

Toll Free Numbers for Contacting VA

Department Name(s)	Toll Free Number(s)
Benefits (VA):	
Burial	
Death Pension	
Dependency Indemnity Compensation	
Direct Deposit	
Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices	
Disability Compensation	
Disability Pension	
Education	
Home Loan Guaranty	
Medical Care	
Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment.....	1-800-827-1000
Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits.....	1-877-294-6380
CHAMPVA Meds by Mail	1-888-385-0235 (or)1-866-229-7389
Combat Call Center.....	1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387)
Debt Management Center (Collection of Non-Medical Debts)...	1-800-827-0648
Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV)	
Foreign Medical Program (FMP)	
Spina Bifida Health Care Program.....	1-877-345-8179 (or)1-888-820-1756
Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA)	
CHAMPVA In-House Treatment Initiative (CITI).....	1-800-733-8387
eBenefits Technical Support.....	1-800-983-0937
Education (GI Bill).....	1-888-442-4551
Health Care Benefits.....	1-877-222-8387
Life Insurance:	
Service members and/or Veterans Group Life Insurance Program.....	1-800-419-1473
All other VA Life Insurance Programs.....	1-800-669-8477
Mammography Helpline.....	1-888-492-7844
Smoking Cessation Counselors.....	1-855-QUIT-VET (1-855-784-8838)
Special Issues - Gulf War/Agent Orange/Project Shad/Mustard Agents and Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation.....	1-800-749-8387
Status of Headstones and Markers.....	1-800-697-6947
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD).....	Dial 711
Veterans Crisis Line.....	1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)
White House VA Hotline.....	1-855-948-2311
Women Veterans Hotline.....	1-855-VA-WOMEN (1-855-829-6636)



Military Trivia



1. In the military legal television series "JAG," lawyer Harmon "Harm" Rabb is a member of what service?
 - A) Army
 - B) Navy
 - C) Air force
 - D) Marines
2. What 1980's sitcom star played the role of Lt. Bob Anderson in the short-lived WWII flying drama Baa Baa Black-sheep?
 - A) Alan Thicke
 - B) John Goodman
 - C) Ted Danson
 - D) John Larroquette
3. The cast of the television series "Combat!", which ran from 1962-67, trained at what California army base to prepare for the show?
 - A) Fort Irwin
 - B) Fort Ord
 - C) Fort Buchanan
 - D) Fort Drum

Last Month's Trivia Answers:

1. Virginia
2. Arkansas
3. Ohio

Replacing Lost Military Medals and Decorations

The military recognizes that military medals are often a cherished part of family history and makes replacement medals, decorations, and awards available to veterans or their next of kin if the veteran is no longer living or able to make the request on his or her own behalf. Requests for replacement medals, decorations, and awards should be made to the veteran's respective branch of service, with the exception of Army and Air Force (including Army Air Corps) veterans; requests will be sent to the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis where the records will be reviewed and verified. The center will then forward the requests to the respective service where the medal, decoration, or award will be issued.

The military won't issue replacement medals or awards to just anyone. You typically need to be the veteran or next of kin (NOK) to receive a replacement medal or decoration. NOK differs between services.

For the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps & Coast Guard, the NOK is defined as: the un-remarried widow or widower, son, daughter, father, mother, brother or sister. For the Army, the NOK is defined as: the surviving spouse, eldest child, father or mother, eldest sibling or eldest grandchild.

Replacement medals, decorations and awards should be requested on SF 180, Request Pertaining To Military Records. This form can be downloaded from www.va.gov/vaforms. You can fill out the form online or print the application and fill it out and mail it in. Each request should be filled out neatly, and should include the veteran's branch of service, social security number, dates of service, and it should be signed by the veteran or the next of kin if the veteran is incapacitated or deceased. Supporting documentation such as discharge paperwork or the veterans DD 214 or other military records can help speed the process. In general, requests made by the veteran are fulfilled at no cost. This includes requests made by family members who have the signed authorization of the veteran. There may be an associated fee for requests made by next of kin, especially if the request involves archival records (records are considered archival records 62 years after the veteran's date of separation from military service). However, you would be able to purchase these from commercial sources. We have a non endorsed list of commercial vendors in the office. As always if you require assistance with any forms please contact the office. We can also assist you with your request for your archived military records.





Education Opportunities for Veterans & Service Members



Further your education and career in Ohio.

In an effort to help veterans, service members and their families achieve college degrees, the public colleges and universities of Ohio have taken proactive steps to better serve those who have served our country.

Ohio Values Veterans: A state initiative to **award credit toward college & professional licenses for military experience**

Education Opportunities for Veterans (PDF)

Veteran Services on Ohio Campuses

Financial Aid for Veterans

Transform Military Training, Experience, and Coursework into College Credit | Ohio Transfer to Degree Guarantee

Ohio Means Veteran Jobs

Ohio's Commitment

College credit for military training and experience

The public colleges and universities of Ohio are committed to the acceptance and awarding of college credit for military training, experience, and coursework. The Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education signed a directive providing a baseline set of standards and procedures for the application of military credit. Having one set of standards and procedures serves to provide uniformity and consistency to the process, makes it easier to communicate with and reach a wider audience, and highlights the priority the higher education community places on assisting veterans and active duty service members with their educational and career goals.

In-state tuition for qualified service members, veterans, spouses, and dependents

Upon moving to Ohio, active duty, guard, reserve service members, and their spouse/dependents are eligible for in-state residency for the purposes of tuition, state educational subsidies and financial aid if one of options is met.

GI Promise option

The service member or veteran served at least one year on active duty and was honorably discharged (or received a medical discharge related to military service). OR The service member or veteran was killed in action, declared missing in action, or served as a prisoner of war.

The service member or veteran must establish domicile in Ohio as of the first day of a term of enrollment in an institution of higher education. If the service member or veteran is deceased, missing in action, or a prisoner of war, the spouse or dependent must establish domicile in Ohio as of the first day of a term of enrollment in an institution of higher education.

“Domicile” can be documented with a copy of a lease for a rental property or closing statement for residential property verifying the parent or spouse has established residency at the location, or a letter from the owner of a property verifying the parent or spouse resides at that residence.

New option (702 Compliance)

The service member or veteran must be using VA education benefits under Chapter 30 or Chapter 33 (Post 9/11 GI Bill), served at least 90 days on active duty, is enrolled in a state institution of higher education, and lives in Ohio as of the first day of a term of enrollment in an institution of higher education. Once VA benefits expire, the service member or veteran must apply under the GI Promise option and if not eligible will revert to out of state tuition rates.

A spouse or dependent is eligible, only while using benefits, if they are the recipient of the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry scholarship or Chapter 33 transfer of entitlement if the person is enrolled in a state institution of higher education, lives in Ohio as of the first day of a term of enrollment in an institution of higher education, and the veteran's period of active duty was at least 90 days or the servicemember who transferred such benefits is on active duty. Once VA benefits expire, the spouse or dependent must apply under the GI Promise option and if not eligible will revert to out of state tuition rates.

Veterans Upward Bound

The Veterans Upward Bound program, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of postsecondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and complete postsecondary education programs.

Currently, Ohio is home to two Veteran Upward Bound Programs:

Cuyahoga Community College - Veterans Upward Bound Program

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College - Veterans Upward Bound Program

The Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Consortium

All 36 eligible Ohio public colleges and universities formerly participated in the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Consortium. This demonstrates their commitment to awarding college credit for education and training received during military service. The SOC Consortium was dissolved when the Department of Defense Memorandum of Understanding was created. The old guidelines for the SOC have been incorporated into the DoD MOU.

Scholarship opportunities for veterans and their families

The Ohio Department of Higher Education promotes scholarship opportunities such as the Ohio War Orphans Scholarship, Ohio Safety Officers Memorial Fund and Ohio National Guard Scholarship. It also helps connect students with financial aid resources through the Federal GI Bill or state-based initiatives like the Ohio College Opportunity Grant.

Contact a Campus Veterans Affairs office

Veterans Affairs offices supplement the recruitment and retention of veterans to the campuses across the state.

Contact Us

If you have any questions about the Ohio GI Promise, in which a veteran, service member or their dependents may qualify for in-state tuition, call (614) 466-6000.