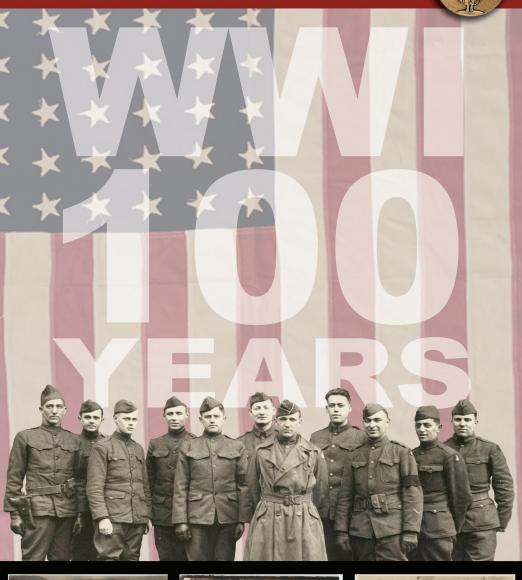


Missouri Benefits and Resource Guide FOR VETERANS & MILITARY

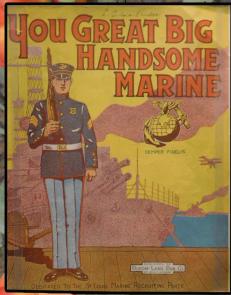












IN HONOR OF THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY
AND THOSE WHO FOUGHT
"THE GREAT WAR"
1914-1918







# Dear Veteran,

Missouri has a long and proud tradition of military service—and I want to thank you for doing your part. For generations, the men and women of this state have stepped forward to protect our country. You make Missouri proud, and I'm grateful for your service and sacrifice.

As your Governor and a fellow veteran, it's important to me that you and your family receive the benefits and services you've earned. Included with this note is the Missouri Benefits and Resource Guide. It will help you and your family learn about and access all of the veterans services and programs provided by the State of Missouri.

This year's guide commemorates the 100-year anniversary of the United States' entry into World War I. It is dedicated to those who fought and died during this first-ever global conflict a century ago. We remember and thank them for what they gave, just as we thank you for what you've given.

I'm humbled to be your Governor, and I thank you for all that you have done and continue to do to serve your state and country.

Yours in service, Eric Greitens



Dear Veteran,

It's been one hundred years since the World War I, the "Great War," and we dedicate this guide in memory of those who served, fought, and died in the first conflict that truly changed the world.

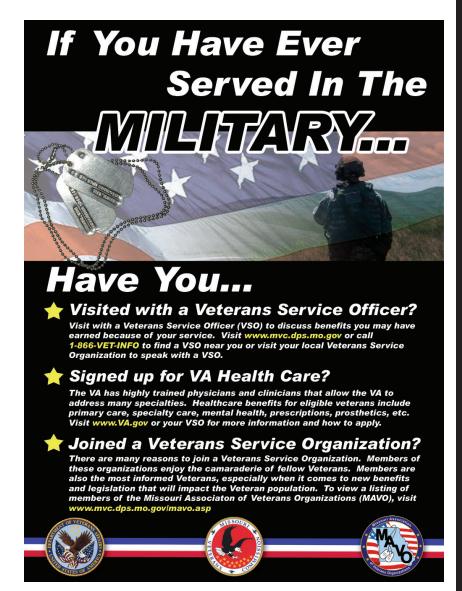
The Missouri Veterans Commission owes its existence to World War I. State Representative and WWI Veteran Roy Beaman introduced legislation in 1931 to create the first Missouri Veterans Service Officer position, dedicated to helping Veterans access their state and federal benefits. For the first time, our Cemeteries, Homes, and Veterans Service Programs were serving Missouri's Veterans.

The imprint of World War I is still evident in our great state. The National World War I Museum in Kansas City, the University of Missouri's Memorial Tower, the American Legion Founding Memorial in St. Louis, and countless other memorials, plaques and statues continue to recognize the sacrifices of Missourians who serve 100 years ago.

Take some time to read this guide, contact a Veterans Service Officer, sign up for VA healthcare, and join a Veterans Service Organization. Like those Missourians who served in World War I, you earned these benefits.

Larry D. Kay Executive Director Missouri Veterans Commission This booklet is designed to bring together all benefits available by the State of Missouri as well as briefly cover related services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

This benefits guide is a constant work in progress as new benefits become available to Veterans and their dependents. The most current version can be found online at www.mvc.dps.mo.gov. Look under "Popular Links" on the right of the website.



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The Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC) is a state agency established by Missouri Statute to aid all Veterans, their dependents, and legal representatives by providing information regarding the rights of Veterans and their dependents and to assist Veterans accessing their available benefits through State and Federal Government.

#### **Our Mission**

The Missouri Veterans Commission will provide our Veterans with timely benefits assistance, skilled nursing care and a final resting place with honor.

## Our History

Missouri has a long tradition of honoring and serving its Veterans. This tradition started in 1897, when the State took over operations of the Federal Soldiers Home in St. James and the Confederate Soldiers Home in Higginsville. These homes were initially managed by the Board of Eleemosynary Institutions, and later by the Department of Health and Welfare until 1950 when the Confederate Home closed, and 1974 when the Federal Home in St. James was transferred to the Division of Veterans Affairs.

The Missouri Veterans Commission has its roots in the passage of House Bill 493 which in 1931 established the first State Service Officer, Over the years, this office has expanded and changed from one Service Officer, to the Division of Veterans Affairs after World War II, to its replacement by the 1989 creation and establishment of the Missouri Veterans Commission.

Today, the Missouri Veterans Commission manages seven long term skilled nursing homes, six state Veterans cemeteries, provides benefits assistance through its Service Officers, assists Veterans through an Ombudsman program and has initiatives for Veterans Outreach, Minority Veterans, Women Veterans, and Incarcerated Veterans.

Veterans Service Officers (VSO) are located throughout the state and can assist you if you are a Veteran, widow/widower of a Veteran, child of a deceased or disabled Veteran, or a parent who has lost a son or daughter in military service.

Service officers provide counseling and assistance when you have questions about compensation, pensions, education benefits, life insurance, medical benefits, state benefits, and burial benefits.

These trained professionals will also assist with completing and submitting claims applications to make sure all necessary documentation is attached.

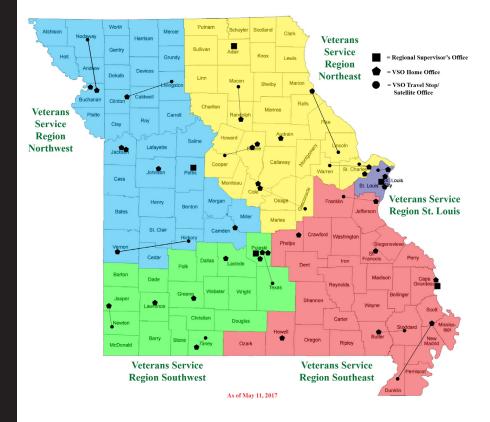
A VSO will maintain your casefile and is always available to provide information, referrals, and advocate on your behalf.

Missouri Veterans Commission service officer locations can be found on the following pages as well as online at http://www.mvc.dps.mo.gov/service/serviceofficer. If you do not have access to the internet, you may call 573-751-3779 or toll free 1-866-838-4636 and a Missouri Veterans Commission employee will assist you in finding your local Veterans Service Officer.

Many Veterans Service Organizations have service officers available. Check with your local posts or contact the service organizations listed on page 17-18 to find the nearest service officer.



Picture by Daniel Bell, Missouri Veterans Commission



The Missouri Veterans Commission Veterans Service Program is divided into five state regions. Each region has a supervisor who reports to the program director. Under each supervisor are that region's Veterans Service Officers. Inside each region, service officers have a coverage area, usually defined by county, with a home office and possibly one or more outreach locations.

# MVC Regional Supervisor Offices

# **Northeast**

Courthouse 106 West Washington, 1st Floor Kirksville, MO 63501 660-785-2460

# Southeast

2400 Veterans Memorial Drive Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 573-290-5752

#### Northwest

816 Westwood Sedalia, MO 65301 660-530-5544

## Southwest

St Robert Municipal Center 194 Eastlawn Ave, Suite E St Robert, MO 65584 573-451-2533

# St. Louis

Prevedel Federal Building 9700 Page Ave., Room #R1-109 St. Louis, MO 63132 314-253-4450

# MVC Northeast Region County Coverage

Call for hours and alternate locations

Adair, Knox, Putnam, Schuyler, Scotland, Sullivan

Courthouse 106 West Washington, 1st Floor Kirksville, MO 63501 660-785-2460

# Audrain, Montgomery

Missouri Veterans Home #1 Veterans Drive Mexico, MO 65265 573-581-1088 ext. 1258

Cole, Gasconade Maries, Moniteau, Osage

205 Jefferson Street,12th Floor Jefferson City, MO 65102 573-751-3779

# St. Charles, Warren

St. Charles County Admin Bldg. 201 N. Second St., Ste. 323 St. Charles, MO 63301 636-949-7900 ext. 7210 or 7213 Boone, Callaway, Cooper, Howard

601 Business Loop 70 W, Suite 214A Columbia, MO 65203 573-882-5135

Chariton, Linn, Macon, <u>Monroe, Randolph</u>

3029 County Road 1325 Moberly, MO 65270 660-263-4960

Clark, Lewis, Lincoln, Marion, <u>Pike, Ralls, Shelby</u>

203 North 6th St. Hannibal, MO 63401 573-248-2550

# MVC Northwest Region County Coverage

Call for hours and alternate locations

Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Clay, Gentry, Holt, Nodaway, Platte, Worth

Missouri State Office Building 525 Jules, Room 320 St. Joseph, MO 64501 816-387-2841

## Cass, Jackson

3675 S. Nolan Road, Ste. 306 Independence, MO 64055 816-325-5882

# Henry, Johnson, Lafayette, Ray

Missouri Veterans Home 1300 Veterans Road Warrensburg, MO 64093 660-543-7930

Bates, Cedar, Hickory, St. Clair, Vernon 621 E. Highland Ave, Suite #4 Nevada, MO 64772

417-448-1133

Caldwell, Carroll, Clinton, Daviess, Dekalb, Grundy, <u>Harrison, Livingston, Mercer</u>

Missouri Veterans Home 1111 Euclid Cameron, MO 64429 816-632-6010 ext. 236

# Benton, Pettis, Saline

816 Westwood Sedalia, MO 65301 660-530-5544

# Camden, Miller, Morgan

City Hall Basement 1000 City Parkway Osage Beach, MO 65065 573-348-2641

# **MVC Southeast Region County Coverage**

Call for hours and alternate locations

Dunklin, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Scott, Stoddard

106 Arthur Drive Sikeston, MO 63801 573-472-5350

# Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Shannon

3417 Division Drive, Ste. 5 West Plains, MO 65775 417-256-3452

Bollinger,
<u>Cape Girardeau</u>, Perry,

Missouri Veterans Home 2400 Veterans Memorial Drive Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 573-290-5752

# Jefferson, Franklin

Cross Creek Office Center 3675 West Outer Road, Suite 205B Arnold, MO 63010 636-287-1721

# Crawford, Dent, Phelps

Missouri Veterans Home 620 N. Jefferson St. James, MO 65559 573-265-3271 ext. 245 or 276

# Butler, Carter, Ripley, Wayne

218 B North Broadway Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 573-840-9770

Iron, Madison, Reynolds, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Washington

901 Progress Drive, Suite #102 Farmington, MO 63640 573-218-6130

# MVC St. Louis Region County Coverage

Call for hours and alternate locations

# St. Louis County

Missouri Veterans Home 10600 Lewis and Clark Blvd St. Louis, MO 63136 314-340-6389 Ext 242 or 428

# City of St. Louis

Prevedel Federal Building 9700 Page Ave., Room #R1-109 St. Louis, MO 63132 314-253-4450

# **MVC Southwest Region County Coverage**

Call for hours and alternate locations

Barton, Jasper, McDonald, Newton

730 S. Wall Ave. Joplin, MO 64801 417-629-3538

Barry, Dade, Lawrence

Missouri Veterans Home 1600 South Hickory Mt Vernon, MO 65712 417-466-7103

Douglas, Stone, Taney

3044 Shepard of the Hills Expressway, Ste. 106 Branson, MO 65616 417-320-6150 Christian, Greene, Polk, Webster

1410 S. Kansas Expswy Rm. 115 Springfield, MO 65807 417-895-6532

Dallas, Laclede, Wright

Missouri Career Center 2639 S. Jefferson #2 Lebanon, MO 65536 417-532-6754

Pulaski, Texas

St. Robert Municipal Center 194 Eastlawn Ave., Suite E St. Robert, MO 65584 573-451-2533

# Veteran Service Organization Service Officer Locations

Many Veterans Service Organizations have service officers available to assist Veterans in applying for benefits. Contact local veterans service organizations for more information on the availability of their service officers. Veterans Service Organizations also maintain a presence at the VA hospitals and other locations in Missouri. Listed below are those locations and the organizations at that address.

# Columbia, MO

VA Medical Center 800 Hospital Drive Columbia, MO 65201 Phone: (573) 814-6000







## Kansas City, MO

VA Medical Center 4801 Linwood Blvd. Kansas City, MO 64128 Phone: (816) 861-4700







# Kansas City, MO

3027 Walnut Kansas City, MO 64108 Phone: (816) 561-8387



# Mt. Vernon, MO

VA Outpatient Clinic 600 N Main Mount Vernon, MO 65712 Phone: (417) 466-4000







# Poplar Bluff, MO

VA Medical Center 1500 N. Westwood Blvd Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 Phone: (573) 686-4151







# Springfield, MO

1708 E. St. Louis Street Springfield, MO 665802 Phone: (417) 831-2463



# Springfield, MO

940 Boonville, Room 023 Springfield, MO 65802 Phone: (417) 868-4000



# St. Louis, MO - Jefferson Barracks

VA Medical Center 1 Jefferson Barracks Dr. St. Louis, MO 63125 Phone: 314-652-4100









## St. Louis, MO - John Cochran

VA Medical Center 915 North Grand Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63106 Phone: 314-652-4100



# St. Louis, MO - VA Regional Office

400 South, 18th Street St. Louis, MO 63103 Phone: 800-827-1000















Photo courtesy St. Louis GSA/VARO

St. Louis VA Regional Office Prevedel Federal Building 9700 Page Ave. St. Louis, MO 63132 800-827-1000

In partnership with the Veterans Health Administration and the National Cemetery Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) provides benefits and services to the Veterans and their families in a responsive, timely, and compassionate manner in recognition of their service to the nation.

The St. Louis VA Regional Office (VARO) provides the full range of benefits and services to approximately 476,088 Veterans and dependents residing in the State of Missouri.

As one of four Regional Processing Offices (RPO), the Education Division administers all education benefits to Veterans, servicepersons and dependents residing in 16 states.

#### **Education Benefits**

For information on federal education benefits, contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at www.gibill.va.gov or call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551). You can also check page 41 for more education benefits.

# Returning Service Members (OEF/OIF/OND) http://www.oefoif.va.gov/

Have you recently returned from military service? If you've served, you've earned benefits. Now is the time to take advantage of the benefits VA offers OEF/OIF Veterans.

# Do You Want to Go Back to School?

VA pays benefits to eligible Veterans, reservists and active duty service members while they are in an approved education or training program.

# Are You Looking for a Good Job?

Take advantage of the variety of resources that can help you land one.

# 5 Years of Cost Free Health Care

OEF/OIF combat Veterans can receive cost free medical care for any condition related to their service in the Iraq/Afghanistan theater for five years after the date of their discharge or release.

# 180 day dental benefit

OEF/OIF combat Veterans may be eligible for one-time dental care — but you must apply with 180 days of your separation date from active duty.

# Find Family Support at Vet Centers

If you have served in ANY combat zone, local Vet Centers can help you and your family with readjustment counseling and outreach services — for free.

# VA Home Loan Guaranty Program

The VA Loan Guaranty Service within the Veterans Benefits Administration is charged with the responsibility of administering the home loan program. Our mission is to help veterans and active duty personnel purchase and retain homes in recognition of their service to the Nation. All veterans and other participants in the program will be treated in a courteous, responsive, and timely manner. The VA Regional Loan Center that covers Missouri is located in St. Paul, Minnesota

VA Regional Loan Center 1 Federal Drive, Ft. Snelling St. Paul, MN 55111-4050 1-800-827-0611

http://www.benefits.va.gov/stpaul/regional-loan-center.asp

VA provides a Medical Benefits Package to all enrolled Veterans. This comprehensive plan provides a full range of preventive outpatient and inpatient services within VA health care system. Also, once you enroll in the VA's health care system, you can be seen at any VA facility across the country.

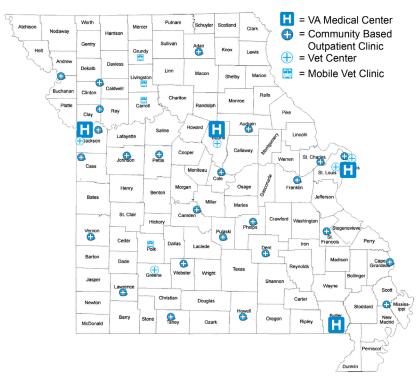
VA operates an annual enrollment system that helps to manage the provision of health care by providing an overall population of beneficiaries. Additionally, the enrollment system ensures that Veterans who are eligible can get care and ensures that care is given to Veterans who are eligible. VA applies a variety of factors in determining Veterans' eligibility for enrollment, but once a Veteran is enrolled, that Veteran remains enrolled in the VA health care system.

There are many ways that a Veteran may qualify to receive top-notch VA health care at over 1,400 medical centers and clinics across the nation. The VA has highly trained physicians and clinicians that allow the VA to address many specialties. You may also be able to receive assistance with prescription medication. VA health care is portable. Once enrolled, you may receive care at your home facility as well as the nearest VA facility while traveling.



Photos courtesy Truman VA Medical Center





# Missouri & Other VA Medical Centers

# Columbia

Harry S Truman Memorial 800 Hospital Drive Columbia, MO 65201-5297 573-814-6000

## Kansas City

Kansas City VA Medical Center 4801 Linwood Boulevard Kansas City, MO 64128 816-861-4700

#### Poplar Bluff

John J. Pershing Medical Center 1500 N. Westwood Blvd. Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 573-686-4151

# St. Louis

John Cochran Division 915 North Grand Blvd. Saint Louis, MO 63106 314-652-4100 St. Louis
Jefferson Barracks Division
1 Jefferson Barracks Drive
Saint Louis, MO 63125
314-652-4100

Fayetteville, AR

Veterans HCS of the Ozarks 1100 North College Avenue Fayetteville, AR 72703 479-443-4301

#### Leavenworth, KS

Eisenhower VA Medical Center 4101 4th Street Trafficway Leavenworth, KS 66048 913-682-2000

# eterans Administration Health Care 1-877-222-8387 www.va.gov/health

# **VA Mobile Medical Clinic**

To schedule an appointment with the MMC, please call 816-861-4700 x52977 Or 1-800-525-1483 x52977

Bolivar, MO Howard S. Keeling Amer. Leg. Post 1424 W Broadway 4th Thursday of every month Chillicothe, MO
Livingston County Courthouse
700 Webster Street
1st & 3rd Monday of every month

Carrolton, MO
Community Center/Fire Dept.
710 Harvest Hills Drive
2nd Thursday of every month

Trenton, MO Wright Memorial Hospital 189 Iowa Blvd Every Tuesday

Osceola, MO
Osceola Senior Center
5215 Business Hwy 13
3rd Wednesday of every month

# Missouri VA Vet Centers

Vet Centers are run by the VA, but separate from the medical centers. Vet Centers guide Veterans and their families through some of the major adjustments in lifestyle that can occur after combat and are designed to help all Veterans.

Vet Center services include individual and group counseling in areas such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), alcohol and drug assessment, suicide prevention referrals, bereavement counseling, VA benefits assistance, employment counseling, community resources and educational opportunities.

National Contact Information www.vetcenter.va.gov

Phone: 1-877-927-8387

Springfield Vet Center 3616 S. Campbell Springfield, MO 65807 417-881-4197

Columbia Vet Center 4040 Rangeline Road,Suite 105 Columbia, MO 65202 Phone: 573-814-6206 St. Louis Vet Center 2901 Olive St. Louis, MO 63103 314-531-5355

Kansas City Vet Center 4800 Main Street, Suite 107 Kansas City, MO 64112 Phone: 816-753-1866 St. Louis Vet Center 2122 Kratky Rd., Ste. 130 St. Louis, MO 63114 314-426-5460

# Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC)

CBOCs are VA operated medical facilities throughout the state that offer primary care services to eligible Veterans. A CBOC provides services that may include, but are not limited to: routine physical examinations, immunizations, prescription of medications, on-site laboratory and x-ray services, women's care, referral to specialists and/or the local VA hospital as appropriate, mental health, counseling, and group therapy.

Belton Kansas City 209 Cunningham Industrial Pkwy 4251 Northern Ave. Belton, MO 64012 Kansas City, MO 64133 816-861-4700 816-922-2161

Kirksville

660-627-8387

417-468-1963

Marshfield

Branson 1510 North Crown Drive 5571 Gretna Rd Branson, MO 65616 Kirksville, MO 63501 417-243-2300

Cameron 1111 Euclid Dr 1240 Banning Street Cameron, MO 64429 Marshfield, MO 65706 816-632-1369

Mexico Cape Girardeau 3460 S. Clark Street 3051 Williams St. Mexico, MO 65265 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 573-581-9630 573-339-0909

Mt. Vernon **Excelsior Springs** 600 N Main 197 McCleary Rd Excelsior Springs, MO 64024 Mt Vernon, MO 65712 417-466-4000 816-922-2970

**Farmington** Nevada 1580 W. Columbia St 322 South Prewitt Farmington, MO 63640 Nevada, MO 64772 573-760-1365 417-448-8905

Lake of the Ozarks/Osage Beach <u>Jefferson City</u> 2707 W Edgewood 940 Executive Drive Jefferson City, MO 65109 Osage Beach, MO 65065 573-635-0233 573-302-7890

Platte City 2303 Higgins, Ste. F Platte City, MO 64079 800-952-8387 xt. 59141

<u>Salem</u>

Hwy 72 North Salem, MO 65560 573-729-6626

<u>Sedalia</u>

3320 West 10th Street Sedalia, MO 65301 660-826-3800

<u>Sikeston</u>

903 South Kingshighway Sikeston, MO 63801 573-472-2139

St. Charles County 844 Waterbury Falls Dr. O'Fallon, MO 63368 314-286-6988

St. James

207 Matlock Drive St. James, MO 65559 573-265-0448

St. Joseph

3302 S. Belt Highway, Suite P St. Joseph, MO 64506 800-952-8387 ext. 56925

St. Louis North County 6854 Parker Road Florissant, MO 63033 314-286-6988

St. Louis Primary Care Team 1 4974 Manchester Avenue St. Louis, MO 63110 314-289-6566 St. Louis Primary Care Team 2 2727 Washington Avenue St. Louis, MO 63103 314-289-7659

> Warrensburg 702 E. Young Street Warrensburg, MO 64093 816-922-2500, ext. 54281

<u>Washington</u> 1627 A Roy Drive Washington, MO 63090 800-228-5459 xt. 57950

Fort Leonard Wood/Waynesville 700 GW Lane Waynesville, MO 65583 573-774-2285

> West Plains 1801 E. State Route K West Plains, MO 65775 417-257-2454

<u>Paragould, AR</u> 2420 Linwood Dr. Suite 3 Paragould , AR 72450 870-236-9756

> Quincy, IL 721 Broadway Street Quincy, Illinois 62301 217-224-3366

<u>Dyersburg, TN</u> 433 East Parkview Street Dyersburg, TN 38024 731-287-7289

# **DAV Transportation Network**

Because so many sick and disabled Veterans lack transportation to and from VA medical facilities for needed treatment, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) operates a nationwide Transportation Network to meet this need.

Through the Transportation Network, DAV volunteers drive sick and disabled Veterans to and from VA medical facilities for treatment.

Since the DAV Transportation Network is staffed by volunteers, it is unable to cover every community. Please use the following contacts at Missouri's VA medical centers to see if transportation is available in your area.

Michael T. Elmore

Program Coordinator 413 W. Hickory Kirksville, MO 63501 Phone: 660-627-0328

Phone: 573-814-6002

Harry S Truman Medical Center 800 Hospital Drive Room 540 Columbia, MO 65201

Kansas City VA Medical Center 4801 Linwood Blvd., Room M1-569 Kansas City, MO 64128 Phone: 816-922-2884

Gene Taylor VA Outpatient Center 600 N. Main, Rm. 242 Mt. Vernon, MO 65712 Phone: 417-466-0179 John J. Pershing Medical Center 1500 N. Westwood Blvd. Building 6, Room 1003 Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 Phone: 573-778-4616

John Cochran Medical Center 915 N. Grand Blvd. Room A-301 St. Louis, MO 63106 Phone: 314-289-6443

Jefferson Barracks Medical Center 1 Jefferson Barracks Drive Building 1, Room C 110 St. Louis, MO 63125 Phone: 314-416-6984



Picture courtesy Michael Elmore, Missouri DAV

Veterans Service Organizations provide Veterans with benefits and services, camaraderie with fellow Veterans, and opportunities to serve their communities. Many benefits enjoyed by Veterans are a result of the political activity of Veteran Service Organizations. By becoming a member of a service organization, especially if you are willing to be active and speak up on Veterans' issues, you help ensure Veterans are a priority for our elected representatives.



# Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO)

The Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO), is composed of federally chartered Veterans Organizations. MAVO brings together the common interests and concerns of the many organizations to speak with one voice on issues that impact their fellow Veterans. MAVO is an independent organization that works closely with the Missouri Veterans Commission.

If your organization is a federally chartered Veterans Organization and wish to be a member of MAVO, please contact the Missouri Veterans Commission who will get you in contact with MAVO leadership.

Current Active and Inactive members of MAVO include:



# Air Force Association

http://www.afa.org/membership@afa.org 1-800-727-3337



# Air Force Sergeants Association

http://www.hqafsa.org 1-800-638-0594



# American Ex-Prisoner Of War Association

http://www.axpow.org/ hq@axpow.org 1-817-649-2979



# American Veterans (AMVETS)

http://www.amvets.org/ amvets@amvets.org 1-877-726-8387



# Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

http://www.dav.org/dav\_moe@msn.com 1-660-627-0328



## Fleet Reserve Association

http://www.fra.org/ news-fra@fra.org 1-800-372-1924



# 40 & 8

http://www.fortyandeight.org/ tbennett@fortyandeight.org 1-317-634-1804



# Jewish War Veterans of the USA

http://www.jwv.org/ jwv@jwv.org 1-202-265-6280



# **Korean War Veterans Association**

http://www.kwva.org/ Membership@kwva.org 1-217-345-4414



# Marine Corps League

http://www.mclnational.org/ http://www.momcl.org/ JFoster@mcleague.org 1-703-207-9588



# Military Order of the Purple Heart

http://www.purpleheart.org/ Membership@purpleheart.org 1-703-642-5360



# Military Officers Association of America

http://www.moaa.org/msc@moaa.org 1-800-234-6622



# Military Order of the World Wars

http://www.moww.org/membership@moww.org 1-703-683-4911



# National Association of Atomic Veterans

http://www.naav.com/ tombair@hotmail.com 1-417-627-9577



# National Association of Black Veterans

http://www.nabvets.org/info@nabvets.com 1-877-622-8387



# 101st Airborne Division Association

http://www.screamingeagle.org semag101st@comcast.net 1-931-431-0199



# Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)

http://www.gatewaypva.org info@gatewaypva.org 1-800-426-4058



# **Special Forces Association**

http://www.specialforcesassociation.org/ secretary@specialforcesassociation.org 1-910-485-5433



# The American Legion

http://www.missourilegion.org membership@missourilegion.org 1-800-846-9023 ext. 226



# The American Legion Auxiliary

http://www.deptmoala.org dptmoala@embarqmail.com 573-636-9133



# St. Louis Service Women's Post 404 (Am. Leg)

http://www.stlouiswomenvets.org/ darlenecoats@sbcglobal.net 1-314-477-6841



# The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA)

http://www.trea.org treahq@trea.org 1-800-338-9337



# United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

https://www.ussvi.org/home.asp office@ussvi.org 1-877-542-DIVE



# Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

http://vfwmo.org/ stateheadquarters@mo.vfwwebmail.com 1-888-276-8609



# Ladies Auxiliary Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

http://movfwaux.org/ bryantbl@centurytel.net 1-636-338-4857



# Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

http://www.vva.org/ membership@vva.org 1-800-882-1316



# Women's Army Corps Veterans Association

http://www.armywomen.org/info@armywomen.org 1-256-820-6824



#### Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries

The Missouri Veterans Commission created a network of Veterans cemeteries so that every Missouri Veteran will have reasonable access to a Veterans cemetery. Five cemeteries are in operation at this time; Springfield, Higginsville, Bloomfield, Jacksonville and Fort Leonard Wood. A sixth Veterans cemetery is located at the St. James Veterans Home, but is not open for interment.

There is no charge for any of the services provided. These services include opening and closing of the grave, provision of a concrete grave liner, upright granite headstones, full military honors for the Veteran, and perpetual care. Those who choose cremation have the choice of in-ground burial or placement within a columbarium niche. Pre-registration for future planning purposes is also available for Veterans and their eligible family members.

Veterans, spouses, and dependent children may be eligible for burial and cemetery benefits by the State of Missouri and the Federal Government.

Families should make these VA and State burial benefits arrangements through their funeral provider as neither the VA nor the State of Missouri make funeral arrangements or perform cremations.

Any item or service not listed in the following sections obtained from a funeral home will be at the families expense. Please contact a State or National Veterans Cemetery for a full listing of state and federal burial benefits that are provided at no cost.

# Eligibility

To be eligible for burial in a National or State Veterans Cemetery, the Veteran must have been:

- Discharged from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Have completed the required period of service as required by law.
- Members of the Reserve or National Guard also qualify for interment if they are eligible for retirement pay as a result of 20 years creditable service.
- There is no residency requirement for interment in a Missouri Veterans Cemetery.
- U.S. Citizens who served in the armed forces of a government allied with the United States during wartime may also be eligible.
- Other criteria may apply. For more information on eligibility go to http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/burial\_benefits/eligible.asp

# Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries

**Bloomfield** 17357 Stars & Stripes Way Bloomfield, MO 63825 573-568-3871

Fort Leonard Wood 25350 Highway H Waynesville, MO 65583 Phone: 573-774-3496

**Higginsville** 20109 Business Highway 13 Higginsville, MO 64037 660-584-5252

<u>Jacksonville</u> 1479 County Road 1675 Jacksonville, MO 65260 660-295-4237

(closed to interment) St. James 620 N. Jefferson St. James, MO 65559 573-265-3271

Springfield 5201 South Southwood Road Springfield, MO 65804 417-823-3944



# National Cemeteries in Missouri

<u>Jefferson Barracks</u> 2900 Sheridan Road St. Louis, MO 63125 314-845-8320

Jefferson City 1024 East McCarty Street Jefferson City, MO 65101 314-845-8320 (closed to new interments) **Springfield** 1702 East Seminole Street Springfield, MO 65804 417-881-9499 (call for interment availability)

# **Federal Burial Benefits**

# Burial in a National or Missouri State Veterans Cemetery

Burial benefits available include a gravesite in national or state cemeteries with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a Government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate, at no cost to the family. Cremated remains are buried or inurned in national and state cemeteries in the same manner and with the same honors as casketed remains.

Burial benefits available for spouses and dependents buried in a national or state cemetery include burial with the Veteran, perpetual care, and the spouse or dependents name and date of birth and death will be inscribed on the Veteran's headstone, at no cost to the family. Eligible spouses and dependents may be buried, even if they predecease the Veteran.

# **Burial in a Private Cemetery**

Burial benefits available for Veterans buried in a private cemetery include a Government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate, at no cost to the family. Some Veterans may also be eligible for Burial Allowances. There are no federal benefits available to spouses and dependents buried in a private cemetery.

#### **Burial Allowance**

In certain circumstances, a Burial Allowance is available from the Veterans Benefits Administration. VA burial allowances are partial reimbursements of an eligible Veteran's burial and funeral costs. Please contact your funeral service provider or a Veterans Service Officer for more information.

# **Military Funeral Honors**

Office of the Adjutant General Attn: Military Funeral Honors 2302 Militia Dr. Jefferson City, MO 65101-1203 1-877-221-6361 http://www.moguard.com/Assets/Pages/37/Funeral-Honors.aspx

# What are Military Funeral Honors?

The ceremonial paying of respect and the final demonstration of the country's gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended our Nation. The military funeral honors ceremony consists of, at a minimum, the folding and presentation of the American flag and the sounding of Taps by a detail of two uniformed members of the Military Services. Missouri Veterans normally receive a Three-Volley Rifle Salute, sounding of Taps, Flag Folding and Presentation. Active duty members and military retirees are entitled to additional honors.

# Who can receive Military Funeral Honors?

Deceased Active Duty, Guard and Reserve Members, Military Retirees, and Veterans who served at least one term of enlistment and separated under honorable conditions are eligible for Military Funeral Honors.

Military Funeral Honors will be denied to any person discharged under other than honorable conditions, convicted of a state or federal capital crime, or when circumstances surrounding the person's death are such that to provide honors at the funeral or burial of the person would bring discredit upon the military services.

# How do I request Military Funeral Honors and how much will it cost?

Request Military Funeral Honors through your Funeral Director. Military Funeral Honors are provided at no cost to you or the Funeral Home.

#### How do I get a flag for the casket and how much will it cost?

Request a flag through your Funeral Director. Flags are provided at no cost to you or the Funeral Home.

#### What if we do not want Taps?

The family decides whether or not Taps is provided.

#### Who provides Military Funeral Honors?

The family determines who presents the flag and can choose between Uniformed Service Members or a Veterans Service Organization. The Military Funeral Honors Program or Active Component determines who will provide the rest of the team based on availability of teams. Honors may be provided by any combination of Missouri Army and Air National Guard members, Active Duty Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard, Retired Military Members, or Veterans Service Organizations.





Picture by Tammy Smith, Missouri Veterans Cemetery-Bloomfield

## Flying Flags at Half-Staff

The United States flag and the Missouri state flag are flown at half-staff on the day of interment ceremonies for Veterans held in a Missouri State Veterans Cemetery and National Cemeteries.

#### **Senior Executive Services Members**

Individuals holding or having held an office listed in 5 USC 5312 or 5313 (Levels I and II of the Executive Schedule) may qualify for interment in Arlington National Cemetery with approval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Burial will be conducted in the same manner as a dependent burial. No military honors will be rendered but pall bearers and a chaplain will be provided. If burial will be in a private cemetery, no marker, flag, or military funeral honors will be authorized.

Burial in a State Veterans Cemetery will not be allowed unless approved by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. (NCA Directive 3210, Section III d) (Authority 38 USC 2402(6)) If approved, no military funeral honors will be provided.

## **Child Custody & Visitation**

If a deploying military parent is to be separated from a child, a court shall not enter a final order modifying the terms of custody or visitation until 90 days after the deployment ends unless there is a written agreement by both parties. Deployment or future deployment shall not be the sole factor to support a permanent modification of the custody or visitation terms established in an existing order.

A custody or visitation order may be temporarily modified to make reasonable accommodation due to the deployment, including visitation during deployment and when there is leave time for the deploying parent and shall automatically end no later than 30 days after the return of the deploying parent and the original order at the time of deployment is automatically reinstated.

The non-deploying parent must provide written notice to the court and to the deploying parent any change of address and contact information within seven days, except in instances where there is a valid order of protection in effect requiring the confidentiality of the non-deploying parent's contact information. In such instances the information shall only be given to the court.

The court may conduct an expedited or emergency hearing within 10 days of the filing of a motion regarding custody or visitation upon return of the deploying parent alleging an immediate danger or irreparable harm to the child. The non-deploying parent shall bear the burden of showing that reentry of the custody or visitation order in effect before the deployment is no longer in the child's best interests.

A deploying parent or a family member of a deploying parent with his or her consent may delegate the visitation rights to a family member with a close and substantial relationship to the minor child or children for the duration of the deployment if it is in the best interest of the child.

A deploying parent is required to provide a copy of his or her orders to the non-deploying parent promptly and without delay prior to the deployment.

A court cannot count any time periods during which the deploying parent did not exercise visitation due to military duties when determining whether a parent failed to exercise such rights. Also, any absence of a child from the state during a deployment after an order for custody has been entered must be denominated as a temporary absence for the purposes of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

Missouri Statute 452.413

## **Child Support**

Should you have questions on the following, please contact the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) office to which your case is assigned, or the CSE Customer Relations Unit at 1-800-859-7999.

#### **Review and Modification**

If you experience a change in your income as a result of being called to active duty, you may request that CSE modify your child support.

A custodial parent or noncustodial parent who has been called to active duty for a period of more than 30 days may request a review and modification due to an income change. The income change is considered a substantial change in circumstances for purposes of review and modification. That means CSE will complete a review of the order regardless of the age of the order and complete a modification regardless of whether the new amount differs by 20 percent from the existing obligation.

If you request a review of your order and a modification, please include a copy of your latest leave and earning statement, and a copy of your orders to appear for active duty.

Send your written request and documentation to the CSE office that handles your case.

#### **Income Withholding**

If you have experienced a change in your income and have an obligation to repay past-due support, you may request that CSE adjust your past-due payment amount.

To request a change in your periodic past-due payment amount, send a written request, along with your latest leave and earning statement and orders to appear for active duty to the CSE office that handles your case. If appropriate, we will revise the amount being withheld to repay past-due support.

#### Children's Health Care Coverage

If you are ordered to provide health care coverage for your child(ren) and have not done so, CSE will ask the military to enroll the child(ren) in the appropriate health care plan.

#### **Federal Education Benefits**

For more information on any of the following federal education benefits, contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at www.gibill.va.gov or call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551). You can also check with the Financial Aid Office at your school or a Veterans Service Officer.

#### The Montgomery GI Bill

The Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) is available for those who enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces. MGIB encompasses both the Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty (Chapter 30) and The Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606).

#### The Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

#### Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

This program makes certain reservists who were activated for at least 90 days after September 11, 2001 either eligible for education benefits or eligible for increased benefits.

#### Survivors & Dependents Assistance (DEA)

Dependents' Educational Assistance provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain Veterans. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training. If you are a spouse, you may take a correspondence course. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances.



#### Veterans Education & Training

dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/veterans-education Phone: 1-877-530-2765

The Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) oversees a variety of Veterans Education programs for the State of Missouri and the VA. DESE is the Missouri State Approving Agency (MSAA) for institutions to provide services to persons eligible for Veterans' Education and Training and Vocational Rehabilitation.

#### **Veterans Education News & Updates**

The Veterans Education and Training Section has monthly newsletter for Missouri and Iowa Veterans and the educational community.

#### **Troops to Teachers**

The Troops to Teachers (TTT) program seeks to place retiring military personnel and other eligible persons in second careers as public school teachers in elementary, secondary, career and technical, or special education schools.

Eligibility requirements for Referral and Placement Assistance services and Financial Assistance are available at http://www.ProudToServeAgain.com. dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/troops-to-teachers



#### **Exemption from Proof of Residency for Students**

If the family of a student living in Missouri moves to live with other family members or live in a military family support community because one or both of the child's parents are stationed or deployed out of state or deployed within Missouri under Title 32 or Title 10 active duty orders, the student will be considered to have proof of residency and may attend the school district in which the family member's residence or family support community is located. If the active duty orders expire during the school year, the student may finish the school year in that district.

#### A+ Schools Program

A student who is an active-duty military dependent is exempt from the three-year attendance requirement for the A+ Schools Program. In addition, a dependent of a retired military member who relocates to Missouri within one year of the date of his or her parent's retirement from active duty is be exempt from the attendance requirement.

#### Operation Recognition (Honorary High School Diploma)

The Missouri legislature created Operation Recognition in order to provide honorary high school diplomas for Veterans and civilian prisoner of war (POWs) who left high school before graduation to serve in the military.

<u>Eligibility:</u> All civilian POWs who are residents or former residents of the state of Missouri and all honorably discharged Veterans who are residents or former residents of the state of Missouri who served in the United States military and who did not return to school and complete their education after their term of service shall be eligible to receive an honorary diploma. Family members may apply for the honorary diploma on behalf of a deceased Veteran.

Candidates must submit an application to the Missouri Veterans Commission. Application form is available from the commission, Veterans' organizations and local school officials. http://www.mvc.dps.mo.gov/docs/services/honoraryhsdiploma.pdf

Applicants must submit a copy of their military discharge papers or DD-214 along with the application.

## Missouri Department of SOCIAL SERVICES

#### Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

http://www.dss.mo.gov/cd/info/cwmanual/section4/ch25/sec4ch25sub8.

Children of families in the military often face educational barriers due to their parents' deployment or frequent moves. The educational records and enrollment procedures for children of military families transferring to/from Missouri fall under the guidelines of the Interstate Compact, Section 160.2000 RSMo.

The Interstate Compact allows a military dependent who has completed an accredited prekindergarten program or completed or attended a kindergarten program in another state to enter kindergarten or first grade even if the child has not reached the required age for Missouri schools by August 1, 2008. It also allows school districts to accept a course in government completed in another state when a student transfers to a Missouri high school in ninth to twelfth grade to satisfy the state's graduation requirement.



Tim Boyle/Getty Images



Toll-free: (800) 473-6757 Email: info@dhe.mo.gov

http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/veteransed.php

#### Missouri Returning Heroes' Education Act

This act limits the tuition to no more than \$50 per credit hour at public colleges and universities while enrolled in an undergraduate certificate or degree program after all other financial aid is taken into account. Eligibility: Applicable to combat Veterans who served after September 11, 2001. Veteran remains eligible for ten years after honorable discharge. http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/returningheroesact.php

#### **Academic Credit for Military Courses**

All public universities, colleges, vocational and technical schools in Missouri must award credits to an enrolled Student Veteran for equivalent courses that were part of the student's military training or service if the courses meet certain standards for academic credit.

#### In-State Tuition Eligibility for Discharged Service Members

Anyone separating from the U.S. military service with an honorable or general discharge who declares presence and residency in Missouri will be considered a resident of Missouri for admission purposes and tuition at approved public four-year and two-year institutions of higher education. If attending a community college, presence within the taxing district of the community college must also be declared.

#### In-State Tuition Eligibility for Military Dependents

A dependent of an active duty military member, as defined in federal law, who is residing in Missouri and whose parent is assigned to permanent duty in the state is eligible for in-state tuition as long as he or she is continuously enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program of a Missouri higher education institution including any transfers from one Missouri institution to another or from an undergraduate to a graduate degree program.

## **In-State Tuition Eligibility for National Guard and Reserve Members** RSMo 173.1153

Current members of the Missouri National Guard and members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States will receive in-state residency status for the purposes of tuition at any public four-year institution of higher education, or in-district residency status for any two-year public institution.

#### Higher Education Tuition Refunds when Called to Active Duty

Students at public higher education institutions who are members of the armed forces reserves and are called to active service under certain circumstances are eligible for tuition refunds or for a grade of "incomplete." Students who are members of the National Guard are similarly eligible for the refunds or grade.

#### Bright Flight Scholarship Status when Called to Active Duty

If a Bright Flight Scholarship recipient cannot attend an approved institution because of military service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, the student will be offered the scholarship if he or she returns to full-time status within six months after ending the military service and verifying to the Coordinating Board of Higher Education that the service was satisfactorily completed



Picture by USAF Tsgt Gareth Buckland, courtesy www.Defenseimagery.mil

#### War Veteran's Survivor Grant Program

http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants/wartimevetsurvivor.php

The War Veteran's Survivor Grants are available annually to children and spouses of Veterans whose deaths or injuries were a result of combat action or were attributed to an illness that was contracted while serving in combat action, or who became 80% disabled as a result of injuries or accidents sustained in combat action since September 11, 2001. The Veteran must have been a Missouri resident when first entering the military service or at the time of death or injury.

The total number that may receive a grant in any year is limited by statute to 25 recipients.

To be eligible, you must meet the following requirements at the time of application and throughout the period in which you receive the award.

#### **Initial Students**

- Be a United States citizen, permanent resident, or otherwise lawfully present in the United States.
- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment at least half-time as an undergraduate student in a participating public college or university.
- Be the veteran's spouse at the time of death or injury or within five years subsequent to the injury.
- Be the veteran's child (natural, adopted, or stepchild) who is less than 25 years of age.
  - 1. You may continue to be eligible through the end of the semester in which you turn 25 OR the receipt of your first bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first.
  - 2. You must have been a dependent of the veteran at the time of death or injury or within five years subsequent to the injury.
- Complete and submit all requested eligibility information.

#### Renewal Students

- Continue to meet the eligibility requirements for initial students and;
- Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 and otherwise maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the school.

Please visit the listed website above for additional information and deadline requirements.

#### Work Opportunity Tax Credit

http://www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a Federal tax credit incentive that Congress provides to private-sector businesses for hiring individuals from nine target groups, including unemployed Veterans who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. The main objective of this program is to enable the targeted employees to gradually move from economic dependency into self-sufficiency as they earn a steady income and become contributing taxpayers, while the participating employers are compensated by being able to reduce their federal income tax liability. WOTC joins other workforce programs that help incentivize workplace diversity and facilitate access to good jobs for American workers.

WOTC Coordinator
Division of Workforce Development
Department of Economic Development
421 East Dunklin Street
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Phone: 573-522-9581 / 800-877-8698 E-mail: Jennifer.Cheshire@ded.mo.gov

Web: http://business.mo.gov/incentives/index.html

## State Contract and Business Preference for Service Connected Disabled Veterans

In bidding for jobs or services with the State of Missouri, preference will be given to disabled Veteran businesses doing business as Missouri firms, corporations, or individuals, or which maintain Missouri offices or places of business, when the quality of performance promised is equal or better and the price quoted is the same or less.

Division of Purchasing & Materials Mgmt.

Phone: 573-751-2387

E-mail: purchmail@oa.mo.gov

https://oa.mo.gov/purchasing/vendor-information/missouri-service-

disabled-veteran-business-enterprise-sdve-information

#### Missouri Linked Deposit Program

The Missouri Linked Deposit Program is a low-interest loan program administered by the State Treasurer's Office and Missouri financial institutions. The financial institutions receive low-interest rate deposits from the State Treasurer for certain eligible programs, and pass on the interest savings to approved borrowers. Since the loans are not guaranteed by the State or grants, borrowers must meet the credit requirements of the lending institution.

Office of Missouri State Treasurer Eric Schmitt

Attn: Missouri Linked Deposit Program

PO Box 210

Jefferson City, MO 65102 Phone: 573-751-2372

E-mail: LinkedDeposits@treasurer.mo.gov

Web: http://www.treasurer.mo.gov/content/low-interest-loans

#### Waivers for Dissolved Corporations due to Military Service

The Secretary of State will waive reinstatement fees and procedures in the event a corporation was administratively dissolved for failure to file an annual registration report when the failure was due to the business owner's active military service. The Secretary of State will waive all late fees, cancel the certificate of dissolution, and reinstate the corporation in these circumstances. Annual registration report fees may still be due for the years in which no report was filed.

#### Certain Business Fees Waived for Guard & Active Duty Members

If a specified organizer, majority shareholder, officer, director, or partner of a company, corporation, health services corporation, nonprofit corporation, cooperative company, or partnership is a member of the Missouri National Guard or any other active duty member of the military, resides in Missouri, and provides proof of service to the Secretary of State, certain specified business fees will be waived. Please contact the Missouri Secretary of State's Business Services Corporations Division for more information at 573-751-4153 or toll free 866-223-6535, option 1. (RSMo. 347.179, 351.065, 354.150, 355.021, 357.060, 358.440, 359.651, 394.250, and 417.220)

#### Professional License Extensions due to Military Service

A person whose job requires licensing or certification by the State of Missouri who is called to active duty in the National Guard or any Reserve Component of the Armed Services will not be required to attend the continuing education or training required to maintain the licensing or certification during the time of active duty. Upon returning from active duty the person will not have to make up or retake any training or education missed during that time.

Military Experience Allowed for Professional License Qualifications

All professional licensing boards or commissions of the State of Missouri shall accept education, training, or service completed by an individual who is a member of the United States armed forces, reserves, or national guard toward the qualifications to receive the license or certification upon presentation of satisfactory evidence by an applicant for certification or licensure.

#### Licensure and Certification Test Costs

Licensing and certification tests can be paid for by VA benefits. A licensing test is a test offered by a state, local or federal agency required by law to practice an occupation. A certification test is a test designed to provide an affirmation of an individual's qualifications in a specified occupation. Certification is not required to practice an occupation except where the occupational licensing requirements include certification as part of those requirements. Veterans and eligible persons may call the VA to determine entitlement by calling toll free at: 1-888-442-4551 https://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/veterans-education/licensure-certification-test-benefits

#### Health Related Professional License Renewal While on Active Duty

When a person with a health-related professional license or certificate in good standing by the State of Missouri is called to active duty, their license or certificate will remain in good standing for the duration of active duty. Renewal of the license or certificate while the person is on active duty shall occur without the payment of dues. Continuing education will also not be required if certain requirements are met. The existing license or certificate issued shall be continued as long as the person is a member of the United States armed forces on active duty and for a period of at least six months after being released from active duty.

#### Courtesy Professional Licenses for Non-Resident Military Spouses

Any state agency or board that regulates an occupation or profession must establish criteria for the issuance of a temporary courtesy license to a nonresident spouse of an active duty member of the military who has been transferred to Missouri allowing the spouse to lawfully practice his or her occupation or profession in this state provided certain qualifications are met.

Information on state regulated occupations or professions can be obtained by contacting the Missouri Division of Professional Registration at:

3605 Missouri Boulevard P.O. Box 1335 Jefferson City, MO 65102-1335 Phone: 573-751-0293 profreg@pr.mo.gov http://pr.mo.gov/

#### Unemployment Compensation for War on Terror Veterans

http://labor.mo.gov/militaryUI https://www.ui.labor.mo.gov/som/

A war on terror Veteran may be entitled to a weekly benefit for 26 weeks with the dollar amount based on eight percent of the highest wages paid to the Veteran in the five calendar quarters prior to deployment. The maximum benefit amount a Veteran can receive is \$1,153.64.

#### **Unemployment Compensation for Military Spouses**

http://labor.mo.gov/militaryUI https://www.ui.labor.mo.gov/som/

Individuals who quit work to relocate due to their spouses' military change of station (i.e., trailing military spouses) are potentially eligible for unemployment benefits. If a trailing military spouse quits work to relocate to a residence from which it is impractical to commute to the workplace and remains employed as long as reasonable prior to the move, he or she may be eligible for unemployment benefits, so long as he or she meets other unemployment eligibility criteria



#### Local Veterans Employment Representatives & Disabled Veterans Outreach Program

Phone: 1-573-526-9762 http://jobs.mo.gov/

https://jobs.mo.gov/jobseeker/veteran-employment-services

The Division of Workforce Development has staff throughout the state to specifically assist Veterans. Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) facilitate or provide assistance in job placement, accessing needed services, and advocate for Veterans by developing employment opportunities with businesses. Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialists provide case management and develop career and job training opportunities for Veterans, with special emphasis on Veterans with service-connected disabilities

#### Services Provided:

- Counseling through case management
- Job Development
- Testing
- Transitional assistance to separating service members
- Identification of employment and training opportunities and direct referrals to jobs
- Monitoring job listings from federal contractors to ensure eligible Veterans get priority referrals
- Monitoring Missouri Career Centers to ensure priority of service to Veterans
- Monitoring federal department and agency vacancy listings
- Referral screening of complaints from Veterans regarding observance of Veteran's preference in federal hiring to the Director of Employment and Training Service.

If you do not have a job or if you are not working in the occupation you want, contact your local Missouri Career Center at 1-888-728-5627.



#### **Show Me Heroes Program**

https://showmeheroes.mo.gov email: ShowMeHeroes@ded.mo.gov

Phone: 1-800-592-6020

The Show Me Heroes Program, formerly the Hero At Home Program, assists the spouse of an active duty National Guard or Reserve component service member reservist and active duty United States military personnel to address immediate needs and employment in an attempt to keep the family from falling into poverty while the primary income earner is on active duty and during the one-year period following discharge from deployment. The program also assists returning National Guard troops or Reserve component service member reservists and recently separated United States military personnel with finding work in situations where an individual needs to rebuild business clientele or where an individual's job has been eliminated while such individual was deployed, or where the individual otherwise cannot return to his or her previous employment.

Additionally, the Show Me Heroes program showcases Missouri businesses that are willing to hire Veterans returning from the world's battlefields. Veterans and members of our National Guard and Reserve possess the degree of training, education, motivation, and character that will prove vital to Missouri's economic future. Show Me Heroes list the names of every employer who has signed the pledge to hire a Missouri Veteran, and allows Veterans to see the employers in their region who have taken the pledge.

#### Veterans Employment & Training Services

http://www.dol.gov/vets/

Provides Veterans and transitioning service members with resources and services to succeed by maximizing their employment opportunities, protecting their employment rights and meeting labor-market demands with qualified Veterans.

#### USDOL/VETS

Missouri Department of Labor & Industrial Relations Building 421 E. Dunklin St.

Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone: 573-751-3921

#### On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship

Veterans, Guard members, Reservists or a dependent of a Veteran may be eligible to receive a monthly educational benefit from the VA.

On-the-Job Training (OJT) is received while performing a job and earning wages. OJT programs must be at least six months and up to two years in length. Apprenticeship Training is on-the-job training, with 144 hours (minimum) per year of related technical instruction. You receive your GI Bill benefit while working full time and earning wages.

For eligibility determination call 1-888-442-4551

For Missouri specific information:

https://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/veterans-education/job-training-apprenticeship



#### **ESGR**

www.esgr.mil Phone: 816-988-7960

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) seeks to develop and promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees with ESGR as the principal advocate within DoD. ESGR does this by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of applicable laws and resolving conflict between employers and service members. ESGR encourages employment of Guardsmen and Reservists who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce.

#### National Guard & Reserve Re-employment Rights

RSMo 40.490

Members of the state military forces of this state who are ordered to active state duty by the governor, any Missouri employee who is a member of the national guard of another state and who is called into active state duty by the governor of that state, or any member of any reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States who is called to active duty shall, upon being relieved from such duty, be entitled to the same reemployment rights provided by Title 38 of the United States Code, the Revised Statutes of Missouri, and all related laws.

#### Veterans' Preference for Employment by the State of Missouri

Missouri Veterans receive a five-point preference when testing for Merit System positions with the state, with a ten point preference for a service-connected disabled Veteran. This preference may not be available at non-Merit state agencies. Spouses of eligible Veterans can also qualify for Veterans Preference for State testing. For non-Merit agencies, it is recommended you contact the non-merit agency of interest and ask them directly if/how Veterans Preference works in their agency.

#### Priority for Qualified Veterans Employment by the State

State agencies which administer federally funded employment and training programs for Veterans shall give priority to qualified Veterans and other eligible persons.

## Missouri State Employees Retirement System (MOSERS) benefits for Veterans

http://www.mosers.org Phone: 1-800-827-1063

Several benefits are provided to state employees who are Veterans or are deployed. Veterans may be eligible to purchase up to four years of active duty military service credit performed prior to your last becoming a member of MOSERS. This includes active duty military training. If you elect to purchase your active duty military service, you must purchase all that you served (total months and days) up to a maximum of four years.

State employees who are called to active duty may receive credit for active duty military service. They can also continue to have life insurance coverage for one year and long-term disability coverage for one year provided they continue to pay for the coverage.

#### Time off for Civil Air Patrol & Coast Guard Auxiliary Duties

Any State employee or employee of a business with more than 50 workers and who is a member of the Civil Air Patrol or the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary may be granted a leave of absence without loss of time, pay, regular leave, negative ratings, or any other rights or benefits entitled when performing duties for CAP or USCG for up to 15 days in any fiscal year, or unlimited time in response to state or national emergencies in Missouri. Further information can be found in Missouri Statutes 41.1000 and 41.1005.

#### Missouri Military Family Relief Fund (MMFRF)

http://www.moguard.com/Assets/Pages/25/Missouri-Military-Family-

Relief-Fund.aspx

Email: MilitaryRelief@mo.ngb.army.mil

Phone: 573-638-9500 ext. 39688

The Missouri Military Family Relief Fund is a state-administered fund which assists families of currently serving members of the Missouri National Guard/Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States and/ or Missouri residents who are currently serving members of the National Guard/Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States. Applicants can receive a grant up to \$3,000.00 based on the recommendation of a review panel.

Eligibility: Missouri National Guard or a Missouri resident Reserve Component member; hold rank no higher than 0-3 or W-2; have not received a previous grant from this fund within the last 12 months; not have a situation that requires a monetary resolution in less than a week.

To make a donation to MMFRF: Missouri Military Family Relief Fund NGMO-FWS-F 2405 Logistics Road Jefferson City, MO 65101 573-638-9500 ext. 39688

#### Missouri Universal Service Fund

https://www.missouriusf.com/

Phone: 573-634-1319

email: mousf@centralbank.net

The Missouri Universal Service Fund was established to help low-income and disabled Missourians receive additional discounts for basic local telephone service. You may qualify for a discount on your monthly telephone bill if you are receiving low income or disability benefits under certain programs.

#### Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program

http://energy.mo.gov/energy Email: energy@ded.mo.gov Phone: 1-855-522-2796

The Missouri Department of Economic Development's Division of Energy administers federal funds to a statewide network of 19 local weatherization agencies. These agencies provide weatherization services to eligible clients, as well as training and guidance. Allocations to these agencies are based on the percentage of the state's total low-income households within each service area. To apply for assistance, please contact the local weatherization agencies listed at the above website

#### Missouri Association for Community Action

Phone: 1-573-634-2969

http://www.communityaction.org Email: info@communityaction.org

The Missouri Association for Community Action is a statewide association of 19 community action agencies.

Community action agencies provide critical services to families and communities. They assist with childcare so parents can obtain education to improve their job opportunities, find solutions to transportation obstacles so people can get to work, weatherize homes to reduce energy costs, help families save to buy homes of their own, and help families work their way to self-sufficiency.

Contact the number or website above to locate the nearest Community Action Agency to your location.

# Missouri Department of SOCIAL SERVICES

#### Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS)

Phone: 1-573-751-4815 http://dss.mo.gov

The Department of Social Services is responsible for coordinating programs to provide public assistance to children and their parents, access to health care, child support enforcement assistance and to provide specialized assistance to troubled youth. While many programs give needed financial assistance and services, other units work toward reducing financial dependency of the citizens on government.

Some of the many assistance programs include:

- Child Care Assistance
- Food Stamps
- Home and Community Based Programs
- Low Income Energy Assistance Program
- Mo HealthNet
- MoRx
- Nursing Care
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families



http://health.mo.gov Phone: 573-751-6400

DHSS provides information, services, and protections for Missouri citizens. Key services for Veterans and Military include:

#### **Adult Brain Injury Program**

http://health.mo.gov/living/families/shcn/ahi.php

Email: info@health.mo.gov Phone: 800-451-0669

The Adult Brain Injury Program provides assistance to Missouri residents, individuals and families in locating, coordinating, and purchasing rehabilitation and psychological services for adults who have survived a traumatic brain injury (TBI).

Individuals must be a Missouri resident between the ages of 21 and 65. Service coordination is available to adult survivors of TBI regardless of financial status. Rehabilitation services are available to individuals who are eligible for the service and whose income is at or below 185% of Federal Poverty Guidelines.

#### Long Term Care Ombudsman

http://health.mo.gov/seniors/ombudsman/ Email: LTCOmbudsman@health.mo.gov

Phone: 1-800-309-3282

The Long Term Care Ombudsman program consists of volunteers serving residents of nursing homes and residential care facilities to provide support and assistance with any problems or complaints. They also work to connect Veterans or spouses of deceased Veterans who reside in nursing homes or residential care facilities with a Veterans Service Officer to obtain VA benefits.



## Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH)

http://dmh.mo.gov/veterans

Email: DMH.Veteran@dmh.mo.gov

Phone: 1-800-364-9687

DMH provides several sources of information, services, and protections for Missouri's Veterans and their families at the above website.

Other services for Veterans and Military by DMH and their partners include:

#### HERO (Housing, Employment, Recovery, Opportunities)

The HERO Program is a collaboration with the St. Patrick Center in St. Louis to provide transitional housing for Homeless Veterans with mental illness and/or substance abuse issues in the St. Louis area. Participating Veterans receive housing, employment assistance and support services to help move them toward permanent housing within two years. Contact the St. Patrick Center for eligibility requirements.

St. Patrick Center 800 North Tucker Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63101 http://www.stpatrickcenter.org http://stpatrickcenter.org/project-hero/

## Division of Behavioral Health Alcohol & Drug Abuse National Guard Initiative

http://dmh.mo.gov/ada

Phone: 1-314-802-0700

DMH Phone: 1-573-751-4942 or 800-575-7480

The Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse works with the Missouri National Guard to offer substance abuse consultation and evaluations, assessments, and treatment services at no cost to Missouri National Guard Soldiers.

#### Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255

http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/

The Veterans Crisis Line is a toll-free, confidential resource that connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring VA responders.

Veterans and their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online at www.VeteransCrisisLine.net, or send a text message to 838255 to receive free, confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care.

The professionals at the Veterans Crisis Line are specially trained and experienced in helping Veterans of all ages and circumstances—from Veterans coping with mental health issues that were never addressed to recent Veterans struggling with relationships or the transition back to civilian life.



© United States Department of Veterans Affairs

The Missouri Veterans Commission Homes Program operates seven exemplary Veterans Homes whose mission is to 'honor and serve the Veterans whose dedication and sacrifice have preserved our nation and its freedoms'.

The Missouri Veterans Homes operates a total of 1,350 beds that provide long term skilled nursing care in compliance with 158 Federal Department of Veterans Affairs regulations. The Homes are located in Cameron, Cape Girardeau, Mexico, Mount Vernon, St. James, St. Louis, and Warrensburg.

Each Missouri Veterans Home employs a licensed nursing home administrator, has registered nurses on duty 24 hours per day, and provides physician care; physical, speech, occupational and recreational therapy; medications; cosmetology; maintenance, environmental and social services, and dietary specialists. Each home has a secured dementia unit that includes a dining room, activity area and enclosed courtyard.

The monthly resident charge is calculated using a sliding scale based on the Veteran's ability to pay.

To be eligible for admission to a Missouri Veterans Home (RSMo Chapter 42), a Veteran during his or her lifetime must have lived in Missouri for 180 days, meet the criteria for Veteran status established by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, and require skilled nursing services. Eligibility and admission decisions are made by a team comprised of the Administrator, Physician, Director of Nursing, Social Worker, Veterans Service Officer, and other professionals as needed.



Picture courtesy Missouri Veterans Home - Cape Girardeau



Cameron
1111 Euclid

Cameron, MO 64429 816-632-6010

<u>Mexico</u>

#1 Veterans Drive Mexico, MO 65265 573-581-1088

St. James

620 N. Jefferson St. James, MO 65559 573-265-3271 <u>Cape Girardeau</u> 2400 Veterans Memorial Drive Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 573-290-5870

> <u>Mt. Vernon</u> 1600 S. Hickory Mt. Vernon, MO 65712 417-466-7103

St. Louis 10600 Lewis & Clark Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63136

314-340-6389

<u>Warrensburg</u> 1300 Veterans Road Warrensburg, MO 64093 660-543-5064

#### Missouri VA Homeless Veteran Program Coordinators

VA Medical Centers in Missouri have a Homeless Veterans Coordinator. The Homeless Coordinator provides information about the services for homeless Veterans through the Veterans Health Administration. Services include outreach, case management, referrals to benefits counselors, linkage to health care, and housing assistance. Each facility is unique and services vary among each medical center.

Homeless Veterans in need of assistance after hours when the Homeless Coordinator is unavailable, should contact the VA medical center's emergency room. All VA medical centers can provide referrals to emergency shelter services.

<u>Columbia</u>

Truman Medical Center 800 Hospital Drive Columbia, MO 65201-5297 573-814-6244

Mt. Vernon

Gene Taylor VA Outpatient Clinic 600 N. Main, Room 242 Mt. Vernon, MO 65712 417-466-4000 ext. 61276

St. Louis

John Cochran Medical Center 915 North Grand Blvd. Saint Louis, MO 63106 314-652-4100 ext. 55464 Kansas City KC VA Medical Center 4801 Linwood Boulevard Kansas City, MO 64128 816-861-4700 ext. 57587

Poplar Bluff Pershing Medical Center

1500 N. Westwood Blvd. Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 573-778-4724

St. Louis

Jefferson Barracks Medical Center
1 Jefferson Barracks Drive
Saint Louis, MO 63125
314-652-4100 ext. 55500

#### VA Homeless Veterans Initiative

http://www.va.gov/homeless/

Phone: 1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838)

The VA has founded a National Call Center for Homeless Veterans to ensure that homeless Veterans or Veterans at-risk for homelessness have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. The hotline is intended to assist homeless Veterans and their families, VA Medical Centers, federal, state and local partners, community agencies, service providers and others in the community.

To reach a trained VA responder, call 1-877-4AID-VET (877-424-3838).

- You can call for yourself or a Veteran you know.
- All calls are free and confidential.
- VA has trained responders ready to assist 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- VA provides information about programs and services in your area to help you not only end homelessness but also prevent it.

## Missouri Substitute Addresses for Homeless Veterans (RSMo 42.035) http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/c000-099/0420000035.htm

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, a homeless Veteran may use a charitable, religious, fraternal, or Veterans organization as a substitute mailing address to receive state or federal assistance if the organizations meet the following:

- The purpose of the organizations is to provide charitable, religious, fraternal, or Veterans services
- The organizations have been providing these services for more than 10 years
- The organizations are willing to be the substitute address for the homeless Veteran.

#### Free Criminal Background Checks for Homeless Veterans Employment

The Missouri State Highway Patrol, as the designated Missouri State Identification Bureau, will provide at no cost a criminal background check in connection with gaining employment, housing, or any other service on any homeless former member of the armed forces who has been honorably discharged.

A Veteran who is incarcerated may not be aware of the services and programs that the VA and the Missouri Veterans Commission can provide or coordinate prior to and after leaving prison.

The Incarcerated Veterans Re-Entry Program (IVREP) assists incarcerated Veterans and their families with information and assistance on VA benefits, transitioning back into the community, and works with incarcerated Veterans to reduce the number of VA overpayments while incarcerated.

Incarcerated Veterans nearing release in three to six months can be referred to a Veterans Service Officer in the community where they will be living who will be able to assist them with their VA benefits.

The IVREP works by linking qualified Veterans with the appropriate services. The goal of the IVREP is to assist in the successful transition back to a productive and healthy lifestyle among community and family.

Jefferson Stewart
Missouri Veterans Commission
Incarcerated Veteran Re-Entry Coordinator/Veterans Service Officer
10600 Lewis & Clark Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63136
www.mvc.dps.mo.gov



## Dept. of Revenue Military Liaison

Phone: 816-236-9440 email: military@dor.mo.gov http://dor.mo.gov/military/

The Missouri Department of Revenue has a Military Liaison to assist with questions about Missouri income tax, driver licenses, motor vehicle registrations, and other issues. You may also obtain information about motor vehicle and driver license from the Department by contacting:

Driver License Bureau PO Box 200 Jefferson City, MO 65105-0200 Telephone: 573-526-2407 Motor Vehicle Bureau PO Box 100 Jefferson City, MO 65105-0100 Telephone: 573-526-3669

#### **Driver Documents**

#### **Motorcycle Driving Exam Exemption**

An Active Duty Member of the U.S. Armed Forces who successfully completes a military motorcycle rider training course that meets or exceeds the Motorcycle Safety Foundation curriculum standards will not be required to take further driving tests to obtain a motorcycle or motortricycle license or endorsement.

#### Commercial Driver Exam (CDL) Exemptions

Missouri allows active duty military or retired military personnel to complete an application for waiver of skills testing to obtain a commercial driver license. Applicant must have a minimum of 60 days active duty driving experience in a commercial motor vehicle for the military (not vehicle training) within the 2 years prior to date of application for waiver. Applicants must still complete the required knowledge examinations for the commercial driver license class being applied for. The application is available on-line or may be faxed upon request or acquired at a local license office.

#### Veterans Identification on Driver's License or State I.D. Card

A Veteran may apply to the Department of Revenue to obtain a state driver's license or identification card showing Veteran designation.

To receive the designation a Veteran must provide any of the following:

- Discharge document DD-214, DD-215, WD AGO 53, WD AGO 55, WD AGO 53-55, NAVPERS 553, NAVMC 78 PD, or NAVCG 553 showing a discharge status of "honorable," "general," or "under honorable conditions."
- A United States Uniformed Services Identification Card (DD Form 2), that includes a discharge status of "retired" or "reserve retired".
- A United States Department of Veterans Affairs photo identification card.

And pay the authorized fees for the license or card.

**NOTE**: Some Veterans may have a discharge document other than ones listed above. If you do not have the above documents, you should send a copy of your documentation and contact information to the Missouri Veterans Commission at:

Missouri Veterans Commission ATTN: Veterans Drivers License Designation PO Drawer 147 Jefferson City MO 65102-0147

The Veterans Commission will review the documentation and determine if the discharge documents meet the criteria as an equivalent document and issue an equivalency letter to you. Upon receipt, you may take the letter to a license office and apply for the Veteran Designation on your driver license or nondriver identification card.



#### Renewal of Driver Documents

Missouri allows for an early renewal of driver licenses, permits, or nondriver licenses documents for persons leaving the state or country. An applicant can apply for early renewal at a local license office prior to leaving to ensure the document does not expire while deployed.

Missouri allows renewal by mail for members of the armed forces and their dependents. Applicants should submit renewal form DOR-4317 (available on-line at www.dor.mo.gov or faxed upon request), along with required documents and fees.

Any Missouri resident upon active duty discharge from the military will have 90 days after re-establishment of residence within the state or 6 months from the date of discharge, whichever is sooner, to renew an expired driver's license without taking the full examination. The expired license is not valid for driving.

#### Driver License Suspensions & Revocations to be Stayed

Missouri has a process for driver license suspensions and revocations to be stayed in certain cases for members of the armed forces on active duty. The suspensions and revocations will remain in a stayed status until sixty days after the military service ends. For information on how to get your license reinstated or to find out what is on your driver record call (573) 526-2407. You may also access the Missouri Driver Guide on-line.

#### **Vehicle Documents**

#### Vehicle Registration Renewal and Required Documents

Military applicants may renew an expired motor vehicle registration up to 60 days after completion of military service without a renewal penalty. The vehicle may not be operated during the period the registration is expired. The applicant must submit official orders from the appropriate military authority as evidence of military service and date of discharge.

#### **Titling and Inspections**

Military applicants may authorize another individual to sign the General Affidavit (DOR-768) indicating the vehicle is out-of-state and will be inspected within ten days of returning to Missouri, if applicable. Power of attorney or a statement from the military applicant allowing the signature is not required.

Military applicants are allowed 180 days from completion of military service before a title penalty is assessed on the purchase of a motor vehicle, trailer, boat, outboard motor, all terrain vehicle, or manufactured home. Military applicants may have a commissioned officer or other out-of-state law enforcement officer sign an inspection form to verify the vehicle identification number (VIN) and odometer reading of a vehicle previously titled out of state (ID/OD inspection).

#### Extensions

Any person engaged in the performance of active duty in a U. S. military conflict for 30 days or more, will receive an extension for complying with certain motor vehicle laws. Qualified military service includes:

- A member of the National Guard or National Guard Reserve;
- A member of the United States Armed Forces or Reserve (Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, or Marines); and
- An officer of the United States Public Health Service detailed by proper authority for duty with any branch of the United States Armed Forces.

Active duty military personnel who sell a vehicle and are deployed before a new vehicle can be purchased are allowed an extension of 180 days after return to purchase a vehicle and obtain the tax allowance. A copy of their military orders of completion of deployment must be submitted. This extension also applies to "total loss" vehicle tax credits.

#### Specialty Plates

http://dor.mo.gov/motorv/plates

Missouri has over 30 different types of military and veteran personalized license plates available to qualified individuals. To preview these specialty plates or read the requirements to obtain them, visit the Missouri Department of Revenue at the above website. Examples include, but are not limited to: Air Force, Navy, Operation Enduring Freedom, National Guard, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Civil Air Patrol, Army, Purple Heart, Some Gave All, U.S. Veteran, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Legion of Merit.

Any surviving spouse of an individual who would have been eligible to obtain a United States Armed Forces, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, Reserves, Missouri National Guard, or United States Marine Corps League special license plate may obtain the plate as long as the spouse does not remarry.









#### Certification Renewal Exemption for Disabled Plates & Placards.

A person who presents proof of permanent disability from the United States Veterans Administration is exempt from the four-year certification requirement for renewal of disabled license plates or placards. Initial applications must include a physician's statement confirming the individual's disability.

#### Liability Insurance Discontinuation

Active duty military applicants may discontinue liability insurance on a vehicle with an otherwise valid registration, provided that the vehicle is not being operated.

#### Free Parking for Certain Veterans

NOTE: By statute, it is up to the local governing authority to approve or comply with the following. Vehicle and parking restrictions are specified in Missouri Statute RSMo 304.725.

A Veteran displaying a Congressional Medal of Honor, Prisoner of War, Silver Star, Purple Heart, Navy Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross, or Coast Guard Cross specialty license plate may park his or her motor vehicle without charge in a metered parking space or in a parking lot or garage on any public college or university in the state of Missouri, except during a special event where a separate parking fee may apply within the authority's jurisdiction if the vehicle is less than 6,000 pounds gross weight.

A Veteran who has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross, Coast Guard Cross, or a Veteran who qualifies for Congressional Medal of Honor, Prisoner of War, Silver Star, Purple Heart, Navy Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, or Bronze Star specialty plate may apply to the Director of Revenue for a removable windshield placard at no cost to the Veteran which will allow him or her to also park without charge in a metered parking space if the placard is hung from the front, middle rearview mirror or displayed on the dashboard on the driver's side if there is no rearview mirror.

#### Marriage License for Out of State Military

If one of the applicants for a marriage license has been called or ordered to active military duty out of the state or country, the recorder of deeds may issue a license if an affidavit or sworn statement is submitted by the military applicant on a form furnished by the recorder of deeds which includes the necessary information for the recorder of deeds to issue a marriage license.

The military applicant must attest that she or he has been called or ordered to active military duty out of the state or country, which will be verified by the military applicant's military officer and acknowledged by a notary public.

#### Conceal and Carry Permit Renewal while on Military Duty

If a concealed carry permit or endorsement expires while the permit holder is on active duty in the Armed Forces, on active state duty, full-time National Guard duty under Title 32, or active duty under Title 10 with the National Guard, or is physically incapacitated due to an injury incurred while in the services of the National Guard or Armed Forces, the permit holder may renew the permit up to 60 days after completion of military service without penalties or fees.

#### Free Fishing License for Disabled Missouri Veterans

http://huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/permits

Any honorably discharged military Veteran having a service-related disability of sixty percent (60%) or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service, may take fish, live bait, clams, mussels, turtles, and frogs as provided in Chapter 6 without permit (except trout permit or daily tag in areas where prescribed), provided, while fishing, s/he carries a certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### Free Hunting License for Disabled Missouri Veterans

http://huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/permits

Any honorably discharged military Veteran having a service-related disability of sixty percent (60%) or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service, may take wildlife as provided in Chapter 7 without permit (except deer and turkey hunting permits and the Migratory Bird Hunting Permit and Conservation Order Permit as prescribed); provided, while hunting, s/he carries a certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### Resident Permit privileges for Permanent Change of Station

All members of the United States armed forces stationed and residing in Missouri on permanent change of station status, and their immediate families residing with them, may receive resident permit privileges.

#### Resident Permit Eligibility for Out of State Disabled Veterans

Any honorably discharged military Veteran having a service-related disability of sixty percent (60%) or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service, may purchase resident permits; provided, while purchasing and exercising permit privileges such person must carry a certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

# Guard and Reserve Small Game Hunting & Fishing Permit http://huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/permits

For residents of Missouri who are currently, or have in the previous twelve (12) months, been mobilized and serving on full-time active military duty in either the National Guard (in Federal Status) or Reserve forces of the United States to chase, pursue, take, possess and transport fish, frogs, mussels, clams, turtles, crayfish, live bait, birds (except wild turkey) and mammals (except deer), and to sell furbearers taken by hunting. Fee: five dollars (\$5).

#### Conservation area accessability

The Department of Conservation is working to remove barriers that prevent people with disabilities from enjoying the outdoors. Throughout the state, construction of new facilities and renovations at older properties are providing access to Conservation Department areas, buildings, and shooting ranges.

Visit https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places to learn more.



Picture by Tammy Smith, Missouri Veterans Cemetery-Bloomfield

#### Missouri Veteran Awards Program

http://www.moguard.com/Assets/Pages/36/Veteran-Awards.aspx

The Veterans Awards Program provides a medal, medallion, and certificate to Missouri residents who served in the following conflicts: World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and New Dawn. World War II Veterans who participated in the D-Day Invasion of Europe are also eligible to receive a replica of the Jubilee of Liberty medal. Missouri National Guard members may also apply for these medals whether or not they were residents of Missouri. Veterans, spouses of Veterans, or the eldest living survivor of Veterans who meet the requirements can apply.

Office of the Adjutant General Veterans Awards P.O. Box 1808 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Phone: (573) 638-9561



World War II



World War II Jubilee of Liberty



Korea



Vietnam

#### Replacement of Medals

Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the Veteran served. A Veterans Service Officer can assist in filing for replacement medals or awards.

#### **Unclaimed Military Medals and Awards**

Missouri State Treasurer, Unclaimed Property Division P.O. Box 1004

Jefferson City, MO 65102 Phone: (573) 751-0123

http://www.Treasurer.mo.gov/Military

Each year the contents of nearly 1,000 unclaimed safe deposit boxes are turned over to the Treasurer's office. Some of the most precious items recovered from safe deposit boxes are military medals and insignia, which the Treasurer and his team work to return to the heroes who earned them or their families. In 2013, legislation was passed that allows the Treasurer to post the names and last known addresses of the safe deposit box owners from which the medals were found.

#### Military Records Request

National Personnel Records Center 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63138

Phone: 314-801-0800 http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/

The National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records (NPRC-MPR) holds the military personnel, health, & medical records of all discharged and deceased Veterans during the 20th century. NPRC-MPR also stores medical records of retirees from all services, as well as records for dependent & other persons treated at naval medical facilities. Information from the records is made available upon written request to the extent allowed by law.

#### Missouri National Guard Archive

http://www.moguard.com/Assets/Pages/35/Veteran-Services.aspx Phone: 573-638-9683 or 573-638-9890

The Missouri National Guard Archives receive and maintain official military files on all retired or discharged Missouri National Guard members and Certificates of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) for all Missouri Veterans that designated Missouri as their home of record at the time of discharge from 1942 to present date.

#### State Military Records Archive

https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/soldiers/

The archives hold military records of Missourians who served in domestic and foreign wars between 1812 and World War I. These records consist of individual service cards, payrolls, muster and descriptive rolls, reports, orders, and reparation claims.

#### **Memorial Designation Program**

http://www.modot.org/services/MemorialDesignationPrograms.htm

Under certain conditions, and within specific guidelines, Missouri highways and bridges can be named after individuals (deceased 2 years) or events. Go to the MoDOT website for directions, forms and applications needed to begin the process, which must be approved and voted upon by the Missouri Legislature. The current fee for two standard (6' x 3') signs is \$2,400 due with submission of the application.

#### Heroes Way Interchange Program

http://www.modot.org/services/MemorialDesignationPrograms.htm

This program allows for interstate and state-numbered highway interchanges to be designated for Missouri residents who were in the armed forces and had been killed in action on or after September 11, 2001 in either Afghanistan or Iraq while serving the military. The memorial signs will be installed within the interchange on the right side of the highway, one sign per each travel direction. The current fee for two standard  $(6^\circ \times 3^\circ)$  signs is \$2,400 due with submission of the application.



#### Flags at Half-Staff

The United States flag and the Missouri state flag are flown at half-staff on all government buildings for one full day, as determined by the Governor, whenever a Missouri resident and member of the military forces is killed in the line of duty.

#### Museum of Missouri Military History

Located at the Ike Skelton Training Center, this museum houses exhibits beginning from 1808, the activation date of the Missouri Militia. Exhibits continue from the War of 1812 to the Global War on Terror. Closed all major holidays. Free admission.

Museum of Missouri Military History 2405 Logistics Road Jefferson City, MO 65101 Phone: 573-638-9603

Hours: Year Around Schedule Monday – Friday 8:00 AM -3 PM

Admission: Free Admission

#### Missouri Veterans History Project

http://mvhp.net 1400 Forum Blvd., Ste. 1C, Box 461 Columbia, MO 65203 573-522-4220 info@MVHP.net

Missouri has over 450,000 military Veterans living in the state today. Each has an experience and a story to tell that can benefit us all. However, each day more of our military Veterans pass away; and their stories go with them. Missouri Veterans Stories collects these stories from our Veterans and displays them for the benefit of our Veterans, our state and our country. The program is open to all men and women currently residing in Missouri who have served in any branch of the United States military.

Minority Veterans statistically are often unaware of available benefits, and Minority Veterans Outreach initiatives are a contact source that can give them guidance and assistance in informing them about Veteran's benefits and encourage them to work with a Veterans Service Officer to apply for those benefits.

#### Missouri Veterans Commission Minority Veterans Coordinator

Rebecca Bradley
1601 E. 18th, Suite 160
Kansas City, MO 64108
816-889-2050
Rebecca.Bradley@mvc.dps.mo.gov
http://mvc.dps.mo.gov/service/minority

#### U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Minority Veterans Coordinators

St. Louis VA Regional Office 9700 Page Ave. St. Louis, MO 63132 800-827-1000

Truman VA Medical Center 800 Hospital Drive Columbia, MO 65201-5297 573-814-6316

<u>Kansas City VA Medical Center</u> 4801 Linwood Blvd Kansas City, MO 64128 816-861-4700 St. Louis VA Medical Center 915 North Grand Blvd. Saint Louis, MO 63106 314-289-6476

Pershing Medical Center 1500 N. Westwood Blvd. Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 573-778-4726

Jefferson Barracks Nat. Cemetery 2900 Sheridan Road St. Louis, MO 63125 314-845-8320 The Missouri Veterans Commission provides information at many events around the state on state and federal benefits and provides access to a Veterans Service Officer so Service Members and family members have the opportunity to ask questions and file for their benefits. Contact the Missouri Veterans Commission Central Office at 573-751-3779 and ask to speak to the Outreach Specialist to learn more about events in your area or go online to the outreach calendar at www.mvc.dps.mo.gov.



The Missouri Veterans Commission Veterans Ombudsman handles all inquiries both internal and external that do not immediately fit into one of the core programs offered by the Missouri Veterans Commission. The Ombudsman refers these inquiries to the appropriate agency or organization for resolution, including but not limited to: the Veteran Services Program for assistance in applying for VA benefits, the Homes Program for admission, the Cemeteries Program for pre-certification, connection to local, state and national resources that are available for transition out of the military and into civilian life, and any new national and state programs that further assist Veterans, service members and their families with any extraordinary need that is not being met by other agencies or organizations.

Melissa Wilding Veterans Ombudsman 205 Jefferson Street, 12th Floor 573-522-4220 melissa.wilding@mvc.dps.mo.gov



## Dept. of Revenue Military Liaison

Phone: 816-236-9440 email: military@dor.mo.gov http://dor.mo.gov/military/

The Missouri Department of Revenue has designated a Military Liaison to assist military personnel with questions about Missouri income tax, driver licenses, motor vehicle registrations, and other issues. You may also obtain information about Missouri taxes from the Department by contacting:

Taxation Division PO Box 2200 Jefferson City, MO 65105-2200 Phone: (573) 751-3505

Fax: (573) 751-2195

### Income Tax Exemption for Military Retirement Pension

RSMo 143.124

http://www.moga.mo.gov/mostatutes/stathtml/14300001241.html

Beginning January 1, 2016, all military retirement pension income will be tax free from Missouri Income Tax.

## Property Tax Exemption for Total Service-Connected Disabled Prisoners of War

http://dor.mo.gov/personal/ 573-751-3505

As of January 1, 2011, any citizen of Missouri who is a former Prisoner of War as defined by law, and who has a total service-connected disability, shall be exempt from owing taxes on all real property used as a homestead as defined by law.

## **Missouri State Income Tax Exemption for Active Duty Members** RSMo 143.174

Any military income earned as compensation for being a member of the active duty component of the armed forces may be deducted from the person's Missouri adjusted gross income to determine that individual's Missouri taxable income.

#### Property Tax Receipt Waiver for Out of State Military

Military applicants who did not receive their renewal notice and are stationed outside of the state of Missouri are eligible for waiver of their property tax receipt verification requirement if the applicant provides a Leave and Earnings Statement which does NOT indicate Missouri as his or her home of record.

#### **Personal Property Tax Credit**

http://dor.mo.gov/personal/ptc/

The Missouri Property Tax Credit Claim gives credit to certain senior citizens and certain 100 percent disabled individuals for a portion of the real estate taxes or rent paid for the year.

If you are 100 percent disabled as a result of military service, you are not required to include your veteran payments and benefits when filling out the tax credit application. You must attach a letter from the Veterans Administration that states you are 100 percent disabled as a result of military service.

The credit is for a maximum of \$750 for renters and \$1,100 for owners who owned and occupied their home. The actual credit is based on the amount of real estate taxes or rent paid and total household income (taxable and nontaxable). If you rent from a facility that does not pay property taxes, you are not eligible for a Property Tax Credit.

# Sales Tax Exemption for Equipment to Modify Vehicles for Use by Individuals with Disabilities

Equipment purchased to modify a vehicle so that it can be used by an individual with disabilities is exempt from sales tax. To receive the exemption, the applicant when titling the vehicle at Department of Revenue or a License Office must present an invoice or other documentation showing the vehicle and equipment price separately in order for the equipment to be exempt. Specifically, 144.030.2(18), RSMo provides an exemption for "items used solely to modify motor vehicles to permit the use of such motor vehicles by individuals with disabilities."



TRICARE is the Department of Defense's worldwide health care program available to eligible beneficiaries from any of the seven uniformed services—the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Eligibility for TRICARE is determined by information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). It is important for sponsors to keep DEERS records up to date. For eligibility, enrollment, cost, and coverage details, visit www.tricare.mil or contact your regional contractor.

TRICARE beneficiaries can be divided into two main categories: sponsors and family members. Sponsors are usually active duty service members, National Guard/Reserve members or retired service members. "Sponsor," refers to the person who is serving or who has served on active duty or in the National Guard or Reserves.

Depending on your beneficiary category and location, you may be eligible for different program options. Your options may change if you move, if your sponsor changes location or status, or if you have a life event such as getting married or becoming entitled to Medicare Part A. For assistance with health care coverage when moving or traveling, contact your regional contractor.

TRICARE in Missouri falls under the TRICARE West Region except for the St. Louis area which is under TRICARE North Region.

TRICARE West Region UnitedHealthcare Military & Veterans 1-877-988-9378 www.uhcmilitarywest.com

TRICARE North Region
Health Net Federal Service, Inc. (HNFS) 1-877-874-2273
https://www.hnfs.com/

If you are a service member, retiree, or dependent, DEERS registration is the key to getting your TRICARE benefits eligibility established.

#### Registration in DEERS

Eligibility for TRICARE is determined by the uniformed services and reported to the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). All eligible beneficiaries must have their eligibility status recorded in DEERS.

Active-duty and retired service members are automatically registered in DEERS, but they must take action to register their family members and ensure they're correctly entered into the database. Mistakes in the DEERS database can cause problems with TRICARE claims, so it is critical to maintain your DEERS information.

#### **ID Cards**

To use TRICARE, you must be registered in DEERS and have a valid uniformed services or military identification (ID) card. The ID card states on the back, in the "Medical" block, whether you are eligible for medical care from military or civilian sources.

When getting care, your provider will ask to see a copy of your ID card and will make copies for his or her records. Please ensure you have your ID card with you whenever you are getting care or having prescriptions filled

Listed below are Missouri Guard DEERS Offices. There may be an Active Duty or Reserve unit DEERS office closer to you. You can locate them by visiting: http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/

Lexington

#### Missouri Guard DEERS Offices

Cape Girardeau

573-339-6207	660-259-7731, ext. 13623
Fort Leonard Wood	Sedalia
573-596-1666, ext. 39135	816-559-4100, ext. 34020

Jefferson City	St. Louis-Jefferson Barracks
573-638-9500, ext. 37731/37732	314-416-6619

Kansas City St. Joseph 573-638-9500, ext. 37731/37732 816-236-3330

#### Missouri Military and Overseas Voting Access Portal

http://momilitaryvote.com

Missouri wants to ensure voting is as easy and efficient as possible for members of our military and their families. Now, military and overseas voters will be able to take advantage of the Missouri Military and Overseas Voting Access Portal, which they can use to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and receive an absentee ballot quickly and securely.

Using the Missouri Military and Overseas Voting Access Portal, eligible voters who submit an absentee ballot request through the portal will receive an absentee ballot for each election in which absentee voting is conducted through December 31 of the following year. Voters located in combat zone, hostile fire or imminent danger areas will also be able to securely send their marked ballots to their local election authority.

Eligibility: A member of the U.S. Uniformed Services, which includes the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; a member of the U.S. merchant marines; Spouses and dependents of the above; a U.S. citizen domiciled in Missouri but temporarily living outside the territorial limits of the United States. Missouri requires voters to be registered at least thirty days prior to an election in order to vote a full ballot (includes local and state issues). Military and overseas voters are also welcome to use the regular registration and absentee mail process available to all voters away from home on Election Day.

#### Registering to Vote After Deadline

If you have been discharged from military service, have returned from a military deployment or activation, or have separated from employment outside the territorial limits of the United States after the deadline to register to vote, and are otherwise qualified to register to vote, you may register to vote in person before the election authority until 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election, providing documentation showing evidence of qualifying for late registration. You may also vote on Election Day without prior registration, for federal and state issues at your polling place with a federal postcard application. For eligibility requirements call 573-751-2301.

#### Candidate Filing for Elections while on Active Duty

A candidate on active duty with the armed forces may have a representative draw for his or her placement on an election ballot. Previously, the candidate had to draw for placement on the ballot in person.

Women Veterans initiatives ensures that Women Veterans have equitable access to federal and state Veterans services and ensure Women Veterans are aware of their VA benefits, know who to contact, and how to apply for these benefits.

#### Missouri Veterans Commission Women Veterans Coordinator

Toni Swizdor 620 N. Jefferson Street St. James, MO 65559 573-265-3271 ext. 245 http://mvc.dps.mo.gov/service/women

St. Louis VA Regional Office 400 South, 18th Street St. Louis, MO 63103

Phone: 1-800-827-1000

St. Louis Medical Center 1 Jefferson Barracks Dr. St. Louis, MO 63125 314-652-4100 ext. 55662

Kansas City Medical Center 4251 Northern Ave. Kansas City, MO 64133 816-861-4700 ext. 52493

Truman VA Medical Center 800 Hospital Drive Columbia, MO 65201-5297 573-814-6000 ext. 56457

Pershing Medical Center 1500 N. Westwood Blvd. Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 573-686-4151 ext. 52207 Fayetteville, AR Veterans HCS of the Ozarks 1100 North College Avenue Fayetteville, AR 72703 479-443-4301 Ext. 65321

Leavenworth, KS
Eisenhower VA Medical Center
4101 4th Street Trafficway
Leavenworth, KS 66048
785-350-3111 ext. 53442

#### The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP) provides information, services, referral, and proactive outreach programs to Service Members of the Reserve and Guard components through all phases of the deployment cycle. The goal of YRRP is to prepare Service Members and families for mobilization, sustain families during mobilization, and reintegrate Soldiers with their families, communities, and employers upon redeployment or REFRAD. For more information about your unit's Yellow Ribbon program, please contact your unit.

**Family Assistance Centers** are designed to assist the families of service members during training or mobilization. A Family Assistance Center provides resources to help family members cope with any issue they encounter as a military dependant.

Statewide Coordinator	573-638-9500, ext. 39688
Macon	660-385-1167, ext. 13716
Sedalia	816-559-4100, ext. 34196
Springfield	417-868-6024
Jefferson City (Blue Armory)	573-659-1600, ext. 31626
Jefferson City (ISTS)	573-638-9500, ext. 39688
Cape Girardeau	573-339-6206
St. Louis	314-416-6635



Picture by Stephanie Wehmeir

## Important Federal, State, & Military Dates

\*Indicates Day Recognized in Missouri State Statute

New Year's Day (January 1st)

Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Third Monday in January)

Lincoln's Birthday (February 12th)

President's Day (Third Monday in February)

Coast Guard Reserve Established (February 19th)

Navy Reserve Established (March 3rd)

\*Veterans of Operation Iraq/Enduring Freedom Day (March 26th)

\*Vietnam Veterans Day (March 30th)

\*Prisoners of War Remembrance Day (April 9th)

Air Force Reserve Established (April 14th)

\*Patriots Day-American Revolution (April 19th)

Army Reserve Established (April 23rd)

\*Silver Star Families of America Day (May 1st)

V-E Day (May 8th)

Armed Forces Day (Third Saturday in May)

Memorial Day(Last Monday in May)

D-Day (June 6th)

Merchant Marine War Service Established (June 12th)

Flag Day (June 14th)

U.S. Army Established (June 14th)

Independence Day (July 4th)

Korean War Veterans Armistice Day (July 27th)

Coast Guard Established (August 4th)

Marine Corps Reserve Established (August 29th)

V-J Day (September 2nd)

Patriot Day 9/11 (September 11th)

U.S. Air Force Established (September 18th)

Air National Guard Established (September 18th)

POW/MIA Recognition Day (Third Friday of September)

Gold Star Mother's Day (Last Sunday of September)

U.S. Navy Established (October 13th)

U.S. Marine Corps Established (November 10th)

Veteran's Day (November 11th)

Thanksgiving Day (Fourth Thursday in November)

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7th)

National Guard Established (December 16th)

Christmas (December 25th)



# Federal Benefits

for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors

2016 Edition

Get your copy of the Federal Benefits Guide for Veterans online at http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits book.asp



Missouri Veterans Commission
205 Jefferson Street, 12th Floor
P.O. Drawer 147
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0147
573-751-3779
movets@mvc.dps.mo.gov
www.mvc.dps.mo.gov
facebook.com/MissouriVeteransCommission