

Health Care

VA provides a number of health care services.

Hospital, outpatient medical, dental, pharmacy and prosthetics service.

Domiciliary, nursing home, and community-base residential care.

Sexual trauma counseling.

Specialized health care for women veterans.

Health and rehabilitation programs for homeless veterans.

Readjustment counseling.

Alcohol and drug dependency treatment.

Medical evaluation for military service exposure, including Gulf War, Agency Orange, radiation, or other environmental hazards.

Life Insurance

Service members Group Life Insurance (SGLI) is low-cost term life insurance for service members, reservists. Generally, coverage begins when you enter the service. It is available in amounts up to \$250,000. Generally, it expires 120 days after you get out of the service.

Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) is renewable five-year term life insurance for veterans. It is available in amounts up to 250,000. You may apply any time within 1 year from the date your SGLI expires.

Service-Disable Veterans Insurance, also called "RH" Insurance, is life insurance for service-disabled veterans. The basic coverage is \$10,000. If your premium payments for the basic policy are waived, due to total disability you may be eligible for a supplemental policy of up to \$ 20,000. Generally, you have 2 years after being notified of your service-connected disability to apply for basic coverage.

The Department of Veterans Affairs

Toll-Free Service

Benefits Information and Assistance

Each VA benefit has its own eligibility requirements. For more information about specific benefits, you may visit the nearest VA office or call:

1-800-827-1000

Special Toll-Free Number

Health Benefits	877-222-8387
Education Benefits	888-442-4551
VA Life Insurance	800-669-8477
Office of SGLI	800-419-1473
CHAMPVA	800-733-837
Environmental Health	800-749-8387
Headstones (Status of Claims Only)	800-697-6947
Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD)	800-829-4833
Direct Deposit	877-838-2778

You may also apply for Compensation, Pension or Vocational Rehabilitation benefits on line

<http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov>

The District of Columbia Office of Veterans Affairs

Conveniently located on Metro's Red Line
(Judiciary Square)

Our hours of operation are

Monday-Friday

9:00 am until 5:00 pm

441 4th Street, Northwest

Suite 570 South

Washington, D.C. 20001

(202) 724-5454 (phone)

(202) 724-7117 (fax)

For additional information on any services contained in this brochure contact

DC Office of Veterans Affairs

Adrian M. Fenty

Mayor

Timothy J. Smith

Director



DC Office of Veterans Affairs

Pledges to:

Treat you with Courtesy

Compassion and Respect

at all times

Communicate with you Accurately

Completely and Clearly

Provide Timely Service

Make our Service Accessible

Fully Answer your Questions

Concerns and Complaints

About VA

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, “VA” offers a wide range of benefits to our Nation’s veterans service members, and their families.

What VA Offers

VA benefits services fall into these major categories

Disability Benefits

Education Training Benefits

Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment

Home Loan

Burial Benefits

Department’s Survivors’ Benefits

Life Insurance

Health Care

Who Is Eligible

You may be eligible for VA health care benefits if you are a veteran.

You may eligible for other VA benefits if you are:

A veteran

A veteran’s dependant

A surviving spouse or child of a deceased veteran

A member of the Reserves or National Guard

An active duty service member

Burial Benefits

VA offers certain benefits and services to honor our Nation’s deceased veterans.

Headstone and Markers VA can finish a monument to mark the unmarked graves of an eligible veteran.

Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) VA can provide a PMC for eligible recipients.

Burial Flag VA can provide an American flag to drape an eligible veteran’s casket.

Reimbursement of Burial Expense Generally, VA can pay a burial allowance of \$ 2,000 for veterans who die of service –related causes. For certain other veterans, VA can pay \$ 300 for burial and funeral expenses and \$ 300 for a plot.

Burial in VA National Cemetery Most veterans and some dependents can be buried in VA national cemetery.

Time Limits There is no time limit for claiming reimbursement of burial expenses for a service-related death. In other cases, claims must be filed within 2 years of the veteran’s burial.

Dependent’s and Survivor’s Benefit’s

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is payable to survivors of:

Service members who died on active duty.

Veterans who died from service-related disabilities.

Certain veterans who were being paid 100% VA disabilities compensation at time of death.

Death Pension is payable to some surviving spouses and children of deceased *wartime* veterans. The benefits are based on financial need.

Disability Benefits

VA administers two disability programs. Both pay benefits to disabled veterans.

Disability Compensation VA can pay you compensation if you are at least 10% disabled as result of your military service.

Disability Pension VA can pay you a pension if you are a wartime veteran with limited income and no longer able to work.

Time Limits There is no deadlines for applying for disability benefits.

Education and Training

VA pays benefits to eligible veterans, dependents, reservists and service members while they are in an approved training program. Their major programs are:

Montgomery GI Bill Person who first entered active duty after June 30, 1985, are generally eligible. Some Vietnam Era veterans and certain veterans separated under special programs are also eligible. The bill also includes a program for certain reservists and National Guard members.

Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) This program is for veterans who entered active duty for the first time after December 31, 1976, and before July 1, 1985, and contributed funds to this program

Survivors’& Dependents’ Educational Assistance Some family members of disabled or deceased veterans are eligible for education benefits.

Time Limits Generally, veterans have 10 years from the date they were last released from active duty to use their education benefit. Reservists generally have 10 years from the date they became eligible for the program unless they leave the Selected Reserves before completing their obligation. Spouses generally have 10 years from the

Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment

VA can help certain service-disabled veterans get and keep suitable employment. Some of the services they provide are:

Employment and case management services

Vocational and Rehabilitation counseling

Payment of training costs

Monthly payments to help with living expenses

Medical and dental treatment, if needed, to complete your program

Time Limits You generally have 12 years from the date VA tells you in writing that you have at least a 10 percent rating for a service –connected disability. You may have longer if certain conditions prevent you from training or if you have a serious employment handicap.

Home Loans

VA offers a number of home loan services to eligible veterans, some military personnel, and certain spouses.

Guarantee Loans VA can guarantee part of a loan from a private lender to help you buy a home, a manufactured home, a lot for a manufactured home , or certain types of condominiums. VA can also guarantee loans for building, repairing, and improving homes.

Refinancing Loans If you have a VA mortgage, VA can help you refinance your loan at a lower interest rate. You may also refinance a non-VA loan.

Special Grants Certain disabled veterans can received grants to have their homes specially adapted to their needs.

Time Limits There are no time limits for a VA home loan, except for eligible reservists. Their eligibility expires September 30, 2009.