



HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED U.S.

# FLORIDA VETERANS' BENEFITS GUIDE



*Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs*

[www.FloridaVets.org](http://www.FloridaVets.org)



2013 edition sponsored by the  
Florida Veterans Foundation

[www.FloridaVeteransFoundation.org](http://www.FloridaVeteransFoundation.org)

# Executive Director's Message

Thank you for reading this 2013 edition of the Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide.

Florida has earned a reputation as the most veteran friendly state in the nation. Watching over and advocating for our state's veteran population are the nearly 1,100 men and women of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs.

FDVA is the premier point of entry for Florida veterans to access earned services, benefits and support. We play a critical role in advocating for retired and former servicemembers of all ages.



Some of Florida's veterans fought for our freedom in the days before television while others never knew a time without personal computers, yet they all share the admiration of a grateful nation. If they aren't receiving the benefits and services they rightfully earned, we must use every approach available to reach them and set things right.

Our new, easier-to-navigate website at [www.FloridaVets.org](http://www.FloridaVets.org) acts as a portal to help veterans find the information that they need to access benefits and services more efficiently and effectively. The department's English and Spanish language public service announcements and radio spots raise awareness about FDVA and its services, while directing veterans to our website. In addition, our free mobile application, offered in the *Android* and *Apple* markets, integrates with the new website and offers veterans reminders and updates about services through push notifications. It also points veterans to *Employ Florida Vets*, the state's veteran employment website, to help them find available jobs.

Thank you for your service to our nation. We're honored to represent you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Prendergast". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Prendergast  
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret)  
Executive Director, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs

## FDVA Launches New Outreach Campaign

Florida veterans may be missing out on millions of dollars in benefits which they have earned, so the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs has launched a statewide multimedia campaign to connect them with federal and state benefits and services they so richly deserve.

Florida's 1.6 million veterans range from the nation's largest population of World War II vets to those returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. Florida's veteran population is the third largest in the nation, and its Department of Veterans' Affairs plays a critical role in advocating for veterans and connecting them to federal and state benefits and services they have earned. Currently, Florida veterans draw down more than \$13.7 billion a year in federal compensation, education and pension benefits, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs medical services and military retired pay, but agency leaders say veterans are leaving millions more on the table.

For example, of Florida's 1.6 million veterans, only 260,000 are receiving service-related compensation or pension from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In addition, many of Florida's 449,000 Vietnam veterans may be unaware they could be entitled to a monthly payment for a service-connected disability if they suffer from one of several diseases associated with exposure to herbicides such as Agent Orange — diseases ranging from Ischemic Heart Disease and Hodgkin's Disease to Type 2 diabetes to prostate cancer. Currently, only one third of Vietnam veterans nationally are enrolled in VA health care or have applied for benefits they earned as a result of military service.

To help bring a fresh new awareness to the situation, the department unveiled a new logo, website, free smart phone app, public service announcements and outreach strategies, and reframed its mission, vision and motto. The department embraced a renewed commitment to reach Vietnam veterans, Florida's largest veteran demographic; women veterans, who number more than 140,000; and younger, returning veterans, since more than 230,000 veterans of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom call Florida home.

To review these new products and services, visit the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs online at [www.FloridaVets.org](http://www.FloridaVets.org)

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# Federal Veterans' Benefits Timetable

Following separation or retirement from service, veterans have:

## 180 days -- One-time Dental Treatment

The VA provides one-time separation dental care for certain service-connected dental conditions, if the certificate of discharge does not certify that the veteran was provided a complete dental examination and treatment prior to discharge. (38 CFR 17.161)

## 240 days -- Veterans' Group Life Insurance

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) may be converted to Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI), a five-year term policy, renewable for life. VGLI may be converted to an individual policy with any participating insurance company. For more information, call toll free (800) 669-8477 or visit [www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov)

## 1 year -- Appeal

A veteran has one year from the date of the original notification of a VA decision to file an appeal.

## 2 years -- Insurance

A veteran with a new service-connected disability, but otherwise in good health, may apply to the VA for up to \$10,000 in life insurance coverage at standard rates. Veterans who receive a new rating of zero percent or greater are eligible for the coverage. The application must be made within two years from the date of being notified of a new service-connected status. The veteran must have received an other than dishonorable discharge and released from active duty after April 25, 1951. Call toll free (800) 669-8477 or visit [www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov)

## 5 years -- VA Health Care for Combat Vets

Combat veterans who were discharged or released from active service on or after Jan. 28, 2003, are eligible to enroll in the VA health care system for five years from the date of discharge or release. The enrollment period begins on the discharge or separation date of the service member from active duty service, or in the case of multiple call-ups, the most recent discharge date. Veterans, including activated Reservists and National Guard members, are eligible if they served on active duty in a theater of combat operations after Nov. 11, 1998, and have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

## 10 years -- Montgomery G.I. Bill

Provides financial assistance to honorably discharged veterans who enlisted after June 30, 1985, and elected to participate within the first 12 months of service. Call toll free (888) 442-4551.

## 12 years -- Vocational Rehabilitation

As part of a rehabilitation program for service-connected, disabled veterans rated at 10 percent or more and having a serious employment-related handicap, the VA may pay tuition, books, expenses and a monthly living allowance. A new expanded housing benefit option is also available. For more information, call toll free (800) 827-1000.

## 15 years -- Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is a federal education benefit program for individuals who served on active duty a minimum of 90 days after Sept. 10, 2001. Public Law 111-32, the *Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship*, amends the Post-9/11 GI Bill to include the children of service members who die in the line of duty after Sept. 10, 2001. For more information, call toll free (888) 442-4551 or visit the VA website at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

## Medical Care

To the extent resources and facilities are available, the VA provides hospital care covering the full range of medical services to veterans. Eligible veterans may receive medical treatment at any VA Medical Center or Outpatient Clinic / Community Based Clinic in Florida.

## 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 (877) 827-3702 or visit <http://www.homeloans.va.gov/>

## Veteran Small Business Ownership

The U.S. Small Business Administration offers programs and services for veterans seeking to establish or expand small businesses. SBA's Express and pilot programs offer streamlined and expedited loan procedures for active duty military members and veterans. For more information, visit <http://www.sba.gov/content/express-programs> or call toll free (800) 827-5722.

## 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 <http://www.cem.va.gov/> for more information.

# State Veterans' Benefits & Programs

## Free Benefits & Disability Claims 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) 319-7400 / 7440.

## Property Tax Exemptions

Any real estate owned and used as a homestead by a veteran who was honorably discharged and has been certified as having a service-connected, permanent and total disability, is exempt from taxation if the veteran is a permanent resident of Florida and has legal title to the property on January 1 of the tax year for which exemption is being claimed. (FS 196.081(1))

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))

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))

Any real estate used and owned as a homestead by any quadriplegic is exempt from taxation. Veterans who are paraplegic, hemiplegic, or permanently and totally disabled who must use a wheelchair for mobility, or are legally blind, may be exempt from real estate taxation. Check with your local property appraiser to determine if gross annual household income qualifies. The veteran must be a resident of Florida. (FS 196.101)

Eligible resident ex-servicemembers with a VA certified service-connected disability of 10 percent or greater shall be entitled to a \$5,000 property tax exemption. The ex-servicemember must establish this exemption with the county tax official in the county in which he or she resides by providing documentation of this disability.

The unmarried surviving spouse of such a disabled ex-service member, who on the date of the disabled ex-servicemember's death had been married to the ex-servicemember for at least five years, is also entitled to this exemption. (FS 196.24)

Any partially disabled veteran who is age 65 or older, any portion of whose disability was combat-related, and who was honorably discharged, may be eligible for a discount from the amount of ad valorem tax on the homestead commensurate with the percentage of the veteran's permanent service-connected disability. Eligible veterans should apply for this benefit at the county property appraiser's office. (FS 196.082)

Service personnel entitled to homestead exemption in this state, and who are unable to file in person by reason of such service, may file through next of kin or a duly authorized representative. (FS 196.071)

## **Certification of Discharge or Separation**

At the veteran's request, the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall record, without cost, certificates of discharge or separation from the Armed Forces. (FS 28.222) **CAUTION:** Once on file, documents become official court records and are open to the public. To remove a military discharge record from the official court record, submit your request to the Court Clerk's office.

## **“V” for Veterans Designation on Driver License**

Florida's veterans can add a veteran designation to their driver license or identification card. To add the “V” to a license or ID card, veterans can visit any Florida driver license office, to include those operated by county tax collectors. Requirements: 1) present a discharge document which shows an honorable discharge from active duty; 2) pay a one-time \$1 fee, in addition to the replacement or renewal fee. If it is too soon to renew your license, you can pay a one-time \$2 fee plus other applicable service fees; 3) visit [www.GatherGoGet.com](http://www.GatherGoGet.com) to ensure you have all other documents. Veterans who need to obtain a copy of their DD-214 may request it online at [www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/)

## **100% Disabled Veteran State ID Card**

A disabled veteran ID card may be issued by the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs to any veteran who is a permanent resident of the state and is determined by the VA or Department of Defense to have a 100% service-connected, permanent and total disability rating. (FS 295.17) The card may be used as proof of eligibility for any state benefit except exemption of homestead property taxes. For more information, call (727) 319-7400 / 7440.

## Driver License & State ID Fee Exemptions

Any honorably discharged veteran who has a valid FDVA disabled veteran ID card or who has been determined to have a 100% total and permanent service-connected disability and is qualified to obtain a driver license is generally exempt from all fees. However, a fee may be applied to drivers seeking to reinstate a license. (FS 322.21(7))

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or a county tax collector may issue or renew an identification card to a person who presents evidence that he or she is homeless without payment of the fees required. A \$6.25 fee may apply in offices operated by county tax collectors. Homeless veterans may prove their status with a letter from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs that establishes eligibility in the HUD-VASH program.

## Handicapped Toll Permit

Licensed drivers who operate a vehicle specially equipped for the handicapped and are certified by a licensed physician or the VA as having permanent upper limb impairments/disabilities substantially affecting their ability to deposit coins in toll baskets, shall pass free through all toll gates. A window sticker from the Florida Department of Transportation must be obtained and displayed. (FS 338.155(3))

## Disabled Veteran Motor Vehicle License Plate

An honorably discharged veteran who has been a resident of Florida continuously for the past five years or who has established a domicile in Florida, as provided by FS 222.17, may apply for one free disabled veteran "DV" license plate for an owned or leased vehicle. The veteran must provide proof of a service-connected 100-percent disability rating or that the vehicle was acquired through VA financial assistance. *Note:* 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. Service charges may apply. (FS 320.084)

**Please note:** 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. Disabled veterans with a mobility impairment may apply for the disabled parking plate with the wheelchair emblem to avoid possible fines and penalties.

No state agency, county, municipality or agency thereof may charge the driver of a vehicle displaying a "DV" license plate any fee for parking on public streets, highways or in any metered parking space. There are exemptions to this benefit, which can be found in FS 316.1964.

## Special Use License Plates

New legislation in 2012 authorizes the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue a special use license plate for a recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge or Combat Action Badge, and creates a Vietnam War Veteran and Korean Conflict Veteran license plate. These special use license plates are to be issued after the applicant provides documents establishing proof of status, such as a DD-214, and upon payment of the license tax imposed by s. 329.08, F.S. The bill also provides for the issuance of a special use license plate without charge for recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Air Force Cross, or Silver Star. These special use license plates are to be issued upon application and proof of qualifications and without payment of the license tax imposed by s. 329.08, F.S.

In addition, the following existing military license plates are available upon application to the owner or lessee of a vehicle that meet the necessary qualifications:

- **Medal of Honor** -- Issued to any U.S. citizen who is a resident of Florida and who was awarded the Medal of Honor while serving as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces. (FS 320.0893)
- **Ex-POW** -- Issued to a resident of Florida who is a former prisoner of war, or their unremarried surviving spouse, who was a U.S. citizen serving with the U.S. Armed Forces or the armed forces of an allied nation or who was a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and was not a U.S. citizen. (FS 320.089(2))
- **Gold Star** -- Honoring the family members of Florida service members who have been killed while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The applicant must be a resident of Florida at the time of the service member's death, and directly related as spouse, legal mother or father, or stepparent who is currently married to the mother or father of the fallen service member. (FS 320.0894)
- **Florida National Guard, U.S. Armed Forces Reserve, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom** -- Issued to a retired member of the Florida National Guard or the U.S. Armed Forces Reserve or to a former member of the U.S. military who was deployed and served in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom or in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. (FS 320.089)
- **Pearl Harbor Survivor** -- Issued to a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. (FS 320.089)
- **Purple Heart** -- Issued to a recipient of the Purple Heart medal. (FS 320.089)
- **U.S. Paratrooper** -- May only be purchased by current or former U.S. military personnel who, as part of their military duty, have been trained to jump from aircraft. (FS 320.0891)

## Hunting and Fishing

The *Military Gold Sportsman's License* is available for a reduced fee of \$20 to any resident who is an active or retired member of the U. S. Armed Forces, U. S. Armed Forces Reserve, National Guard, U. S. Coast Guard, or Coast Guard Reserve upon submission of a current military ID card. The license is only available at tax collector's offices. (FS 379.354(4)(j))

State hunting and fishing licenses and permits shall be issued without fees for five years to any veteran who is a Florida resident, certified or determined to be 100% totally and permanently disabled by the VA, or the U.S. Armed Forces, or who has been issued a valid disabled veteran ID card by FDVA. For more information, visit <http://myfwc.com/> (FS 379.353)

Florida honors the service of injured war veterans by providing special outdoor recreational opportunities for them. The Division of Forestry has designated areas of state forests as Operation Outdoor Freedom Special Hunt Areas. With funding from the Friends of Florida State Forests Program, active duty members and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces with combat-related injuries have access to specialized hunting areas that are specially adapted to assist their needs. (FS 589.19)

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission makes it easier for Florida veterans to enter the commercial fishing industry. Applicants should visit [www.MyFWC.com/License](http://www.MyFWC.com/License) and click on *Commercial Saltwater Products* or call (850) 487-3122.

## Commission as a Notary Public

The state's \$10 commission fee shall not be required for a commission as a Notary Public to a veteran with wartime service and who has been rated 50 percent or more for a service-connected disability. Other fees will apply. (FS 117.01(2))

## Occupational License Taxes

A disabled wartime veteran who is unable to perform manual labor and is a permanent Florida resident shall be exempt from this tax up to \$50. The unremarried spouse of a deceased disabled veteran is also entitled to this exemption. (FS 205.171)

## Disabled Veterans' Exemption from Fees

Total and permanently disabled Florida veterans are exempt from county and municipality building license or permit fees when making certain improvements to their residence in order to make the dwelling habitable or safe. Restrictions apply. (FS 295.16)

## Education Benefits for Veterans and Families

Florida State Colleges and Universities offering priority course registration for any segment of the student population now provide priority course registration to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces who are receiving GI Bill educational benefits. The benefit also applies to spouses and dependent children receiving GI Bill benefits.

Florida State Colleges and Universities are also adopting rules and regulations enabling eligible current and former members of the U.S. Armed Forces to earn academic college credit at public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level training and education acquired in the military. Consult your local campus for details.

Florida waives undergraduate-level tuition at state universities and community colleges for Florida recipients of the Purple Heart and other combat-related decorations superior in precedence to the Purple Heart. For more information, call (850) 245-0407.

Florida also provides four-year college educational opportunities for dependent children and spouses of veterans who died from a service-connected disability or who are 100% percent service-connected totally and permanently disabled veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. (FS 295.01) For more information, visit [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/factsheets/CDDV.htm](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/factsheets/CDDV.htm) or call toll free at (888) 827-2004.

Dependent children of service members Missing In Action or Prisoners Of War may also be eligible for tuition benefits.

Eligible World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War veterans who, as a result of being inducted into any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces and unable to complete their high school education, can be awarded a High School Diploma. For more information, call (850) 245-0446 or visit <http://www.fldoe.org/workforce/veteran-diploma.asp>

## Florida State Park Discount Passes

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection provides a 25-percent discount on annual passes to Florida's 161 State Parks for all veterans, active duty service and reserve members. The pass is available for purchase at any Florida State Park staffed ranger station.

Honorably discharged veterans who have service-connected disabilities, surviving spouses, and Gold Star Parents of military veterans who have fallen in combat will receive a lifetime family annual entrance pass at no charge. The free annual pass can only be obtained at a staffed ranger station. For more information, call (850) 245-2157 or visit [www.FloridaStateParks.org](http://www.FloridaStateParks.org)

# Florida State Veterans' Homes

The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs operates six skilled nursing facilities and one assisted living facility. All facilities are licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration and inspected annually by AHCA and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The homes are supervised 24-hours daily by registered and licensed nurses. Under the IRS tax code, monetary donations to specific state veterans' homes are tax deductible. Per Florida Statutes, all such donations are to be used for the benefit of the home and its residents.

## Employment

For employment opportunities at the homes, call the FDVA Human Resources Office at (727) 518-3202, Ext. 5533 or visit the *People First* website at <https://jobs.myflorida.com/joblist.html>

## Resident Admission

Basic admission requirements for all state veterans' 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.

## Veterans' Homes

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.

The **Emory L. Bennett State Veterans' Nursing Home** in Daytona Beach (Volusia County) opened to residents in 1993. The recently renovated 120-bed facility provides skilled nursing care to its veteran residents. Call (386) 274-3460 for more information. *Address:* 1920 Mason Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32117.

The **Baldomero Lopez State Veterans' Nursing Home** in Land O' Lakes (Pasco County) opened to residents in 1999. The 120-bed facility provides skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer's disease. Call (813) 558-5000 for more information. *Address:* 6919 Parkway Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, FL 34639.

The **Alexander “Sandy” Nininger State Veterans’ Nursing Home** in Pembroke Pines (Broward County) opened to residents in 2001. The 120-bed facility offers skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer’s disease. Call (954) 985-4824 for more information. *Address:* 8401 West Cypress Drive, Pembroke Pines, FL 33025.

The **Clifford C. Sims State Veterans’ Nursing Home** in Panama City (Bay County) opened to residents in 2003. The 120-bed facility offers skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer’s disease. Call (850) 747-5401 for more information. *Address:* 4419 Tram Road, Panama City, FL 32404.

The **Douglas T. Jacobson State Veterans’ Nursing Home** in Port Charlotte (Charlotte County) opened to residents in 2004. The 120-bed facility offers skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents with dementia/Alzheimer’s disease. Call (941) 613-0919 for more information. *Address:* 21281 Grayton Terrace, Port Charlotte, FL 33954.



The **Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans’ Nursing Home** in St. Augustine (St. Johns County) opened to residents in 2010. The 120-bed facility offers skilled nursing care and can accommodate 60 residents

with dementia/Alzheimer’s disease. Call (904) 940-2193 for more information. *Address:* 4650 State Road 16, St. Augustine, FL 32092.

**Your purchase of the *Florida Salutes Veterans* or one of the state’s Army, Navy, Air Force or Coast Guard license plates directly helps veterans. The \$15 surcharge goes into a trust fund for the operation and maintenance of Florida’s veterans’ homes. A portion of the Marine Corps and *Support Our Troops* license plates also supports the State Veterans’ Homes Program. Anyone can purchase these plates. See page 9 for a list of other military tags whose proceeds support the homes. You may also support the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund by making a \$1 contribution when renewing your Driver License. Let the clerk know you’re a veteran.**



# Veteran Employment Services

Employment services for veterans, military members and families are offered through the Employ Florida network consisting of Workforce Florida, the Department of Economic Opportunity and Florida's 24 Regional Workforce Boards encompassing nearly 100 One-Stop Career Centers. These services include interviewing, resume assistance, job referrals, job search and placement assistance, Internet access, training referrals, career planning and vocational guidance. Visit <http://www.floridajobs.org/office-directory/division-of-workforce-services/workforce-programs/veterans-employment-program> or call toll free (800) 342-3450 or (850) 245-7105 for more information.

## Employ Florida Vets

Employ Florida Vets is the state's online jobs portal that provides employment services to Florida veterans. Call toll free (866) 352-2345 or visit <http://veterans.employflorida.com/portals/veteran/> for more information.

## Outreach Assistance

Local Veterans Employment Representatives develop increased hiring opportunities within the local workforce by raising employer awareness of the availability and benefit of hiring veterans. Disabled Veterans Outreach Program specialists provide services to all eligible veterans, but their efforts are concentrated on client services to those identified as most in need of assistance. A staff directory is located online at [http://sitefinity.floridajobs.org/PDG/vets/VET\\_STAFF\\_DIRECTORY.pdf](http://sitefinity.floridajobs.org/PDG/vets/VET_STAFF_DIRECTORY.pdf) or call (850) 245-7424 for more information.

## Reemployment Rights

A veteran has a right to be reemployed in his/her civilian job or a comparable job with associated benefits had the veteran not been absent due to military service. For more information, call toll free (866) 487-2365 or visit [www.dol.gov/vets](http://www.dol.gov/vets). Public employees may contact FDVA at (727) 319-7400.

## License Fee Waivers for Returning Veterans

The Department of Business and Professional Regulation may waive initial licensure fees for veterans. The initial license fee, initial application fee and initial unlicensed activity fee will be waived for returning veterans, provided the veteran applies for licensure within 24 months of being honorably discharged. The law applies to new licenses for more than 20 professions under DBPR's jurisdiction, including construction, real estate, certified public accountants and cosmetologists. Visit [www.MyFloridaLicense.com](http://www.MyFloridaLicense.com) for information.

## Veterans Retraining Assistance Program

The Veterans Opportunity to Work (VOW) to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 provides seamless transition for servicemembers, expands education and training opportunities for veterans, and provides tax credits for employers who hire veterans with service-connected disabilities. Included in the VOW to Hire Heroes Act is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program for unemployed veterans. VRAP offers 12 months of training assistance to veterans who are at least 35 years old but no older than 60. Applications may be received through October 1, 2013, or once VA has 99,000 participants, whichever comes first. For more information, visit <http://benefits.va.gov/vow/education.htm>

## Veterans' Preference in Florida

If you are a Florida resident, state and political subdivisions of the state shall give preference in employment, promotions after being deployed and retention to 1) a veteran with a compensable VA service-connected disability; 2) the spouse of a veteran with a permanent and total service-connected disability; 3) a veteran who served one day on active duty during a wartime period and was honorably discharged; 4) the unremarried widow or widower of a veteran who died as a result of a service-connected disability; 5) a veteran who has served in a qualifying campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized, to include the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and was honorably discharged. (FS 295.07, 295.11)

A person eligible for veterans' preference does not forfeit preference eligibility once he/she has been employed by a state agency or political subdivision. The employer is obligated to make the applicant aware that preference is available when applying for a position; however, certain positions are excluded from the law. An applicant who believes he or she was not afforded employment/promotion/retention preference may file a complaint with the FDVA. The complaint must be filed within 21 days from the date the notice is received.

For more information, call (727) 319-7462 or mail the detailed complaint to: P.O. Box 31001, St. Petersburg, FL 33731.

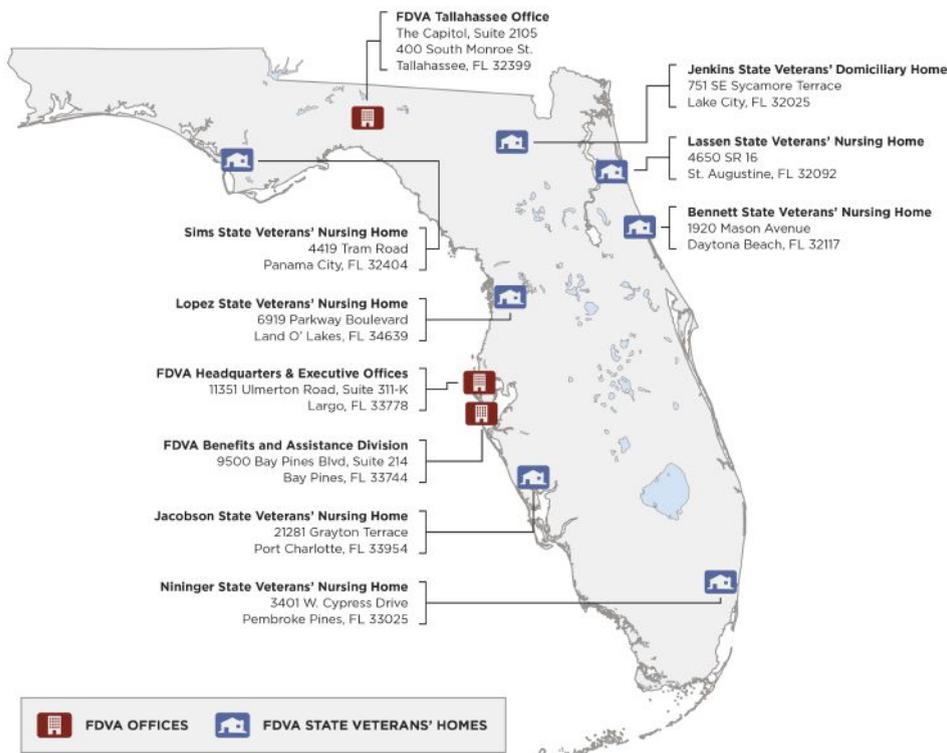
## Florida Veteran Business Enterprises

The Florida Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Opportunity Act was expanded in 2012 to include wartime veterans. The Florida Division of Management Services' program promotes access for service-disabled and wartime veteran businesses to state contracts and encourages other such veterans to start businesses. For more information, visit [http://www.dms.myflorida.com/other\\_programs/office\\_of\\_supplier\\_diversity\\_osd/certification/supporting\\_documentation/service\\_disabled\\_veteran\\_businesses](http://www.dms.myflorida.com/other_programs/office_of_supplier_diversity_osd/certification/supporting_documentation/service_disabled_veteran_businesses) or call (850) 487-0915.

# FDVA Offices & Claims Examiner Sites

*Offices include those located in federal facilities. Claims services are provided free of charge.*

FDVA Executive Office 11351 Ulmerton Rd. #311K Largo, FL 33778-1630 (727) 518-3202	Orlando VA Medical Center 5201 Raymond St., Rm 1704 Orlando, FL 32803 (407) 599-1386 / 1318	Panama City Community Based Outpatient Clinic Naval Support Activity, Bldg. 148 Panama City Beach, FL 32408 *No telephone at location.
FDVA Benefits & Assistance 9500 Bay Pines Blvd. #214 Bay Pines, FL 33744 (727) 319-7400 / 7440	West Palm Beach VA Medical Center 7305 North Military Trail Bldg. 10, #113 West Palm Beach, FL 33410 (561) 422-8204	New Port Richey VA Outpatient Clinic 9912 Little Rd. #D-116 Port Richey, FL 34654 (727) 869-4227
FDVA Capitol Office The Capitol, Suite 2105 400 South Monroe Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001 (850) 487-1533	Broward County VA Outpatient Clinic 9800 W. Commercial Sunrise, FL 33351 (954) 625-8727	Pensacola Joint Ambulatory Care Clinic 790 Veterans Way Pensacola, FL 32507 (850) 912-2051 / 2052
Bay Pines VA Medical Center 10000 Bay Pines Blvd. Bldg. 22, #117 Bay Pines, FL 33744-5005 (727) 398-6661 x5489	William Chappell Jr. VA Outpatient Clinic 551 National Health Care Dr. Daytona Beach, FL 32114 (386) 323-7500 x30122	Tallahassee VA Outpatient Clinic 1607 St. James Court #220 Tallahassee, FL 32308 (850) 878-0191 x2032
Malcom Randall VA Medical Center 1601 Archer Rd. #D-163 Gainesville, FL 32608 (352) 374-6029	Eglin VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic 100 Veterans Way, Rm. 108 Eglin AFB, FL 32542 (850) 609-2740	The Villages VA Outpatient Clinic 8900 SE 165th Mulberry Ln Room 162 The Villages, FL 32162 (352) 674-5095
Lake City VA Medical Center 619 S Marion Ave. #A-163 Lake City, FL 32025 (386) 755-3016 x2070	Jacksonville VA Outpatient Clinic 1833 Boulevard St. Jacksonville, FL 32206 (904) 232-2751 x3005	Viera VA Outpatient Clinic 2900 Veterans Way #A700 Viera, FL 32940 (321) 637-3693 / 3788
Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center 1201 NW 16th St. #A-213 Miami, FL 33125 (305) 325-3325	Orange Park Career One Stop Center 1845 Town Center Blvd. Suite 150 Orange Park, FL 32003 (904) 213-3888, x2087	<i>Note:</i> There are also FDVA Claims Examiners at each State Veterans' Home. Call for appointment. See page 12 for contact information.
James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital 13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. T#61 Tampa, FL 33612 (813) 972-2000 x6589	Orlando Lakemont Campus 2500 S. Lakemont Avenue Room 125 Orlando, FL 32814 (321) 397-6584 (407) 646-4168	



## County Veteran Service Offices

Information on current federal, state and local veterans' programs, entitlements and referral services is also available in Florida through a network of County Veteran Service Offices. The counselors are trained and accredited annually by the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs.

All services are provided free of charge.

A list of CVSOs can be found online at [www.FloridaVets.org](http://www.FloridaVets.org)

# VA Outpatient Clinics

Boca Raton Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
901 Meadows Rd.  
Boca Raton, FL 33433  
(561) 416-8995

Bradenton Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
5520 State Road 64,  
Suite 101  
Bradenton, FL 34208  
(941) 721-0649

Brooksville Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
14540 Cortez Blvd. #108  
Brooksville, FL 34613  
(352) 597-8287

Clermont Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
805 Oakley Seaver Drive  
Clermont, FL 34711  
(352) 536-8200

William Chappell Jr. VA  
Outpatient Clinic  
551 National Health Care Dr.  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
(386) 323-7500

Deerfield Beach Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
2100 SW 10th St.  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442  
(954) 570-5572

Delray Beach Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
4800 Linton Blvd.  
Building E, #300  
Delray Beach, FL 33445  
(561) 495-1973

Eglin VA Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
100 Veterans Way  
Eglin AFB, FL 32542  
(866) 520-7359

Fort Pierce Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
727 North US 1  
Fort Pierce, FL 34950  
(772) 595-5150

Hollywood Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
3702 Washington St. #201  
Hollywood, FL 33021  
(954) 986-1811

Homestead Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
950 Krome Ave. #401  
Homestead, FL 33030  
(305) 248-0874

Jacksonville VA Outpatient  
Clinic  
1833 Boulevard St.  
Jacksonville, FL 32206  
(904) 232-2751

Key Largo Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
105662 Overseas Highway  
Key Largo, FL 33037  
(305) 451-0164

Key West Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
1300 Douglas Circle, L-15  
Key West, FL 33040  
(305) 293-4863 / 4828

Kissimmee Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
2285 N. Central Ave.  
Kissimmee, FL 34741  
(407) 518-5004

Lakeland Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
4237 South Pipkin Rd.  
Lakeland, FL 33811  
(863) 701-2470

Lecanto Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
2804 W. Marc Knighton  
Court, Suite A  
Lecanto, FL 34461  
(352) 746-8000

Lee County VA Healthcare  
Center  
2489 Diplomat Parkway East  
Cape Coral, FL 33909  
(239) 652-1800

Leesburg Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
711 W. Main St.  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
(352) 435-4000

Marianna Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
4970 Highway 90  
Marianna, FL 32446  
(850) 718-5620

Miami Healthcare for  
Homeless Veterans  
1492 Flagler St.  
Miami, FL 33135  
(305) 541-5864

Miami Outpatient Substance  
Abuse Clinic  
1492 West Flagler Street,  
Suite 101  
Miami, FL 33135  
(305) 541-8435

Naples Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
2685 Horseshoe Dr. S. #101  
Naples, FL 34104  
(239) 659-9188

New Port Richey VA  
Outpatient Clinic  
9912 Little Road  
New Port Richey, FL 34654  
(727) 869-4100

Ocala Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
1515 E. Silver Springs Blvd.  
Ocala, FL 34470  
(352) 369-3320

Okeechobee Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
1201 N. Parrot Ave.  
Okeechobee, FL 34972  
(863) 824-3232

Orange City Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
2583 S. Volusia Ave., #300  
Orange City, FL 32763  
(386) 456-2080

# VA Outpatient Clinics

Palatka Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
400 N. State Road 19  
Suite 48 (Palatka Mall)  
Palatka, FL 32177  
(386) 329-8800

Palm Harbor Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
35209 US Hwy 19 N  
Palm Harbor, FL 34684  
(727) 734-5276

Panama City Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
Naval Support Activity,  
Bldg 387, 101 Vernon Ave.  
Panama City Beach, FL  
32408  
(850) 636-7000

Pembroke Pines Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
7369 W. Sheridan St. #102  
Hollywood, FL 33024  
(954) 894-1668

Pensacola Joint Ambulatory  
Care Center  
790 Veterans Way  
Pensacola, FL 32507  
(866) 927-1420

Port Charlotte Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
4161 Tamiami Trail, #401  
Port Charlotte, FL 33952  
(941) 235-2710

St Lucie Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
128 SW Chamber Court  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986  
(772) 344-9288

St Lucie PTSD Clinic  
126 SW Chamber Court  
Port St Lucie, FL 34986  
(772) 878-7876

Sarasota Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
5682 Bee Ridge Rd. #100  
Sarasota, FL 34233  
(941) 371-3349

Sebring Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
5901 US Highway 27 S  
Sebring, FL 33870  
(863) 471-6227

St. Augustine Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
1955 US 1 South, #200  
St. Augustine, FL 32086  
(904) 829-0814

St. Petersburg Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
840 Dr. MLK Jr. Street N.  
St. Petersburg, FL 33705  
(727) 502-1700

Stuart Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic  
3501 SE Willoughby Blvd.  
Stuart, FL 34997  
(772) 288-0304

Broward County VA  
Outpatient Clinic  
9800 W. Commercial Blvd.  
Sunrise, FL 33351  
(954) 475-5500

Tallahassee VA Outpatient  
Clinic  
1607 St. James Ct.  
Tallahassee, FL 32308-5352  
(850) 878-0191

Viera VA Outpatient Clinic  
2900 Veterans Way  
Viera, FL 32940  
(321) 637-3788

The Villages VA Outpatient  
Clinic  
8900 SE 165th Mulberry Ln.  
The Villages, FL 32162  
(352) 674-5000

Vero Beach Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
372 17th Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32960  
(772) 299-4623

Zephyrhills Community  
Based Outpatient Clinic  
6937 Medical View Lane  
Zephyrhills, FL 33542  
(813) 780-2550



The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs is on *Facebook*, the social network service and website. FDVA seeks to connect veterans and their families with unclaimed benefits and provide information about state veterans' issues. Visit us online at <http://www.facebook.com/floridaveterans>

# Vet Centers

*If you have served in a combat zone, Vet Centers are in your community to help you and your family with readjustment counseling and outreach services.*

Clearwater Vet Center  
29259 US Hwy 19 North  
Clearwater, FL 33761  
(727) 549-3600

Clermont Vet Center  
1655 East Highway 50  
Clermont, FL 34711  
(352) 536-6701

Daytona Beach Vet Center  
1620 Mason Ave., Suite C  
Daytona Beach, FL 32117  
(386) 366-6600

Fort Lauderdale Vet Center  
713 NE 3rd Ave.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304  
(954) 356-7926

Fort Myers Vet Center  
4110 Center Pointe Drive, Unit 204  
Fort Myers, FL 33916  
(239) 479-4401

Gainesville Vet Center  
105 NW 75th Street, Suite 2  
Gainesville, FL 32607  
(352) 331-1408

Palm Beach Vet Center  
4996 10th Ave North Suite 6  
Greenacres, FL 33463  
(561) 422-1201

Jacksonville Vet Center  
300 East State Street, Suite J  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 232-3621

Jupiter Vet Center  
6650 W. Indiantown Rd., Suite 120  
Jupiter, FL 33458  
(561) 422-1220

Key Largo Vet Center Outstation  
105662 Overseas Highway  
Key Largo, FL 33037  
(305) 451-0164

Lakeland Vet Center  
1370 Ariana Street  
Lakeland, FL 33803  
(863) 284-0841

Polk County Vet Center  
1370 Ariana St  
Lakeland, FL 33803  
(863) 284-0841

Melbourne Vet Center  
2098 Sarno Road  
Melbourne, FL 32935  
(321) 254-3410

Miami Vet Center  
8280 NW 27th Street, Suite 511  
Miami, FL 33122  
(305) 718-3712

Collier County (Naples) Vet Center  
2705 Horseshoe Dr. South, #204  
Naples, FL 34104  
(239) 403-2377

Pasco County Vet Center  
7347 Ridge Road  
New Port Richey, FL 34668  
(727) 697-5176

Orlando Vet Center  
5575 S. Semoran Blvd., #30  
Orlando, FL 32822  
(407) 857-2800

Bay County Vet Center  
3109 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 101  
Panama City, FL 32405  
(850) 522-6102

Pensacola Vet Center  
4504 Twin Oaks Drive  
Pensacola, FL 32506  
(850) 456-5886

Pompano Beach Vet Center  
2300 West Sample Road, Suite 102  
Pompano, FL 33073  
(954) 984-1669

Sarasota Vet Center  
4801 Swift Road, Suite A  
Sarasota, FL 34231  
(941) 927-8285

## Vet Centers

Okaloosa County Vet Center  
6 11th Avenue, Suite G-1  
Shalimar, FL 32579  
(850) 651-1000

St. Petersburg Vet Center  
6798 Crosswinds Drive North, Bldg. A  
St. Petersburg, FL 33710  
(727) 549-3633

Tallahassee Vet Center  
548 Bradford Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 942-8810

Tampa Vet Center  
3637 W. Waters Avenue, Suite 600  
Tampa, FL 33614  
(813) 228-2621

## VA Medical Centers

Bay Pines VA Medical Center  
10000 Bay Pines Blvd.  
Bay Pines, FL 33744  
(727) 398-6661  
(888) 820-0230

Malcom Randall VA Medical Center  
1601 SW Archer Road  
Gainesville, FL 32608  
(352) 376-1611  
(800) 324-8387

Lake City VA Medical Center  
619 South Marion Avenue  
Lake City, FL 32025  
(386) 755-3016  
(800) 308-8387

Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center  
1201 N.W. 16th St.  
Miami, FL 33125  
(305) 575-7000  
(888) 276-1785

James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital  
13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 972-2000  
(888) 811-0107

Orlando VA Medical Center  
5201 Raymond St.  
Orlando, FL 32803  
(407) 629-1599  
(800) 922-7521

*Note:* A new VA Medical Center is scheduled to open at Lake Nona near Orlando in late 2013. It will replace the facility on Raymond Street.

West Palm Beach VA Medical Center  
7305 North Military Trail  
West Palm Beach, FL 33410  
(561) 422-8262  
(800) 972-8262

## U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Florida

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs provides health care services through Veterans Integrated Service Networks. Florida is served by two networks: VISN 8 encompasses 60 counties in north, central and south Florida, while VISN 16 serves the remaining seven counties in northwest Florida.

The VA operates medical centers at Bay Pines, Miami, Tampa, West Palm Beach, Gainesville and Lake City. A new VA medical center in Orlando is scheduled to open in late 2013, replacing a smaller facility.

The VA also operates seven National Cemeteries in Florida, with plans to add cemeteries in Brevard and Leon Counties in the next few years. The St. Petersburg VA Regional Office at Bay Pines is responsible for delivering non-medical VA benefits and services to veterans and their families.

# Florida Veterans Foundation

The Florida Veterans Foundation is pleased to provide funding for the 2013 edition of the Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide. This publication is a valuable tool for Florida's 1.6 million veterans by providing information on how to obtain federal and state veterans' benefits.



The Florida Veterans Foundation was established by the Florida Legislature in 2008 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The foundation is a Direct Support Organization of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs that provides assistance, funding and support for FDVA in carrying out its mission. Tax deductible contributions help to fulfill our mission to provide much needed assistance to Florida's veterans and their families in times of financial need, as well as advancing initiatives that promote support of Florida's veteran population.

Please visit us online at [www.FloridaVeteransFoundation.org](http://www.FloridaVeteransFoundation.org) or call (850) 488-4181 or 4182 to learn more about the Foundation and how you can help those who sacrificed so much in the name of freedom and democracy.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Haynes".

John L. Haynes  
Major, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret)  
Chairman/CEO, Florida Veterans Foundation, Inc.



*I wish to support veterans with the following donation:*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone & E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Donors will receive a receipt for tax purposes.)*

**Mail Your Donation to:**

Florida Veterans Foundation, Inc.  
The Capitol, Room 2105-D  
400 South Monroe  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

# Benefits and Health Care Contacts

Reference	Phone	Website
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)	1-800-827-1000 TDD 1-800-829-4833	<a href="http://www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a> <a href="http://www.vba.va.gov">www.vba.va.gov</a>
Veterans Health Care Eligibility/Enrollment	1-877-222-8387	<a href="http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility">www.va.gov/healtheligibility</a>
St. Petersburg VA Regional Office, Bay Pines	1-800-827-1000	<a href="http://www.benefits.va.gov/stpetersburg">www.benefits.va.gov/stpetersburg</a>
Florida National Guard Transition Assistance	(904) 823-0319 (904) 827-8668	<a href="http://www.floridaguard.army.mil">www.floridaguard.army.mil</a>
Military Funeral Honors		<a href="http://www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil">www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil</a>
Barrancas National Cemetery, Pensacola	(850) 453-4108/4846	<a href="http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/barrancas.asp">http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/barrancas.asp</a>
Bay Pines National Cemetery	(727) 398-9426	<a href="http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/baypines.asp">http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/baypines.asp</a>
Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell	(352) 793-7740	<a href="http://www.cem.va.gov/CEMs/nchp/florida.asp">http://www.cem.va.gov/CEMs/nchp/florida.asp</a>
Jacksonville National Cemetery	(904) 766-5222	<a href="http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/jacksonville.asp">http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/jacksonville.asp</a>
Sarasota National Cemetery	(941) 922-7200	<a href="http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/sarasota.asp">http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/sarasota.asp</a>
South Florida National Cemetery, Lake Worth	(561) 649-6489	<a href="http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/southflorida.asp">http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/southflorida.asp</a>
St. Augustine National Cemetery	(352) 793-7740	<i>Closed to new interments</i>
Returning Veterans	1-800-827-1000	<a href="http://www.oefoif.va.gov">http://www.oefoif.va.gov</a>
TRICARE	1-800-444-5445	<a href="http://www.tricare.mil">www.tricare.mil</a>
Gulf War Veterans	1-800-749-8387	<a href="http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/">http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/</a>
Women Veterans	(850) 609-2740	<a href="http://www.va.gov/womenvet/">http://www.va.gov/womenvet/</a>
Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve	1-800-336-4590	<a href="http://www.esgr.mil">www.esgr.mil</a>
National VA Homeless Hotline	1-877-424-3838	<a href="http://www1.va.gov/homeless/">http://www1.va.gov/homeless/</a>
VA eBenefits Portal - Online Benefits-Related Tools and Information	1-800-827-1000 1-800-983-0937	<a href="https://www.ebenefits.va.gov">https://www.ebenefits.va.gov</a>
VA Home Loan Guaranty Services	(888) 244-6711	<a href="http://www.homeloans.va.gov">www.homeloans.va.gov</a>
National Veteran Crisis Hotline	1-800-273-8255, Dial 1 for veterans	<a href="http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov">www.mentalhealth.va.gov</a>
Florida Relay Service - <i>For those who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf/blind, or speech impaired</i>	Dial 7-1-1	<a href="http://www.ftri.org/floridarelay">http://www.ftri.org/floridarelay</a>

# Salute Florida's Veterans and Military

These are among the state's most affordable specialty tags. \$15 of the purchase price goes into a trust fund for the operation and maintenance of Florida's veterans' homes. Anyone can purchase these tags.

Visit <http://www.flhsmv.gov/specialtytags/pmlpfaq.html> or call (850) 617-2000 for more information.

To purchase a patriotic license tag, contact your county tax collector's office.

