

Directory Assistance: (904) 823-0364



DEPARTMENT OF  
**MILITARY AFFAIRS**  
*The home of the Florida National Guard*

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#### Stay Connected with FLNG



## State of Florida Benefits

The state of Florida offers special benefits for its National Guard members and Veterans including homestead tax exemptions, state employment preferences, education and tuition assistance, vehicle tags, as well as hunting and fishing license privileges. Eligibility for some benefits may depend on residency, military component, and Veteran disability status.

Our Legislative Affairs team at the State Capitol in Tallahassee can provide support in obtaining retirement flags flown over the Capitol, and retirement letters signed by the Governor. There office can be reached at 850-414-9048, or by mail at:

Department of Military Affairs  
C/O The Governor's Office  
400 South Monroe Street, Room 1902  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Other state benefits include:

## State Taxes:

**Income Tax:** No State Income Tax in the state of Florida

**Retirement Income:** Not taxed

[Learn more](#)

**Homestead Tax Exemptions for Veterans:** Any real estate owned and used as a homestead by a Veteran is exempt from taxation.

**Eligibility:** Veteran must have been honorably discharged and have a rated service-connected, permanent and

total disability; the Veteran must be a permanent resident of the state on January 1 of the tax year for which exemption is being claimed. (FS 196.081(1))

[Learn more](#)

**Homestead Tax Exemptions for Veteran's Surviving Spouse:** If, upon the death of the Veteran, the Spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the homestead and permanently resides there, the exemption from taxation carries over to the benefit of the Veteran's Spouse until such time as he or she remarries, sells, or otherwise disposes of the property. If the Spouse sells the property, an exemption not to exceed the amount granted from the most recent ad valorem tax roll may be transferred to the new residence as long as it is used as the primary residence and the Spouse does not remarry. (FS 196.081(3))

[Learn more](#)

**Homestead Property Tax Discount For Veterans Age 65 and Older With a Combat Related Disability:** A Veteran who is disabled, 65 or older, and owns homestead property may qualify for a property tax discount based on their percentage of disability. this discount is in addition to any other exemptions veterans now receive. (FS 196.082)

**Eligibility:** To be eligible, the Veteran must have been honorably discharged from military service and be partially disabled with a permanent service-connected disability, at least part of which is combat-related.

[Learn more](#)

**Homestead Tax Exemptions for Surviving Spouse of Member of Armed Forces Who Died From Service-Connected Causes While On Active Duty:** Any real estate owned and used as a homestead by the surviving Spouse of a member of the Armed Forces who died from service-connected causes while on active duty is exempt from taxation if the member was a permanent resident of this state on January 1 of the year in which the member died. (FS 196.081(4)(a))

[Learn more](#)

**Homestead Property Tax Exemption (10% to 100% BUT not Permanent in nature):** Eligible, resident Veterans with a VA certified service-connected disability of 10% or greater shall be entitled to a \$5,000 homestead property tax exemption.

**Eligibility:** To qualify for homestead exemption, a Veteran must be a bona fide resident of the state. The Veteran must establish this exemption with the county tax official in the county in which the Veteran resides by providing documentation of this disability from the VA. If the benefit is in effect at the time of death of the Veteran, the benefit will carry over to the un-remarried Spouse who had been married to the deceased Veteran for at least five years. If the Spouse sells the property, an exemption not to exceed the amount granted in the most recent ad valorem tax roll may be transferred to the new residence if used as the primary residence. EVERY person who is entitled to homestead exemption in this state and who is serving in any branch of the Armed Forces of the U.S. may file a claim for homestead exemption. Service personnel entitled to homestead exemption in this state, and who are unable to file in person may file through next of kin or a duly authorized representative. (FS 196.24)

[Learn more](#)

**Real Estate Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans:** Veterans who are paraplegic, hemiplegics, permanently and totally disabled, must use a wheelchair for mobility, or are legally blind, are exempt from real estate taxation if gross annual household income does not exceed the adjusted maximum allowed. Check with local property appraiser to determine if gross annual household income qualifies. (FS 196.101)

**Eligibility:** The Veteran must be a resident of the State of Florida to qualify. Certificate of such disability from two licensed doctors from Florida or from the VA or an award letter from the Social Security Administration to the property appraiser is prima facie evidence of entitlement to such exemption.

[Learn more](#)

**Occupational License Tax Exemption:** A disabled wartime Veteran who is unable to perform manual labor and his/her un-remarried Spouse shall be exempt for this tax up to \$50.00.

**Eligibility:** This exemption is applicable to Veterans and their surviving Spouses who are Florida residents.

[Learn more](#)

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## Education Benefits:

**Educational Dollars for Duty (EDD):** 100% paid tuition at state colleges/universities (undergraduate only) at Florida public community college/university. Additionally you can apply for Florida National Guard sponsored scholarship (NGOA-F) for \$1,000.

**Eligibility:** For enlistees (non-prior and prior service) who joined the Florida National Guard after 1 July 1997:

- Total time in service is less than 15 years.
- Soldier has completed/signed Educational Dollars for Duty Memorandum of Agreement, EDD Survey and OML Data Sheet.
- Three-year obligation after use of benefits.
- Does not have a bachelor's degree.
- Cannot utilize until BASIC and AIT are completed.
- Five years to use benefit.
- Five-year clock starts at completion of BASIC and AIT for non-prior service and at enlistment date for prior service.
- Remains a member in good standing.
- Can be used for associates and bachelor's degrees and technical certificates.
- Can be used to earn up to bachelor degree.

All members of the FLNG are considered Florida residents and qualify for the in-state tuition rates. All members using EDD must complete an application for benefits each semester. For further information, please contact the National Guard at 1 (800) 342-6528.

[Learn more](#)

**Scholarships for Children and Spouse of Deceased or Disabled Veterans and Service members (CSDDV):**

The Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans and Service members (CSDDV) provides scholarships for dependent Children or un-remarried Spouses of Florida Veterans or Service members

who died as a result of service-connected injuries, diseases, or disabilities sustained while on active duty or who have been verified by the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs as having service-connected 100% permanent and total disabilities. CSDDV also provides funds for dependent Children whose parent is classified as a prisoner of war or missing in action by the Armed Forces of the United States or as civilian personnel captured while serving with the consent or authorization of the United States Government during wartime service. CSDDV provides funds for tuition and registration fees at an eligible public postsecondary institution or the equivalent at an eligible private postsecondary institution.

#### ***Initial Eligibility Requirements to Receive Funding***

The Veteran or Service member will:

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Be a Florida resident for one year immediately preceding time of death, determination of 100% disability, or prisoner of war/missing in action classification.
- Have died as a result of a service-connected disability(ies) sustained while on active duty.
- Have been certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs as having a service-connected 100% permanent and total disability.
- Have been classified as a prisoner of war or missing in action by the Armed Forces of the United States or as civilian personnel captured while serving with the consent or authorization of the United States Government during wartime service for a dependent Child to receive scholarship funding.

The Child or Spouse will:

- Be a Florida resident and a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. A student's residency and citizenship status are determined by the postsecondary institution. Questions regarding such status should be directed to the financial aid office or admissions office of the institution the student plans to attend.
- Not owe a repayment or be in default under any state or federal grant, loan, or scholarship program unless satisfactory arrangements to repay have been made.
- Not have previously received a baccalaureate degree.
- Enroll in an undergraduate degree or certificate program for a minimum of six credit hours, 180 clock hours, or the equivalent, per term at an eligible participating postsecondary institution.
- Meet State of Florida's general eligibility requirements for receipt of state aid.

#### ***Additional Specific Initial Eligibility Requirements for Children***

The Child will:

- Be a dependent Child of a qualified Veteran or Service member whose official military and residency status is certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Be between the ages of 16 and 22.
- Receive educational opportunity until such a time as the parent so classified as prisoner of war or missing in action is returned alive or until classified otherwise.

#### ***Additional Specific Requirements for Spouses of Deceased Service members***

The Spouse will:

- Be un-remarried
- Have been the Spouse of a qualified Veteran or Service member whose official military and residency status is certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Have been, with the Service member, a Florida resident for 1 year immediately preceding the Service member's death as certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Apply for the scholarship within 5 years after the Service member's death as certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### ***Additional Specific Requirements for Spouses of Disabled Service members***

The Spouse will:

- Be the Spouse of a qualified Veteran or Service member whose official military and residency status is certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Have been married to the disabled Service member for one or more years as certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Have been, with the Service member, a Florida resident for 1 year immediately preceding the occurrence of the Service member's disability as certified by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs
- Accept scholarship funding only during the duration of the marriage and up to the point of termination of the marriage by dissolution or annulment.

[Learn more](#)

**Waiver for Recipients of Purple Heart or Superior Combat Decorations:** Provides a tuition and fee waiver to recipients of the Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence if the recipient is enrolling in a Florida public community college or state university, and provided he or she meets specific criteria. This waiver is applicable for 110 percent of the number of required credit hours of the degree or certificate program for which the student is enrolled.

**Eligibility:**

- Enrolled full-time, part-time, or summer-school student in an undergraduate program of study leading to a degree or certificate;
- Currently, and was at the time of the military action that resulted in the awarding of the Purple Heart or other superior combat decoration, a resident of Florida; and
- Submits to the state university or the community college or university Department of Defense Form 214 (DD-214), issued at the time of separation from service, as documentation that he or she has received a Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence.

[Learn more](#)

**High School Diploma for Korean Veterans:** Florida Veterans who served during the Korean War may be eligible to receive a high school diploma. The diplomas are for any Veteran who currently resides in Florida, regardless of whether they were living in Florida at the time they went to high school. The Florida Department of Education will send a standard Florida high school diploma upon receiving a completed and notarized application along with your DD Form 214 or honorable discharge. Also, Family members who would like to apply for a diploma posthumously may do so.

**Eligibility:** Veterans must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- Must have been inducted into the United States Armed Forces between June 27, 1950, and January 31, 1955;
- Must have been honorably discharged;
- Must have started high school between 1946-1950; and
- Must have been scheduled to graduate from high school between 1950 -1954.

[Learn more](#)

**High School Diploma for World War II Veterans:** The 2000 Florida Legislature passed legislation authorizing the Commissioner of Education to award a high school diploma to honorably discharged World War II Veterans. These diplomas are for any Veteran who currently resides in Florida, regardless of whether they were living in Florida at the time they went to high school. Also, Family members who would like to apply for a diploma

posthumously for a Veteran who has died may do so.

**Eligibility:** Veterans must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- Must have been inducted into the United States Armed Forces between September 16, 1940, and December 31, 1946;
- Must have been honorably discharged;
- Must have started high school between 1937-1946; and
- Must have been scheduled to graduate from high school between 1941 -1950.

#### [Learn more](#)

**Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children:** It is the purpose of this compact to remove barriers to educational success imposed on Children of military Families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents by:

- Facilitating the timely enrollment of Children of military Families and ensuring that they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of educational records from the previous school district or variations in entrance or age requirements.
- Facilitating the student placement process through which Children of military Families are not disadvantaged by variations in attendance requirements, scheduling, sequencing, grading, course content or assessment. Facilitating the qualification and eligibility for enrollment, educational programs, and participation in extracurricular academic, athletic and social activities.
- Facilitating the on-time graduation of Children of military Families.
- Providing for the promulgation and enforcement of administrative rules implementing the provisions of this compact.
- Providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among member states, schools and military Families under this compact.
- Promoting coordination between this compact and other compacts affecting military Children.
- Promoting flexibility and cooperation between the educational system, parents and the student in order to achieve educational success for the student.

#### **Primary Point of Contact:**

Curtis Jenkins, Student Support Services Team Leader

Florida Department of Education

Address: 325 West Gaines St, Tallahassee, FL 32399

Email: [ctjenkins@usf.edu](mailto:ctjenkins@usf.edu)

Phone: 850-245-7844

CAPT (RET) Robert Buehn, Adjunct Professor

US Naval War College

Address: 1883 Osprey Bluff Blvd, Fleming Island, FL 32003

Email: [bbuehn@yahoo.com](mailto:bbuehn@yahoo.com)

Phone: 904-327-9986

#### [Learn more](#)

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## Employment Benefits:

**Employment Assistance:** The usual fee shall not be required for the issuance of a Commission as a Notary Public.

**Eligibility:** Veteran who served during a period of wartime service, and has been rated 50% or more for service-connected disability. Other fees may apply. (FS 117.01)

[Learn more](#)

**Florida Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Opportunity Act:** It is the intent of the Legislature to rectify the economic disadvantage of service-disabled Veterans, who are statistically the least likely to be self-employed when compared to the Veteran population as a whole and who have made extraordinary sacrifices on behalf of the nation, the state, and the public, by providing opportunities for service-disabled Veteran business enterprises as set forth in this section. A state agency, when considering two or more bids, proposals, or replies for the procurement of commodities or contractual services, at least one of which is from a certified service-disabled Veteran business enterprise, that are equal with respect to all relevant considerations, including price, quality, and service, shall award such procurement or contract to the certified service-disabled Veteran business enterprise. (FS 295-187)

[Learn more](#)

**Employment Preference:** An eligible Veteran is entitled to preference at each stage of the hiring process; however, the preference is not absolute. Employment preferences, where numerically based examinations are used as a device for selections, consists of adding ten points to the score of the first category of applicants (disabled Veterans and Spouses of disabled or missing Veterans) and five points to the score of other preference-eligible applicants. The names of all the preference-eligible applicants shall be placed on a register or employment list, beginning with those disabled Veterans with disability ratings of 30 percent or more, and followed by all other preference-eligible applicants in the order of their augmented ratings. A Veteran can file a complaint with the FDVA when a non-preference applicant has been employed instead of an equally qualified Veteran.

**Eligibility:** Section 295.07, Florida Statutes, extends Veterans' preference to the following:

- A Veteran with a service-connected disability who is eligible for or receiving compensation, disability retirement, or pension under public laws administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.
- The Spouse of a Veteran who cannot qualify for employment because of a total and permanent service-connected disability, or the Spouse of a Veteran missing in action, captured, or forcibly detained by a foreign power.
- A Veteran of any war who has served on active duty for one day or more during a wartime period, excluding active duty for training.
- The un-remarried Widow or Widower of a Veteran who died of a service-connected disability

[Learn more](#)

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## Unemployment Compensation:

**Reemployment Assistance:** Reemployment Assistance (also called reemployment assistance insurance) provides temporary wage replacement benefits to qualified individuals who are out of work through no fault of their own.

Before filing your [claim on-line](#), gather the following information to assist you in completing the application:

1. Your Social Security number;
2. The names, addresses, and phone numbers of all your employers during the last 18 months;
3. The dates you worked and total earnings from each employer;
4. Gross earnings for this week since 12:01AM Sunday;
5. Driver's License, State Identification , voter registration number or other type of ID that could verify your identity;
6. The name and local number of your labor union hall, if applicable;
7. If you are not a U.S. citizen, your Alien Registration Number and work permit expiration date;
8. Your DD-214 form (if you were in the military within the last 2 years);
9. Form SF-50 or Form SF-8 and check stubs or W-2 proof of earnings (if you were a federal employee).

Click [here](#) for more information on the Florida Reemployment Assistance Program.

**Reemployment Assistance Benefits Hotline:** 1-800-204-2418

[Learn more](#)

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## Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Benefits:

**Handicapped Toll Permit:** Any handicapped person who has a valid driver's license, who operates a vehicle specially equipped for use by the handicapped, and who is certified by a licensed physician or by the VA Adjudication Officer as being physically disabled and having permanent impairments which impair the person's ability to deposit coins in toll baskets shall be allowed to pass free through all tollgates. A vehicle window sticker will be issued. (FS 338-155)

[Learn more](#)

### Special Vehicle License Plates and Permits

**Medal of Honor License Plate:** No fee.

**Eligibility:** Veteran must provide proof from the U.S. Government that you have been awarded the Medal of Honor and submit to the Division of Motor Vehicles for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Ex Prisoner of War (POW) Plate:** License plates stamped with the words "EX-POW" are tax exempt. This plate is offered to eligible military members at no charge, however, administrative fees apply to civilians according to weight of vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Veteran or member of the Armed Forces, who is an Ex Prisoner of War, may be issued this special



license plate. Veteran must complete form [HSMV 83034](#), provide required proof and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**National Guard Plate:** Taxes and administrative fees are assessed according to the weight of the vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Applicant is an active or retired member of the Florida National Guard. Applicant must complete form [HSMV 83030](#), provide required proof and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**U.S. Reserve Plate:** Taxes and administrative fees are assessed according to the weight of the vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Applicant is an active or retired member of the U.S. Reserves. Applicant must complete form [HSMV 83030](#), provide required proof and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Combat Action Badge Plate:** Taxes and administrative fees are charged.

**Eligibility:** Applicant has been awarded the Combat Action Badge. Applicant must complete form [HSMV 83034](#), provide required proof and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Purple Heart Plate:** Taxes and administrative fees are charged.

**Eligibility:** Applicant has been awarded the Purple Heart Medal. Applicant must complete form [HSMV 83034](#), provide required proof and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Pearl Harbor Survivor:** Taxes and administrative fees are assessed according to the weight of the vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Applicant is able to prove military involvement within Pearl Harbor timeline, complete form [HSMV 83034](#) and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Gold Star Plate:** Taxes and administrative fees are assessed according to the weight of the vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Applicant must complete form [HSMV 83034](#), provide required proof of Gold Star recipient and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Operation Enduring Freedom:** Taxes and administrative fees are assessed according to the weight of the vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Applicant is able to prove military involvement with Operation Enduring Freedom, complete form [HSMV 83034](#) and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Operation Iraqi Freedom:** Taxes and administrative fees are assessed according to the weight of the vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Applicant is able to prove military involvement with Operation Iraqi Freedom, complete form [HSMV 83034](#) and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Korean Conflict Veteran:** Taxes and administrative fees are assessed according to the weight of the vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Applicant is able to prove military involvement with the Korean Conflict, complete form [HSMV 83034](#) and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Vietnam War Veteran:** Taxes and administrative fees are assessed according to the weight of the vehicle.

**Eligibility:** Applicant is able to prove military involvement in the Vietnam War, complete form [HSMV 83034](#) and submit to your [local tax collector](#) for processing.

[Learn more](#)

**Florida Driver's License:** No fee for driver's license for disabled Veterans

**Eligibility:** Any Veteran honorably discharged from the Armed Forces who has a valid FDVA disabled Veteran identification card or who has been determined by the VA or DoD to have a total and permanent service-connected disability and is qualified to obtain a driver's license.

[Learn more](#)

**Disabled Veteran Motor Vehicle License Plate:** One free disabled Veteran "DV" license plate will be issued for any leased or owned motor vehicle. No state agency, county, municipality, or agency thereof may charge the driver of a vehicle displaying a Disabled Veteran license plate any fee for parking on the public streets or highways or in any metered parking space. Free license plates with a wheelchair emblem are available for those Veterans permanently confined to a wheelchair and who otherwise qualify for a DV plate. Parking spaces for persons with disabilities are for the exclusive use of individuals who have permanent or temporary mobility impairments. (F.S. 553.5041(3)). Disabled Veterans who have been issued a "DV" plate may only park in designated handicapped parking spaces if they also have a mobility impairment. It is recommended that disabled Veterans with a mobility impairment apply for the disabled parking plate with the international wheelchair accessibility symbol, instead of the "DV" plate to avoid possible fines and penalties.

**Eligibility:** 100% permanent and totally disabled Veteran, or a disabled Veteran with less than 100% disability with proof that his/her vehicle was acquired or modified for use through financial assistance of the VA. Veteran must have been a resident of Florida continuously for the past five years prior to application or has established a domicile in the state. Service charges may apply.

[Learn more](#)

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## Health and Insurance Benefits:

**Medical Benefits:** Worker's compensation; State Active Duty call-up-Humana; Line-of-duty full pay statute for up to 1 yr, after 1 yr regular worker's compensation rate.

**Eligibility:** National Guard members

**Group Insurance:** Up to \$50,000 per active guard member.

**Eligibility:** Active Florida National Guard member.

**Workers Compensation:** State Active Duty.

**Eligibility:** National Guard member.

**Injury and Death Benefits:** State Active Duty retained on duty up to 1 yr plus medical costs, after 1 yr placed on worker's compensation. Survivor benefits of \$25,000 and worker's compensation if Service member killed/dies of injury.

**Eligibility:** National Guard member.

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## Parks and Recreation Benefits:

### Hunting and Fishing Licenses:

**Disabled Veteran Hunting and Fishing License:** In order to receive a no-cost Resident Disabled Person's Hunting and Fishing Certificate from the [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission](#), applicants must attach a copy of one of the following certifying him or her as totally and permanently disabled"

- Certification by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces
- A Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs 100% Service-connected Disabled Veteran Identification Card (must have a statement of "total and permanent disabled")

### [Learn more](#)

### **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission offers a Military Gold Sportsman's License and**

**Reduced-Fee Annual License:** The reduced-fee annual license (\$20) offers the same privileges as the traditional Gold Sportsman's License (\$100). The Military Gold Sportsman's License includes the Hunting, Saltwater Fishing and Freshwater Fishing licenses; and the Deer, Wildlife Management Area, Archery, Muzzleloading Gun, Crossbow, Turkey, Florida Waterfowl, Snook and Lobster permits. The license *does not* include tarpon tags, alligator trapping licenses, limited entry hunt permits, migratory bird permit or the federal duck stamp. The license is only available at tax collectors' offices. Applicants must show their military ID cards plus a Florida driver's license or orders showing they are stationed in Florida.

**Eligibility:** Active duty, Armed Forces Reserve, National Guard, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve,

and retired military who are stationed in Florida or have lived in the state for six months and claim Florida as their primary residence. [Hunter education requirements apply](#) to military personnel.

[Learn more](#)

**Discounts On Annual Entrance Passes For Veterans And Their Families:** Florida's state parks offers special deals on Annual Entrance Passes to those who currently serve or have served in the United States military branches, Veterans with service related disabilities and surviving Spouses of members of the US military who have fallen in combat.

- 25% discount on Annual Entrance Passes for active duty and honorably discharged Veterans of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard or reserve units of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard.
- Free Lifetime Military Entrance Passes for honorably discharged United States Veterans who have service-connected disabilities.
- Free Lifetime Military Entrance Passes for surviving Spouses and parents of deceased members of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard or reserve units of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard who have fallen in combat.

[Learn more](#)

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## Miscellaneous Benefits:

**Disabled Veteran Identification Card:** The Department of Veterans' Affairs may issue an identification card to any Veteran who is a permanent resident of the state and who has been adjudged by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor to have a 100-percent, service-connected permanent and total disability rating for compensation, this could also be a rating of Individual Unemployability from the VA, or who has been determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the United States Armed Services, upon the written request of such Veteran. Such card may be used by the Veteran as proof of eligibility for any benefit provided by state law for 100-percent, service-connected permanently and totally disabled Veterans except this card may not be used as proof of eligibility for Exemption of Homesteads. The identification card shall bear a statement that it is unlawful for any person other than the Veteran to whom it was issued to use the card. FS 295.17

**To obtain a card:** Contact the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs' at 1-800-827-1000, extension 7400 or commercial at (727) 319-7440 and request an application or contact the local County Veteran Service Office.

[Learn more](#)

**Veteran's Assisted Living Facility:** The Robert H. Jenkins Jr. Veterans' Domiciliary Home in Lake City (Columbia County) opened to residents in 1990. The recently renovated 149-bed Assisted Living Facility provides a special combination of housing, personalized supportive services and incidental medical care to eligible Veterans. Veterans must be able to feed and dress themselves and in need of assisted living care. Call (386) 758-0600 for more information. **Address:** 751 SE Sycamore Terrace, Lake City, FL 32025. *This facility is seeking additional Veterans.*

[Learn more](#)

**Veterans' Nursing Home:** There are currently six 120-bed Veteran Nursing facilities located in Florida. They include the *Emory L. Bennett State Veterans' Nursing Home* in Daytona Beach, the *Baldomero Lopez State Veterans' Nursing Home* in Land O' Lakes, the *Alexander "Sandy" Nininger Veterans' Nursing Home* in Pembroke Pines, the *Clifford C. Sims State Veterans' Nursing Home* in Panama City, the *Douglas T. Jacobson State Veterans' Nursing Home* in Port Charlotte and the *Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans' Nursing Home* in St. Augustine.

**Eligibility:** Basic Admission requirements for all state Veteran's homes include an honorable discharge, state residency for one year prior to admission, and certification of need of assisted living or skilled nursing care as determined by a VA physician. For more information call (727) 518-3202 Ext. 5562.

[Learn more](#)

**Burial Benefits:** The VA provides honorably discharged Veterans, Spouses and dependents with burial in a National Cemetery at no cost. Cremated remains are also accepted. Eligible Spouses and dependents may be buried if they predecease the Veteran. The VA provides a headstone, marker or medallion for placement on a private headstone at a private cemetery. The VA does not make funeral arrangements. Call toll free (800) 697-6947 or visit [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov) for more information.

[Learn more](#)

**National Veteran's Cemeteries:** VA has seven national cemeteries in Florida including [Jacksonville National Cemetery](#), [Sarasota National Cemetery](#), [South Florida National Cemetery](#) in Lake Worth, [Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell](#), recently expanded [Barrancas National Cemetery](#) in Pensacola, [Bay Pines National Cemetery](#) which offers cremation burial sites only and [St. Augustine National Cemetery](#), established in 1881, has been closed since 1997.

**Eligibility:** Veterans with a discharge issued under conditions other than dishonorable, their Spouses and eligible dependent Children can be buried in a VA national cemetery. Also eligible are military personnel who die on active duty, their Spouses and eligible dependents.

[Learn more](#)

**Free Benefits Counseling:** The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs has Claims Examiners co-located with the VA Regional Office in Bay Pines, each VA Medical Center and many VA Outpatient Clinics. Assistance with claims is free and covers all state and federal Veterans' programs. FDVA, through its Bureau of State Approving Agency, also evaluates and approves secondary and post-secondary education programs so Floridians can take advantage of federal Veterans' educational programs such as the Post-9/11 GI Bill. For more information, call (727) 319-7440.

[Learn more](#)

**G.I. Home Loan Guarantee:** The VA may guarantee part of your loan for the purchase of a home, manufactured home, or condominium. In addition, Veterans with conventional home loans now have options for refinancing to a VA guaranteed home loan as a result of the Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2008. For information, call the VA Home Loans Guaranty Services at (888) 244-6711 or visit [www.homeloans.va.gov](http://www.homeloans.va.gov).

[Learn more](#)

## Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Facilities in Florida:

### Veterans Health Administration

#### **VA Healthcare System**

**Gainesville:** North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System, Malcom Randall VA Medical Center, 1601 SW Archer Rd, Gainesville, 352-376-1611 / 800-324-8387 and Lake City VA Medical Center, 619 South Marion Ave, Lake City, 386-755-3016 / 800-308-8387

#### VA Medical Center

**Bay Pines:** C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center, P.O. Box 5005 (mailing), 10000 Bay Pines Blvd, 727-398-6661 / 888-820-0230

**Gainesville:** Malcom Randall VAMC, NF/SGVHS, 1601 SW Archer Rd, 352-376-1611 / 800-324-8387 / Fax: 352-374-6113

**Lake City:** Lake City VA Medical Center, 619 South Marion Ave, 386-755-3016 / 800-308-8387 / Fax: 386-758-3209

**Miami:** Miami VA Healthcare System, 1201 N.W. 16th St, 305-575-7000 / 888-276-1785

**Orlando:** Lakemont Campus, 2500 S Lakemont Ave, 407-629-1599

**Orlando:** Orlando VA Medical Center, 5201 Raymond St, 407-629-1599 / 800-922-7521

**Tampa:** James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital, 13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd, 813-972-2000 / 888-811-0107

**West Palm Beach:** West Palm Beach VAMC, 7305 North Military Trail, 561-422-8262 / 800-972-8262

#### Outpatient Clinics

**Cape Carol:** Lee County VA Healthcare Center, 2489 Diplomat Pkwy East, 239-652-1800 / Fax: 239-652-1951

**Daytona Beach:** William V. Chappell, Jr., VA OPC, 551 National Health Care Dr, 386-323-7500 / Fax: 386-323-7570

**Jacksonville:** Jacksonville OPC, 1536 N Jefferson St, 877-870-5048 / 904-475-5800

**Jacksonville:** Southpoint Clinic, 6900 Southpoint Dr North, 904-470-6900

**New Port Richey:** New Port Richey OPC, 9912 Little Rd, 727-869-4100 / Fax: 727-861-4194

**Tallahassee:** Tallahassee OPC, 1607 St. James Ct, 850-878-0191 / 800-541-8387 / Fax: 850-878-8901

**The Villages:** The Villages OPC, 8900 SE 165th Mulberry Ln, 352-674-5000 / Fax: 352-674-5001

**Viera:** Viera OPC, 2900 Veterans Way, 321-637-3788 / 877-878-8387

#### Community Service Programs

**Port St. Lucie:** St Lucie County PTSD Clinical Team (PCT) Outpatient Program, 126 SW Chamber Court, 772-878-7876

#### Community Based Outpatient Clinics

**Boca Raton:** Boca Raton CBOC, 901 Meadows Rd, 561-416-8995 / Fax: 561-416-9374

**Bradenton:** Bradenton Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, 5520 State Rd 64, Suite 101, 941-721-0649 / Fax: 941-721-6080

**Brooksville:** Brooksville CBOC, 14540 Cortez Blvd, Suite 108, 352-597-8287 / Fax: 352-597-7060

**Clermont:** Clermont CBOC, 805 Oakley Seaver Dr, 352-536-8200

**Deerfield Beach:** Deerfield Beach CBOC, 2100 SW 10th St, 954-570-5572

**Delray Beach:** Delray Beach CBOC, 4800 Linton Blvd, Bldg E Suite 300, 561-495-1973 / Fax: 561-495-2097

**Elgin AFB:** Eglin CBOC, 100 Veterans Way, 866-520-7359

**Ft. Pierce:** Fort Pierce CBOC, 1901 South 25th Str, Suite 103, 772-595-5150 / Fax: 772-595-6560

**Hollywood:** Hollywood CBOC, 3702 Washington St, Suite 201, 954-986-1811 / Fax: 954-986-9452

**Hollywood:** Pembroke Pines/Hollywood CBOC, 7369 W. Sheridan St, Suite 102, 954-894-1668 / Fax: 954-894-6670

**Homestead:** Homestead CBOC, 950 Krome Ave, Suite 401, 305-248-0874 / Fax: 305-248-1875

**Key Largo:** Key Largo CBOC, 105662 Overseas Hwy, 305-451-0164 / Fax: 305-451-4864

**Key West:** Key West CBOC, 1300 Douglas Circle, Bldg L-15, 305-293-4863 / Fax: 305-293-4813

**Kissimmee:** Kissimmee CBOC, 2285 North Central Ave, 407-518-5004 / Fax: 407-518-6746

**Lakeland:** Lakeland CBOC, 4237 South Pipkin Rd, 863-701-2470 / Fax: 863-701-2474

**Lecanto:** Lecanto CBOC, 2804 W. Marc Knighton Ct, Suite A, 352-746-8000 / Fax: 352-746-8001

**Leesburg:** Leesburg Community Based Outpatient Clinic, 711 W Main St, 352-435-4000 / Fax: 352-435-4015

**Marianna:** Marianna CBOC, 4970 Highway 90, 850-718-5620

**Miami:** Healthcare for Homeless Veterans, 1492 Flagler St, 305-541-5864

**Miami:** Miami Outpatient Substance Abuse Clinic (OSAC), 1492 West Flagler St, Suite 101, 305-541-8435 / Fax: 305-541-6974

**Naples:** Naples VA Primary Care Clinic, 2685 Horseshoe Dr South, Suite 101, 239-659-9188 / Fax: 239-659-0526

**Ocala:** Ocala CBOC, 1515 E. Silver Springs Blvd, 352-369-3320 / Fax: 352-369-3324

**Okeechobee:** Okeechobee CBOC, 1201 N. Parrot Ave, Okeechobee, 863-824-3232 / Fax: 863-824-3379

**Orange City:** Orange City CBOC, 2583 South Volusia Ave (17-92), Suite 300, Orange City, 386- 456-2080 / Fax: 386-456-2122

**Orlando:** Lake Nona Annex, 10415 Moss Park Rd, 407-304-2500

**Palatka:** Palatka CBOC, 400 North State Rd 19, Suite 48, Palatka, 386-329-8800 / Fax: 386-329-8805

**Palm Harbor:** Palm Harbor Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, 35209 US Hwy 19 N, 727-734-5276 / Fax: 727-734-5914

**Panama City Beach:** Panama City Outpatient Clinic, Naval Support Activity, Bldg 387, 101 Vernon Ave, 850-636-7000

**Pensacola:** Joint Ambulatory Care Center, 790 Veterans Way, 850-912-2000

**Port Charlotte:** Port Charlotte Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, 4161 Tamiami Trail Suite 401, 941-235-2710 / Fax: 941-235-2712

**Port Saint Lucie:** St Lucie CBOC, 128 SW Chamber Court, 772-344-9288

**Sarasota:** Sarasota VA Primary Care Clinic, 5682 Bee Ridge Rd, Suite 100, 941-371-3349 / Fax: 941-371-7749

**Sebring:** Sebring Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, 5901 US Highway 27 S, 863-471-6227 / Fax: 863-471-6510

**St. Augustine:** Saint Augustine CBOC, 1955 U.S. 1 South, Suite 200, 904-829-0814 / 866-401-8387 / Fax: 904-829-6174

**St. Petersburg:** Saint Petersburg Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, 840 Dr MLK Jr St N, 727-502-1700

**Stuart:** Stuart CBOC, 3501 S E Willoughby Blvd, 772-288-0304 / Fax: 772-288-1371

**Sunrise:** William "Bill" Kling VA Clinic, 9800 W Commercial Blvd, Sunrise, 954-475-5500

**Vero Beach:** Vero Beach CBOC, 372 17th St, 772-299-4623 / Fax: 772-299-4632

**Winter Park:** Crossroads Annex, 925 South Semoran Blvd, Suite 114, 866-998-4365

**Zephyrhills:** Zephyrhills CBOC, 6937 Medical View Lane, 813-780-2550 / Fax: 813-780-3010

**Vet Center: 877-927-8387**

**Clearwater:** Clearwater Vet Center, 29259 US Hwy 19 North, 727-549-3600 / Fax: 727-549-3623

**Clermont:** Clermont Vet Center, 1655 East Highway 50, 352-536-6701

**Daytona Beach:** Daytona Beach Vet Center, 1620 Mason Ave, Suite C, 386-366-6600 / Fax: 386-274-5700

**Ft. Lauderdale:** Fort Lauderdale Vet Center, 713 NE 3rd Ave, 954-356-7926 / Fax: 954-356-7609

**Ft. Myers:** Fort Myers Vet Center, 4110 Center Pointe Dr, Unit 204, 239-479-4401 / Fax: 239-277-5817

**Gainesville:** Gainesville Vet Center, 105 NW 75th St, Suite #2, 352-331-1408 / Fax: 352-331-1962

**Greenacres:** Palm Beach Vet Center, 4996 10th Ave North Suite 6, 561-422-1201 / Fax: 561-439-5877

**Jacksonville:** Jacksonville Vet Center, 300 East State St, Suite J, 904-232-3621 / Fax: 904-232-3167

**Jupiter:** Jupiter Vet Center, 6650 W. Indiantown Rd, Suite 120, 561-422-1220 / Fax: 561-744-7714

**Key Largo:** Key Largo Vet Center Outstation, 105662 Overseas Hwy, 305-451-0164 / Fax: 305-451-4864

**Lakeland:** Polk County Vet Center, 1370 Ariana St, 863-284-0841 / Fax: 863-284-5638

**Melbourne:** Melbourne Vet Center, 2098 Sarno Rd, 321-254-3410 / Fax: 321-254-9138

**Miami:** Miami Vet Center, 8280 NW 27th St Suite 511, 305-718-3712 / Fax: 305-718-8712

**Naples:** Collier County (Naples) Vet Center, 2705 Horseshoe Dr. South, #204, 239-403-2377 / Fax: 239-403-2388

**New Port Richey:** [Pasco County Vet Center](#), 7347 Ridge Road, 727-697-5176 / Fax: 727-697-5181

**Orlando:** [Orlando Vet Center](#), 5575 S. Semoran Blvd #30, 407-857-2800 / Fax: 407-857-5005

**Panama City:** [Bay County Vet Center](#), 3109 Minnesota Ave, Suite 101, 850-522-6102

**Pensacola:** [Pensacola Vet Center](#), 4504 Twin Oaks Dr, 850-456-5886 / Fax: 850-456-9403

**Pompano:** [Pompano Beach Vet Center](#), 2300 West Sample Road, Suite 102, 954-984-1669 / Fax: 954-984-2779

**Sarasota:** [Sarasota Vet Center](#), 4801 Swift Rd Suite A, 941-927-8285 / Fax: 941-927-8307

**Shalimar:** [Okaloosa County Vet Center](#), 6 11th Ave, Suite G 1, 850-651-1000 / Fax: 850-651-1006

**St. Petersburg:** [3A RCS Southeast Regional Office](#), 450 Carillon Pkwy, Suite 150, 727-410-9472 / Fax: 727-398-9566

**St. Petersburg:** [St. Petersburg Vet Center](#), 6798 Crosswinds Dr N Gaslight Square, Bldg A, 727-549-3633 / Fax: 727-299-6700

**Tallahassee:** [Tallahassee Vet Center](#), 548 Bradford Rd, 850-942-8810 / Fax: 850-942-8814

**Tampa:** [Tampa Vet Center](#), Fountain Oaks Business Plaza; 3637 W Waters Ave, Suite 600, 813-228-2621 / Fax: 813-228-2868

### VISN

**St. Petersburg:** [VISN 8: VA Sunshine Healthcare Network](#), 140 Fountain Pkwy, Ste. 600, 727-575-8069 / Fax: 727-575-8093

### Veterans Benefits Administration

#### **Intake Site (Pre-Discharge Claims Assistance)**

**Doral:** [US Southern Command](#), US Army Garrison-Miami Southern Command Family

#### Support Center

**Fort Walton Beach:** [Eglin Air Force Base](#), Airman & Family Readiness Support Center

**Hulbert Field:** [Hurlburt Field](#), Airman & Family Readiness Center

**Jacksonville:** [NAS Jacksonville](#), Department of Veterans Affairs

**Key West:** [Key West Coast Guard](#), NAS Key West & USCG Group Key West

**Key West:** [NAS Key West](#), NAS Key West & USCG Group Key West

**Mayport:** [Mayport Naval Station](#), Branch Medical Clinic

**Miami:** [US Coast Guard Group Miami](#), USCG Health, Safety and Work-Life Field Office

**Milton:** [NAS Whiting Field](#), Fleet & Family Support Center

**Panama City:** [Naval Support Activity-Panama City](#), Fleet & Family Support Center

**Pensacola:** [Corry Station](#), VA Joint Ambulatory Care Center

**Pensacola:** [NAS Pensacola](#), Fleet and Family Support Center

**Pensacola:** [Naval Hospital Pensacola](#)

**Tampa:** [MacDill Air Force Base](#), Base Hospital 2nd Floor, Room C 277

**Tyndall AFB:** [Tyndall Air Force Base](#), 325 FSS/FSFR

**Viera:** [Patrick Air Force Base](#), VA Office of Public Contact

#### Regional Loan Center

**St. Petersburg:** [St. Petersburg Regional Benefit Office](#), 9500 Bay Pines Blvd

### National Cemetery Administration

#### **National Cemetery**

**Bay Pines:** [Bay Pines National Cemetery](#), 10,000 Bay Pines Blvd, 727-319-6479 / Fax: 727-319-6490

**Bushnell:** [Florida National Cemetery](#), 6502 SW 102nd Ave, 352-793-7740 / Fax: 352-793-9560

**Jacksonville:** [Jacksonville National Cemetery](#), 4083 Lannie Rd, 904-766-5222 / Fax: 904-766-5980

**Lake Worth:** [South Florida National Cemetery](#), 6501 S. State Rd 7, 561-649-6489

**Pensacola:** [Barrancas National Cemetery](#), Naval Air Station, 1 Cemetery Rd, 850-453-4108 / Fax: 850-453-4635

**Sarasota:** [Sarasota National Cemetery](#), 9810 State Rd 72, 941-922-7200 / 877-861-9840 / Fax: 941-922-3457

**St. Augustine:** [St. Augustine National Cemetery](#), 104 Marine St, 352-793-7740 / Fax: 352-793-6560

[Learn more](#)



## Military Installations in Florida:

### Active

#### Navy

Naval Air Station Jacksonville

Naval Station Mayport

Naval Support Activity Panama City

Naval Air Station Pensacola

Whiting Field Naval Air Station

Naval Diving & Salvage Training Center

#### Air Force

Eglin AFB

Hurlburt Field

Tyndall AFB

Patrick AFB

MacDill AFB

#### National Guard

Florida Army National Guard

Florida Air National Guard

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## Resources:

<http://floridavets.org/>

<http://www2.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp?isflash=0>

<http://www.retirementliving.com/taxes-alabama-iowa#FLORIDA>

<http://www.fedshirevets.gov/job/vetpref/index.aspx>

<http://www.veteranprograms.com/id145.html>

<http://www.flhsmv.gov/specialtytags/miltags.html>

<http://www.dol.gov/elaws/vets/realifelines/stateinfo.htm?state=FL>

[http://floridavets.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/CVSO\\_Directory\\_1-March-2014.pdf](http://floridavets.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/CVSO_Directory_1-March-2014.pdf)

<http://mic3.net/pages/contact/Map/florida.aspx>

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## About DMA

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The Florida Department of Military Affairs provides management oversight of the Florida National Guard, and provides units and personnel ready to support national security objectives; to protect the public safety of citizens; and to contribute to national, state and community programs that add value to the United States of America and to the State of Florida.

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## External Links

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[CareerSource Florida](#)  
[Employ Florida Marketplace](#)  
[Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve](#)  
[Florida Dept. of Veterans Affairs](#)  
[Florida Families First](#)  
[Florida National Guard](#)  
[MyFlorida.com](#)  
[Office of the Governor](#)  
[Safe Helpline](#)  
[Sexual Assault Prevention & Response](#)  
[Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)

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## Contact Us

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