### SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED



The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) assists Veterans, their family members and survivors in connecting to the benefits you earned through your military service.

Veterans Service Offices and a statewide referral service assist Veterans and family members in accessing benefits such as:

- VA Disability Compensation
- · VA Pension or Widows Pension
- Aid & Attendance
- · Medical Care
- Higher Education and Vocational Rehabilitation
- Other Federal, State or County Benefits

Documents that may be needed when applying for benefits include:

- DD214 or other separation papers
- Marriage certificate(s) and divorce decree(s)
- · Birth records for each dependent child
- · Service medical records

## WHY GO IT ALONE?

# WASHINGTON STATE BENEFITS FOR VETERANS & FAMILY MEMBERS

## WE'RE *YOUR*DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CALL US TODAY!
800-562-2308
WWW.DVA.WA.GOV

PO Box 41155, Olympia, WA 98504-1155





"Serving Those Who Served"

**VETERANS** 

**AFFAIRS** 

800-562-2308 WWW.DVA.WA.GOV

#### **STATE BENEFITS**

**RECORDING OF DISCHARGES -** Free recording of Veteran discharge papers by County Clerks. Records are confidential.

**EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE -** Both public and private employers may provide preference in employment.

**EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS** - State colleges and universities may provide reduced tuition for Veterans. Dependents of 100% disabled or Veterans who died in service may be eligible for a full tuition waiver. Contact the Veterans representative at your college for more information.

**REEMPLOYMENT AND LAYOFF RIGHTS** - Federal and State laws protect military members returning from duty to employment. Visit www.esgr.mil or call 800-336-4590, option 1.

**MILITARY RETIREMENT CREDIT -** Public employees who are activated for military service and then return to public employment may be eligible for retirement credit. Call 800-547-6657.

special veteran license plates - Veterans, military and family members may purchase Armed Forces License Plates. In addition, plates are offered to recipients of the Medal of Honor or Purple Heart and Gold Star family members. Free license plates are provided to 100% disabled Veterans and Gold Star Widows(ers). Visit www.dva.wa.gov, or call 800-562-2308.

FISHING/HUNTING LICENSE FEES - Department of Fish and Wildlife offers reduced license fees for Veterans rated 30% service connected or more. Permits are also available for companionassisted hunting and fishing. Visit www.wdfw. wa.gov or call 360-902-2200.

**STATE AND NATIONAL PARK PASSES -** Free camping and day use entry is offered to Washington Veterans with a service-connected disability of at least 30%. Visit www.parks.wa.gov or 360-902-8500.

**REDUCED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FEES** - State ferries and local transit authorities may offer reduced rates for disabled Veterans. Contact state ferries at 888-808-7977, or your local transit authority.

**VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS CERTIFICATION -** State-based businesses owned by Veterans (at least 51%) are eligible for certification. Public agencies are encouraged to increase contracts with Veteran-Owned Businesses. Get certified at www.dva. wa.gov.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION - Income-based exemptions and deferrals are available to seniors, those retired due to disability, and Veterans compensated at the 100% service-connected rate. Widows of 100% disabled Veterans may also qualify for assistance. Contact your County Assessor for more information.

#### DON'T GO IT ALONE!



#### **WDVA CONTRACTED VETERAN SERVICE OFFICES**

AFRICAN-AMERICAN PTSD ASSOCIATION	.253-589-0766
AMERICAN LEGION	253-583-1300
NAT'L ASSOC. FOR BLACK VETERANS	253-582-0895
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS	206-341-8284
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA	206-341-8294

#### **STATE PROGRAMS**

#### 800-562-2308

#### POST TRAUMATIC STRESS COUNSELING

Veterans with a qualifying discharge, as well as family members, are eligible for counseling from contracted Licensed Mental Health providers across the state. Counselor list available at www. dva.wa.gov.

#### **VETERANS INNOVATIONS PROGRAM**

Provides assistance to Post 9/11 Veterans and families facing financial hardships due to deployments.

#### **HOMELESS VETERANS SERVICES**

The Transitional Housing Program provides stable housing while Veterans participate in programs leading to community housing and financial independence, call 360-895-4346 for admission information. WDVA also provides referrals to community providers and resources.

#### **VETERANS ESTATE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Ensures basic needs such as housing, food, clothing and medical care are provided to Veterans who cannot handle their own financial affairs.

#### STATE VETERANS HOMES

Rehabilitative and long-term care is provided to eligible Veterans, widows, spouses and Gold Star Parents in four State Veterans Homes. Call 877-838-7787 for admissions information.

#### **VETERANS CONSERVATION CORPS**

Provides opportunities for Veterans to connect to nature while restoring natural habitats or farming. Email VCC@dva.wa.gov

#### STATE VETERANS CEMETERY

Located in Medical Lake, the cemetery provides burial benefits to Veterans and eligible family members from Washington and surrounding states. Call 509-299-6280 for more information.