is providing information to veterans while they are incarcerated so they may plan for reentry themselves. To support this, program administrators across the United States have developed state-specific resource guides which identify steps that veterans can take prior to their release.

National Contact:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
 Office of Public & Intergovernmental Affairs
 Homeless Veterans Program
 810 Vermont Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20420
 P: 202.461.7384

Additional Resources:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, *Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Specialists*
<http://www.va.gov/homeless/reentry.asp>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, *Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Guides*
http://www.va.gov/homeless/reentry_guides.asp

NATIONAL COALITION FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

<http://www.nchv.org>

The mission of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans is to end homelessness among veterans by shaping public policy, promoting collaboration, and building the capacity of service providers.

The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans – a nonprofit organization governed by a 17-member board of directors – is the resource and technical assistance center for a national network of community-based service providers and local, state and federal agencies that provide emergency and supportive housing, food, health services, job training and placement assistance, legal aid and case management support for hundreds of thousands of homeless veterans each year.

The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans also serves as the primary liaison between the nation's care providers, Congress and the executive branch agencies charged with helping them succeed in their work. The National Coalition for Homeless Veteran's advocacy has strengthened and increased funding for virtually every federal homeless veterans assistance program in existence today.

For assistance with overcoming the challenges of homelessness or other related disabilities, contact the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans for direct assistance or referral to a service provider in your local area.

National Contact:

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
 333 ½ Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
 Washington, DC 20003
 P: 877.424.3838

Additional Resources:

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, *Planning for Your Release: A Guide for Incarcerated Veterans*
[http://www.nchv.org/images/uploads/Planning%20for%20Yr%20Release%20Dec%202012\(1\).pdf](http://www.nchv.org/images/uploads/Planning%20for%20Yr%20Release%20Dec%202012(1).pdf)

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT | VETSUCCESS PROGRAM

<http://www.vetsuccess.gov>

The Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment VetSuccess Program assists veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs. Services that may be provided include: Comprehensive rehabilitation evaluation to determine abilities, skills and interests for employment; employment services; assistance finding and keeping a job; and on-the-job training, apprenticeship, and non-paid work experience. For information about possible employment services, contact the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877.424.3838.

National Contact:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
 VetSuccess Program
 810 Vermont Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20420
 P: 877.424.3838

MILITARY HANDBOOKS

MILITARY HANDBOOKS

<http://militaryhandbooks.com>

Military Handbooks was launched with one simple goal – to give the Military community the very best information available about pay, benefits, retirement planning, education benefits, career decisions, and much more! And to provide it in a series of straightforward, easy-to-understand handbooks – for free!

MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

<http://www.nara.gov>

Service members who have been discharged from military service and certain other interested parties are entitled to request, obtain and review personnel files stored at the National Archives and Records Administration. Records contained at the National Archives and Records Administration are an excellent means of proving military service for government program eligibility and in many instances can be used as identification when proving identity.

National Contact:

National Personnel Records Center
Military Personnel Records
1 Archives Drive
St. Louis, MO 63138
P: 314.801.0800

Additional Resources:

National Personnel Records Center, *Request for Military Personnel Records - Standard Form 180*
<http://www.archives.gov/research/order/standard-form-180.pdf>