

VETERANS

BENEFITS & SERVICES



To better assist you, the information contained in this booklet has been organized into categories based upon the type of service or benefit that is offered to service members or veterans, such as education benefits or housing services. The information contained within this booklet should not be considered an exhaustive list of services or programs that may be available to a service member or veteran.

URL codes and website links have been provided, where applicable, for more information on specific benefits, services, and programs.

This booklet also provides contact information for federal, state, and local veteran entities.

Prepared by the Michigan Legislature

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Table of Contents

Dear Veteran	
Thank you for your service	3
General Resources	
Resource and Benefit Information	4
Veterans Organizations	5
Federal Benefits and Claim Assistance	6
Discharge Documents	8
Education	
GI Bill Programs	9
Tuition Assistance	12
Support at Universities	14
Programs for Spouses and Dependents	15
Employment	
Career Counseling	17
Job Search and Training Services	18
Veterans Preference	21
Employers and Licensing	22
Reemployment	22
Unemployment Compensation	23
Health Care	
VA Health Care	24
Alternative Providers	25
Health Care Services	26
Health Care Services for Specific Injuries and Diseases	28
Mental Health and Trauma-Related Services	30
Home Health Care and Assisted Living	34
Michigan VA Medical Centers and Clinics	36
Housing	
Housing Programs	37
Housing Supports	38
Home Loans, Mortgages, and Utilities	39
Home Alternations for Disabled Veterans	41
Tax Benefits	41
Other Benefits	42
Monetary Benefits	
Financial Hardship Assistance	43
Benefits for Disabled Veterans and Retirees	45
Life Insurance	47
Survivors Benefits	49
Burial Benefits	50
IDs and Licenses	53
Of Interest to Veterans	
Veteran Holidays	54
Flag Etiquette	54
Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency	58
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services	59
State and Federal Elected Officials	60

Dear Veteran

Thank you for your service . . .

It is indeed a pleasure to serve veterans who gave so much of themselves to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today. Your sacrifices have given us the security of peace in our homeland and abroad, as well as preserved and protected our constitutional right of self-government, for which we are very grateful.

This booklet compiles material from federal, state, and local agencies for you, our veterans and your families, to:

- » Provide information about benefits and services.
- » Provide links to direct sources – computer-based and professional – for answers to specific questions.
- » Assist in communicating more effectively with your elected representatives.
- » Educate state, nonprofit, and community providers about benefits and services available through other agencies or service providers.



Eligibility for most veteran benefits is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Active service means full-time service as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or as a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Current and former members of the Selected Reserve and National Guard may also be eligible for benefits. More information on eligibility for specific military service benefits is available from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, or your County Veterans Service Office.

Any Michigan veteran, or dependent of a veteran, can request the assistance of a Veterans Service Office or County Counselor. Contact information can be found at <https://www.michigan.gov/mvaa/county-filter-search-locations>.

The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency can be reached at 1-800-MICH-VET (1-800-642-4838), or you can visit their website at www.michigan.gov/mvaa. The federal Veterans Benefits Administration's phone number is 1-800-827-1000, or you can visit their website at <https://benefits.va.gov/benefits/>.

This booklet provides information about many of the programs and services available to you and your family. To obtain the referenced benefits, or to determine if you are eligible for any other services or benefits, please contact the included sources.

Thank you for your service.

General Resources

Resource and Benefit Information

National Resource Directory (NRD)

The National Resource Directory (NRD) provides access to thousands of services and resources to support recovery, rehabilitation, and community reintegration for wounded warriors and veterans, as well as to their families and caregivers. The NRD includes extensive information for veterans seeking resources on benefits, education, employment, family support, health, housing, transportation, and sports programs.



If viewing this online, you can visit the NRD website [here](#).

Michigan Veterans Resource Service Center

The Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency's (MVAA) Michigan Veterans Resource Service Center aids veterans and their families by finding services to assist with their needs, connecting them to Veteran Service Officers (VSOs), and providing assistance to access discharge documents.

1-800-642-4838



If viewing this online, you can visit the MVAA's website [here](#).

Veteran Navigators

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) created the Veteran Navigator program to connect veterans and military families with federal, state, and local resources that pertain to issues affecting veterans' health and quality of life, such as mental health, substance use disorders, and housing. Veteran Navigators are assigned to regions across the state to provide statewide services.



If viewing this online, you can visit the Veteran Navigators website [here](#).



Michigan Association of County Veterans Counselors (MACVC)

The Michigan Association of County Veterans Counselors (MACVC) is an organization that assists veterans and their families in obtaining county, state, and federal benefits. Veterans work with county counselors at local veterans offices to file for and obtain benefits, emergency assistance, burial allowance funds, and scholarships. Veterans can search for counselors in their area on the MACVC website.



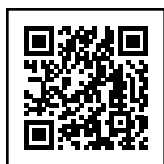
If viewing this online, you can visit the MACVC website [here](#).

Veterans Organizations

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) provides a wide range of assistance programs for veterans, including helping navigate benefit claims, offering scholarships for post-secondary education, providing emergency financial relief, and promoting mental wellness.

313-964-6510



If viewing this online, you can visit the VFW website [here](#).



American Legion

The American Legion helps veterans and their families apply for benefits, search for jobs, find education assistance, enroll in healthcare plans, and learn more about mental health conditions and treatments.

313-964-6641



If viewing this online, you can visit the American Legion website [here](#).

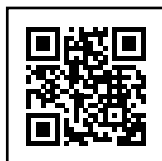
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is an organization that offers assistance to disabled veterans to help them lead high-quality lives after the end of their military service. Services offered by DAV included assisting veterans with filing claims for benefits and connecting them with resources.

313-964-6595



If viewing this online, you can visit the national DAV website [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can visit the Michigan DAV website [here](#).

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

Services offered by Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) include claims assistance, financial advising, and job placement. VVA also provides outreach programs to all veterans who are in need of assistance relating to Agent Orange exposure, post traumatic stress disorder, substance use disorders, and educational advancement.

301-585-4000



If viewing this online, you can visit the VVA website [here](#).

Federal Benefits and Claim Assistance

Applying for Benefits and Filing Claims

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides various benefits for service members, veterans, and dependents. As such, there are numerous ways to apply for VA benefits depending on the type of benefit being sought. Most benefits may be applied for online or by mailing or faxing a paper application.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about applying for VA benefits [here](#).

An accredited attorney, claims agent, or VSO representative can assist service members, veterans, and their families with VA benefit claims.

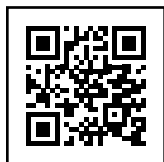
Phone: 1-800-698-2411, ext. 0



If viewing this online, you can learn more about getting assistance with benefit claims [here](#).

VA Forms

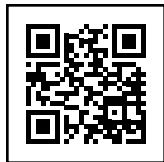
The VA provides a bank of documents used to file claims and apply for benefits.



If viewing this online, you can find various VA forms [here](#).

eBenefits

Although many features have moved to VA.gov, eBenefits allows veterans to apply for, view, and manage certain VA and United States Department of Defense (DoD) benefits.



If viewing this online, you can visit the eBenefits website [here](#).

How to File a Complaint

If a veteran thinks a person or organization assisting with a VA benefit claim has done something illegal or unethical, a complaint should be filed with the Office of General Counsel in the VA's office or with the Federal Trade Commission. The Office of General Counsel is authorized to investigate complaints and remove an individual's VA accreditation. A complaint should include a detailed summary of allegations of misconduct by the individual or organization, a completed and signed VA Form 3288, and any additional information pertinent to the complaint.

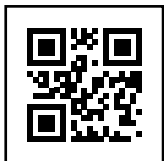


If viewing this online, you can learn more about filing a complaint [here](#).

Contact Information

If you would like more detailed information on veteran benefits and services, you can contact the VA at:

810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 1-800-827-1000
TTY: 711



If viewing this online, you can visit the VA website [here](#).



Discharge Documents

MVAA Discharge Document Retrieval Services

Service members can request their discharge documents (DD-214) free of charge from the MVAA. Service members must complete, sign, and submit a DD-214 Request Form to obtain their DD-214 from the MVAA. The MVAA will need the veteran's full name, date of birth, and social security number to search the database. If the MVAA does not have the requested DD-214, the agency will send the service member a Standard Form 180, which is used to request military record information from federal custodians. Please note that the MVAA can only release certified copies of a DD-214 to the veteran or next of kin after verification of identity.

1-800-642-4838



If viewing this online, you can access the MVAA's DD-214 request form [here](#).

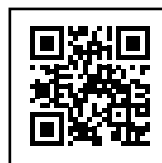
National Personnel Records Center (NPRC)

Discharge documents can be requested from the National Personnel Records Center's (NPRC) online service records request system. The NPRC is the central repository of personnel-related records for both the military and civil services of the United States government. Only veterans or their next of kin may obtain military service records if they separated from service less than 62 years ago. Records from separation 62 years ago (or more) are available to the public upon request. Requests may be made online or by faxing or by mailing in Standard Form 180.

National Personnel Records Center
1 Archives Drive
St. Louis, MO 63138
Phone: 314-801-0800
Fax: 314-801-9195



If viewing this online, you can find the online service record request form [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can visit the NPRC website [here](#).



Education

GI Bill Programs

Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill (VA Chapter 33) is an education benefit program for service members and veterans who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Benefits are payable for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009, which includes tuition and fees, housing allowances, and book and supply stipends.



To be eligible, the service member or veteran must have served at least 90 aggregate days on active duty after September 10, 2001, and remain on active duty or have been honorably discharged. Veterans may also be eligible if they were honorably discharged from active duty for a service-connected disability after serving 30 continuous days after September 10, 2001. Eligibility also extends to veterans who received a Purple Heart and were honorably discharged. Members of the Reserve who lost education benefits as a result of the end of the Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP) may qualify to receive restored benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Generally, service members or veterans may receive up to 36-months of VA education benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Some service members or veterans may be eligible for up to 48 months of benefits. Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits do not expire for service members released from active duty after January 1, 2013, per the Forever GI Bill enacted in 2017. For individuals who left service prior to January 1, 2013, eligibility for benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill expires 15 years after the last separation date from active service.

Under the Forever GI Bill, benefits paid out under the Post-9/11 GI Bill can also be utilized for paying for work study activities and technical education schools, the restoration of education benefits lost after the ending of the Reserve Educational Assistance Program, an increase of educational assistance under the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program, and changes to monthly housing allowances.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Post-9/11 GI Bill program [here](#).

Transfer of Education Benefits

The DoD may offer members of the armed forces on or after August 1, 2009, the opportunity to transfer Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to a spouse or dependent children. The DoD and the military services must approve all requests for this transfer of benefits. In order to transfer benefits, members on active duty or in the Selected Reserve must have completed at least 6 years of service, agree to serve 4 more years, and the individual receiving the benefits must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. Transferable benefits include money to pay for tuition, housing, books, supplies, and fees for national standardized tests and licensing and certifications. Spouses may use these benefits either while the service member is on active duty or after they have separated from service. Children may begin to use the benefits after the service member has completed at least 10 years of service.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about transferring Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits [here](#).

The Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program

The Yellow Ribbon Program was enacted to assist eligible veterans and their dependents by helping pay for out-of-state, private school, foreign school, or graduate school tuition and fees that the Post-9/11 GI Bill does not cover. To be eligible, the student must be a veteran receiving Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits at the 100% benefit rate payable, or be a spouse or dependent child using benefits transferred by an active duty service member or veteran.

The school of attendance must be an institution of higher learning that offers the program. The number of students that may receive the benefit and the amount of the benefit must match those that are within the school's agreement with the VA. The VA will match the school's contribution to reduce or eliminate out-of-pocket costs for eligible participants.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Yellow Ribbon Program [here](#).

Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty (MGIB-AD)

The Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty (MGIB-AD) provides education and training benefits to honorably discharged veterans who served at least 2 years on active duty. There are 4 categories under which a veteran can be deemed eligible for MGIB-AD benefits, and the requirements for each category vary. However, at a minimum, each category requires the veteran to have a high school diploma, GED, or 12-hours of college credit.

Education continued. . .

Assistance may be used for college degree and certificate programs, technical or vocational courses, flight training, apprenticeships or on-the-job training, high-tech training, licensing and certification tests, entrepreneurship training, certain entrance examinations, and correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may also be approved under certain circumstances. Benefits are generally payable for 10 years following a member's release from active service.

Veterans who qualify for MGIB-AD benefits will receive a monthly payment amount based on the veteran's length of service, type of education or training program, eligibility factors, qualification for a college fund or kicker, and participation in the \$600 MGIB-AD "Buy-Up" program. MGIB-AD payments are made directly to the veteran, irrespective of the tuition and fees charged by the school.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the MGIB-AD program [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the MGIB-AD Buy-Up program [here](#).

Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)

The Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) program provides up to 36-months of education and training benefits to members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard Reserve, Army National Guard, or Air National Guard.

To be eligible, service members must have completed initial active duty training and have a high school diploma or GED. Service members must also remain in good standing and either have a 6-year service obligation in the Selected Reserve or be an officer in the Selected Reserve and agree to serve 6 years beyond the initial service obligation. Leaving the Selected Reserve terminates eligibility for the program, with some exceptions.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about MGIB-SR program [here](#).

National Call to Service Program

The National Call to Service Program is a benefit program that veterans can choose as an alternative to the MGIB. Under the program, eligible veterans can receive a cash bonus of \$5,000, repayment of a qualifying student loan of not more than \$18,000, educational assistance equal to the 3-year monthly MGIB-AD rate for 12-months, or educational assistance equal to 50% of the less-than-3-year monthly MGIB-AD rate for 36-months.

Education continued...

To be eligible, the veteran must have completed their initial entry training and then subsequently served on active duty for 15-months in a military occupational specialty designated by the Secretary of Defense. Without a break in service, the veteran must have also served either an additional period of active duty or 24-months in active status in the Selected Reserve. Additionally, the veteran must have spent the rest of their obligated service on active duty in the armed forces, in the Selected Reserve, in the Individual Ready Reserve, or in AmeriCorps or another domestic national service program that is jointly designated by the Secretary of Defense.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the National Call to Service Program [here](#).

Edith Nourse Rogers Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) Scholarship

The Edith Nourse Rogers Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) Scholarship provides up to 9-months (or \$30,000) of benefits toward STEM undergraduate degrees, teaching certification programs, or clinical training programs for health care professionals. This scholarship is available for eligible veterans using the Post-9/11 GI Bill and dependents using the Fry Scholarship.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Nourse Scholarship [here](#).

Tuition Assistance

Tuition Assistance Programs (TA)

The Tuition Assistance (TA) program covers tuition and expenses for active duty service members obtaining a postsecondary education during off-duty periods. The program pays educational institutions up to \$250 per semester hour, with an annual limit of \$4,500.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Army TA program [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Air Force TA program [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Navy TA program [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Coast Guard TA program [here](#).

Tuition Assistance Top-Up

The Tuition Assistance Top-Up program provides additional tuitional funding for veterans and service members who need assistance covering the full cost of a college course after TA benefits are applied. This program is available to veterans and service members who qualify for MGIB-AD or Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and whose tuition fees cost more than TA will cover.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Top-Up program [here](#).

Michigan National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program (MINGSTAP)

Public Act 259 of 2014 established the Michigan National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program (MINGSTAP) to provide tuition assistance to active duty members of the Michigan National Guard who are attending any public or private college, university, vocational school, technical school, or trade school located in Michigan. Qualifying members of the National Guard or their spouse or dependent can receive tuition assistance of up to \$6,000 for training, certificate, or master's degree programs and up to \$14,400 for associate or bachelor's degree programs.

1-517-481-7640



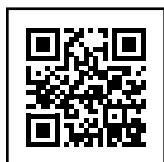
If viewing this online, you can learn more about MINGSTAP [here](#).

Federal Pell Grant Program

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income students to promote access to postsecondary education. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED and be studying in an undergraduate program. Eligibility is based on a standard formula, which relies heavily on information from families' federal tax returns. The amount of the awarded Pell Grant depends on the students' expected family contribution, the cost of attendance, and other factors.

Students may apply for Pell Grants, as well as federal, state, and institutional financial aid programs, by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA). States and colleges also use FASFA information to award their own grants, scholarships, and loans. The FASFA form is available online and must be submitted each academic year before July 1st. Each state also has its own deadline; for the 2025-2026 FASFA year, Michigan's deadline was by July 1, 2025, at midnight.

1-800-433-3243



If viewing this online, you can visit the Student Aid website [here](#).

Support at Universities

MVAA Veteran-Friendly School Program

The MVAA Veteran-Friendly School Program recognizes academic institutions of higher learning who are committed to supporting the needs of student veterans and their dependents. These institutions offer veteran-specific services such as career advising, on-campus veteran coordinators, evaluation of military training and experience with possible award of credit, and others. A full list of participating institutions can be found on the Veteran-Friendly Schools dashboard.



If viewing this online, you can find the Veteran-Friendly Schools Dashboard [here](#).

VetSuccess on Campus

VetSuccess on Campus is a program designed to provide on-campus benefits assistance and readjustment counseling to veterans completing their college education and beginning viable careers. An experienced Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and a Vet Center Outreach Coordinator are assigned at each campus to provide VA benefits outreach, support, and assistance to ensure their health, educational, and benefit needs are met.

Current Michigan locations include Eastern Michigan University, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kellogg Community College, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Community College, and Western Michigan University.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the VetSuccess on Campus program [here](#).



Programs for Spouses and Dependents

Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship

The Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship provides benefits for children and surviving spouses of members of the armed forces or Selected Reserve who died in the line of duty or from a service-connected disability on or after September 11, 2001. Benefits include up to 36-months of financial assistance for tuition and fees, housing, books and supplies, tutorial assistance, national exams, licensing and certification tests and prep courses, work studies, and moving costs.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Fry Scholarship [here](#).

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA)

Children and spouses of veterans or service members who have died, are captured or missing, or are permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability may qualify for educational benefits under the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) program. Benefits include monthly payments to help cover the costs of college or graduate degree programs, career-training certificate courses, apprenticeships, on-the-job training, and educational and career counseling.

Under certain circumstances, a dependent may qualify for both the Fry Scholarship and DEA. However, these benefits may not be utilized at the same time, and dependents are capped on the combined amount of benefits that they may utilize.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the DEA program [here](#).

Children of Veterans Tuition Grant Program (CVTG)

The Children of Veterans Tuition Grant (CVTG) was established under Public Act 248 of 2005 to provide an undergraduate tuition grant program for children of certain deceased or disabled members of the armed forces.

The program is designed to provide undergraduate tuition assistance to certain children between the ages of 16 and 26 who have been a Michigan resident for the 12-months prior to application. To be eligible, a student must be the natural or adopted child of a Michigan veteran. Stepchildren are not eligible. The veteran must have been a legal resident of Michigan immediately before entering military service and must not have later resided outside of Michigan for more than two years. In the alternative, the veteran must have established legal residency in Michigan after entering military service.

Students may receive scholar-ship assistance for up to 4 academic years or a total of up to \$11,200, whichever comes first. Awards are determined by the student's enrollment status.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about CVTG [here](#).

Army Emergency Relief (AER)

Army Emergency Relief (AER) is an organization that provides scholarship programs for spouses and dependent children of service members. Under the Mrs. Patty Shinseki Spouse Scholarship Program, assistance for up to 4 academic years of full-time study or 8 academic years of part-time study is available to eligible spouses without a 4-year college degree who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree or first technical certification. The Major General James Ursano Scholarship Program for Dependent Children provides assistance for up to 4 academic years of full-time study to eligible children who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree or first technical certification.



If viewing this online, you can visit the AER website [here](#).

Air Force Aid Society (AFAS)

The Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) helps dependent children and spouses of Airmen and Guardians obtain a college degree by providing grants, scholarships, and loans.



If viewing this online, you can visit the AFAS website [here](#).

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS)

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) provides scholarships and interest-free loans to eligible Navy and Marine Corps families. Once per academic year, scholarships between \$500 and \$3,000 and interest-free education loans of up to \$4,000 are awarded to the children and spouses of active-duty, retired, or qualifying deceased Sailors and Marines. Scholarship and loan amounts are determined by the FAFSA Student Aid Report and tuition costs. Funds are provided directly to the applicant's educational institution to help pay for tuition, books, and room and board.



If viewing this online, you can visit the NMCRS website [here](#).



Employment

Career Counseling

Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) Program

The Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) Program provides counseling services for veterans and service members who have a service-connected disability that impacts their ability to work. The program aims to help veterans and service members get education or training, find and keep a job, and live as independently as possible.

Educational and vocational counseling services are available to veterans who received an other than dishonorable discharge who have a service-connected disability rating of at least 10% from the VA. Veterans discharged from active duty before January 1, 2013, have a 12-year eligibility period. Veterans discharged on or after January 1, 2013, do not have a time limit on eligibility. Service members on active duty may be eligible for the program if they have a 20% or higher pre-discharge disability rating and will soon leave the military, or if they are waiting to be discharged because of a severe illness or injury that occurred while on active duty.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the VR&E Program [here](#).

Personalized Career Planning and Guidance (PCPG) (VA Chapter 36)

The Personalized Career Planning and Guidance (PCPG) program provides free educational and career guidance, planning, and resources to veterans and their dependents. The program's benefits include career and educational counseling to help veterans decide upon a career path or field of study, academic and adjustment counseling to address any barriers to success, resume support, and goal planning. Program eligibility is extended to service members set to be discharged from active duty within 6 months, veterans separated from active duty within the last year, and veterans, service members, and dependents eligible for VA education benefits.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the PCPG program [here](#).

Transition Assistance Program (TAP)

The Transition Assistance Program (TAP) was established to meet the needs of service members and their families during their transition from military service into civilian life. The program provides trainings and workshops on finding employment, navigating resources, and beginning financial planning.

The program includes a mandatory, one-day, in-person or online course called VA Benefits and Services. The course educates veterans on the benefits and services available to them, and covers topics such as family support, disability compensation, education, and health care benefits.

A TAP virtual curriculum is available to service members who are unable to attend the TAP course in person due to military exigencies.



If viewing this online, you can visit the VA's TAP webpage [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can visit the Department of Labor's TAP webpage [here](#).

Veterans' Employment Services

Veterans' Employment Services provides program-specific services to eligible veterans and their spouses. Veterans' Career Advisors provide individualized case management and career services, including assessment interviews, career guidance, employment plans, job search activities, and labor market information. The Veterans' Career Advisors also work in conjunction with local Michigan Works! Service Centers to assist veterans with their resumes, interview skills, and social networking.



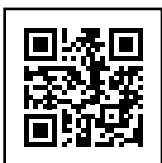
If viewing this online, you can visit the Employment Services website [here](#).

Job Search and Training Services

Pure Michigan Talent Connect

Michigan has recreated its labor exchange system under Pure Michigan Talent Connect. Talent Connect allows employers to connect with qualified talent and assists job seekers in finding job opportunities, education, and training. Talent Connect includes specific assistance for veterans to make a successful transition from military to civilian employment.

1-833-727-3495



If viewing this online, you can visit the Talent Connect website [here](#).



U.S. Department of Labor (DoL) Employment and Training Administration

Michigan veterans can advance their employment prospects by learning a trade or skill through participation in VA and United States Department of Labor (DoL) on-the-job trainings or apprenticeships. These programs typically involve entering into a training contract for a specific period of time with an employer or union. There are many on-the-job training and apprenticeship opportunities including software developer, financial analyst, electrical technician, and others.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about DoL programs [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can read more about trainings and apprenticeships from the VA [here](#).

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Veteran Internship Program

The Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) Veteran Internship Program provides employment opportunities for honorably discharged veterans transitioning into the civilian workforce. MDOT partners with nationwide service-related organizations to offer a variety of employment opportunities and place veterans based on their knowledge, skills, and abilities. The program provides veterans with employment, compensation, training, mentorship, accommodations, and coaching for resume writing and interview skills.

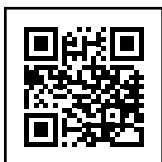


If viewing this online, you can learn more about the MDOT's program [here](#).

Helmets to Hardhats

Helmets to Hardhats is a national, nonprofit program that helps transitioning military, guardsmen, and reservists find quality career opportunities in the construction industry. Most career opportunities offered by the program are connected to federally approved apprenticeship training programs. Such training is provided by the trade organizations themselves at no cost to the veteran. No prior experience is needed. All participating trade organizations conduct 3- to 5-year, earn-while-you-learn apprenticeship training programs. Because these apprenticeship programs are regulated and approved at both federal and state levels, veterans can utilize their MGIB benefits to supplement their income while they are learning valuable skills and on-the-job training.

1-866-741-6210



If viewing this online, you can visit the Helmets to Hardhats website [here](#).

Homeless Veterans Community Employment Services (HVCES)

Homeless Veterans Community Employment Services (HVCES) is an employment program aimed at helping job-ready veterans exiting homelessness and those on the brink of homelessness gain stable and long-term employment. Community Employment Coordinators work with local employers to identify suitable jobs based on a veteran's skills and abilities. Community Employment Coordinators work out of VA Medical Centers and are responsible for connecting homeless and at-risk veterans to appropriate VA and community-based employment services.

1-877-424-3838



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the HVCES program [here](#).

Compensated Work Therapy (CWT)

Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) provides veterans with realistic and meaningful vocational opportunities, encouraging successful reintegration into the community at the veterans' highest functional level. An individual rehabilitation plan is developed for each veteran allowing them to work for pay, learn new job skills, and relearn successful work habits.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about CWT [here](#).

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) is a statewide network of vocational rehabilitation professionals developing customized workforce solutions that meet the needs of businesses and individuals with disabilities. To be eligible for services, an individual must have an existing physical or mental impairment, vocational or work-related barrier due to a disability, and an assessment by a MRS counselor.



1-800-605-6722

If viewing this online, you can learn more about MRS [here](#).

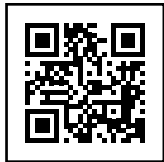


Veterans Preference

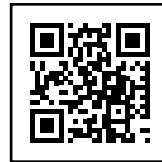
Veterans Preference for Federal Jobs

Certain veterans, principally those who are disabled or who served on active duty during specified times, are entitled to preference for federal civil service jobs when hiring is from competitive lists of eligible candidates.

Preference is also provided for certain widows and widowers of deceased veterans who died in service; spouses of service-connected disabled veterans; and mothers of veterans who died under honorable conditions on active duty or have permanent and total service-connected disabilities.



If viewing this online, you can visit the FedsHireVets website [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can visit the USAJobs website [here](#).

Veterans' Preference for State Jobs

The Civil Service Commission provides for a veterans hiring preference for Michigan state classified service through rules adopted by the commission. Specifically, Rule 3-8 provides for a preference for an eligible veteran or spouse of a veteran.

An eligible veteran or spouse must register with the Civil Service Commission using Form CS-1791, and include the required documentation.



If viewing this online, you can review the Civil Service Commission's rules for veteran preference [here](#).

Veteran Small Business Certification (VetCert)

The Veteran Small Business Certification (VetCert) program provides advantages for owners of veteran-owned small businesses when bidding on government contracts. Obtaining a certification allows businesses to compete for sole-source and set-aside contracts at the VA and across the federal government. The VA sets aside at least 7% of its contracts each year for certified veteran-owned small businesses and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.



If viewing this online, you can visit the Small Business Administration's webpage on the VetCert program [here](#).

Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVBO) Preference

Service-disabled veteran business owners may be eligible for up to a 10% pricing preference when bidding for certain state government purchase contracts under MCL 18.1261 and for certain state construction contracts under MCL 18.1241.

1-517-388-6012



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the SDVBO preference [here](#).

Employers and Licensing

MVAA Veteran-Friendly Employer Program

The MVAA created the Veteran-Friendly Employer Program to recognize employers that commit to military veteran recruitment, training, and retention practices. The program also assists employers in attracting veteran talent to their workplaces.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about veteran-friendly employers [here](#).



Occupational Licensing

The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) provides licensing resources for veterans, including counting military experience toward qualifications required for certain occupational licenses, waiving fees, exempting continuing education requirements, and granting temporary licenses for military spouses.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about veteran licensing resources [here](#).

Reemployment

Federal Reemployment Rights

Under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), a person who left a civilian job to enter active duty in the armed forces may be entitled to return to their civilian job after discharge or release from active duty.

To be reemployed, four requirements must be met:

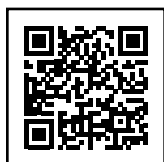
- » The person must give advance notice of military service to the employer;
- » The cumulative absence from the civilian job shall not exceed 5 years (with some exceptions);
- » The person must submit a timely application for reemployment after the conclusion of their service; and
- » The person must not have been released with a dishonorable or other punitive discharge.

Employment continued...

The law calls for the returning veteran to be placed in the job as if the veteran had remained continuously employed. This means that the person may be entitled to benefits that are based on seniority, such as pensions, pay increases, and promotions. The law also prohibits discrimination in hiring, promotion, or other advantages of employment on the basis of military service.

Applications for reemployment should be given, verbally or in writing, to a person authorized to represent the company for hiring purposes. A record should be kept of the application. If there are problems gaining reemployment, the employee should contact the DoL's Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS). Reemployment rights apply to the private sector, as well as state, local, and federal government employees, including the Postal Service.

1-866-237-0275



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the USERRA [here](#).

State Reemployment Rights for Veterans

MCL 32.273 provides reemployment protections for military service members. Specifically, the statute provides employment protections to individuals who request a leave of absence from their employer for the purpose of being inducted into or entering military service. Under the statute, individuals who are reemployed are entitled to the seniority-based rights and benefits they would have otherwise been entitled to, as well as other rights provided to employees on a leave of absence. Under certain circumstances, a person may not be entitled to reemployment under the law.



If viewing this online, you can review the provisions of MCL 32.273 [here](#).

Unemployment Compensation

Unemployment Compensation

Honorably discharged veterans may be eligible to receive weekly unemployment compensation after completing a full term of service. Veterans must file a claim on or after the date shown in item 12(b) on their Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. Claims must be filed with the Unemployment Insurance Agency.



If viewing this online, you can visit the Unemployment Insurance Agency's website [here](#).

Health Care

VA Health Care

Application

Veterans must enroll in VA health care in order to receive care at VA health facilities. Veterans can apply by completing VA Form 10-10EZ or applying online.

1-877-222-8387



If viewing this online, you can learn more about applying for VA health care benefits [here](#).

Eligibility

Service members who served in the active military, naval, or air service and were separated under any condition other than dishonorable may qualify for VA health care benefits. Current and former members of the Reserves or National Guard who were called to active duty by a federal order and completed the full period for which they were called or ordered to active duty may be eligible for VA health care benefits as well.

Most veterans who enlisted after September 7, 1980, or who entered active duty after October 16, 1981, must have served 24-continuous months or the full period for which they were called to active duty in order to be eligible. This minimum duty requirement may not apply to veterans who were discharged for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, for a hardship or "early out," or those who served prior to September 7, 1980. Since there are a number of other exceptions to the minimum duty requirements, VA encourages all veterans to apply so that it may determine their enrollment eligibility.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA health care eligibility requirements [here](#).

Costs

Many veterans qualify for cost-free health care services based on a compensable service-connected condition or other qualifying factor. Other veterans may be required to pay copays for treatment of their nonservice-connection condition. While some veterans qualify for free health care based on certain eligibilities, most veterans will be required to complete a financial assessment at the time of enrollment to determine whether they are eligible for enrollment and for free health care services. If the veteran's gross household income (including spouse and dependents, if applicable) exceeds the VA income limits, the veteran may be required to pay a copay for health care services.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA health care costs [here](#).

Copays

Veterans whose income exceeds the established VA income limits as well as those who choose not to complete the financial assessment must agree to pay required copays to become eligible for VA health care services.

Some veterans qualify for free health care and/or prescriptions based on special eligibility factors. In addition, some services are exempt from inpatient and outpatient copays.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA health care copays [here](#).

Online Services

The VA offers veterans, service members, and their dependents and caregivers their own personal health record through My HealtheVet. With My HealtheVet, veterans can access trusted health information to better manage personal health care and learn about other VA benefits and services.



If viewing this online, you can visit the My HealtheVet website [here](#).

Alternative Providers

Veteran Community Care

The Veteran Community Care program allows veterans to receive care from a community provider, paid for by the VA, when the VA cannot provide the required care. Generally, veterans must receive approval from the VA prior to obtaining care from a community provider. Veterans will be charged a copay for nonservice-connected care.

Veterans must meet at least one of 6 criteria to be eligible to receive community care:

- » The veteran is in need of a service not available at a VA medical facility;
- » The veteran lives in a state or territory without a full-service VA medical facility;
- » The veteran has been grandfathered in under the distance eligibility criteria of the former Veterans Choice Program;
- » The VA cannot provide care within certain designated access standards;
- » It is in the veteran's best medical interest to receive community care; or
- » A VA service line does not meet certain quality standards.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about community care [here](#).

Foreign Medical Program

Through the Foreign Medical Program, the VA will pay for health care services, medications, and durable medical equipment for service-connected conditions of eligible veterans who are permanently relocating to a country under the program's jurisdiction.

1-877-345-8179



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Foreign Medical Program [here](#).



Health Care Services

Women Veterans Health Care

The VA provides women veterans health care, which includes services regarding general health and wellness, reproductive health, mental health, and violence and abuse. Women veterans who served on active duty in the military and were discharged under honorable conditions may be eligible for these VA health care benefits. Women Veterans Call Center representatives are available to call, text, or chat online with to discuss eligibility, enrollment, or setting up medical appointments.

1-855-829-6636



If viewing this online, you can learn more about women's health care needs [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can learn more about women veterans health care [here](#).

Dental Treatment

VA dental care benefits are provided based on benefit classes. Veterans may be eligible for dental services if one of the following applies:

- » The veteran has a service-connected compensable dental disability or condition;
- » The veteran is a former prisoner of war;
- » The veteran has one or more service-connected disabilities that are rated 100% disabling or is unemployable due to service-connected conditions;
- » The veteran is participating in the VR&E program;
- » The veteran applies for dental care within 180 days of discharge or release (under conditions other than dishonorable) from a period of active duty of 90 days or more during the Persian Gulf War era;
- » The veteran has a service-connected noncompensable dental condition or disability resulting from combat wounds or service trauma;
- » The veteran has a dental condition clinically determined by the VA to be currently aggravating a service-connected medical condition;

Health Care continued...

- » The veteran is receiving outpatient care or is scheduled for inpatient care and requires dental care for a condition complicating a medical condition currently under treatment;
- » The veteran signed up to receive care through the Homeless Veterans Dental Program; or
- » The veteran is currently inpatient in a hospital, nursing home, or other supervised care setting.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA dental care benefits [here](#).

Vision

Under VA health care benefits, routine eye exams and preventative vision testing is covered for veterans. If a veteran meets one of the following requirements, the cost of eyeglasses may also be covered:

- » The veteran has a compensable service-connected disability;
- » The veteran is a former prisoner of war;
- » The veteran is a Purple Heart recipient;
- » The veteran receives benefits for disabilities suffered while receiving VA medical care or is taking part in a VA employment program; or
- » The veteran receives increased pension benefits based on being housebound and needing regular aid and attendance.

Certain medical conditions may also qualify a veteran for coverage of eyeglasses.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA vision care benefits [here](#).

Rehabilitation and Prosthetic Services

VA health care benefits may cover prosthetics, orthotics, durable medical equipment, and sensory aid fulfillment services upon request. Prosthetic services and equipment include mobility aids, home oxygen services, surgical implants, recreational and rehabilitative equipment, artificial limbs, therapeutic shoes, aids for visual impairment, hearing aids, eyeglasses, communication and assistive devices, and other durable medical equipment. Prosthetic Benefit Programs also provide clothing allowances, home improvement and structural alterations, automotive adaptive equipment, and service dog veterinary care.

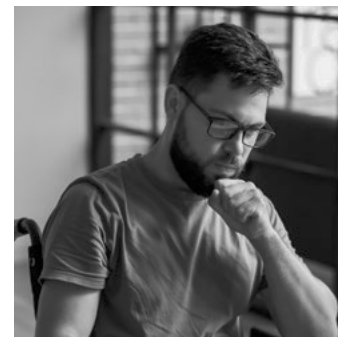


If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA rehabilitation and prosthetic services [here](#).

Health Care Services for Specific Injuries and Diseases

Exposures Injuries

Veterans may have been exposed to a range of chemical, physical, and environmental hazards during military service. The VA offers health care benefits for veterans who may have been exposed to certain hazards, including Agent Orange related illnesses, Gulf War veterans' illnesses, certain infectious diseases, conditions linked to toxic embedded fragments, traumatic brain injuries (TBI), injuries from cold or desert climates, rabies, radiation exposure related diseases, and other job-related hazards.



Agent Orange, Radiation, Depleted Uranium, and Gulf War Exposures

Certain veterans are presumed to have been exposed to Agent Orange and other herbicides used in support of military operations during their time of service. 19 illnesses are presumed by the VA to be service connected for such veterans.

Veterans eligible for the Agent Orange registry health exam include veterans who served in Vietnam between 1962 and 1975, those who served on smaller river patrol and swift boats (Brown Water Veterans), and Blue Water Navy veterans; veterans who served in or near the Korean Demilitarized Zone between September 1, 1967 and August 31, 1971; and certain Air Force and Army veterans who served in Thailand anytime between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975. Other eligible veterans include those who may have been exposed to herbicides during a military operation or as a result of testing, transporting, or spraying herbicides for military purposes.

For veterans who participated in "radiation risk activities" as defined in VA regulations while on active duty, active duty training, or inactive duty training, certain conditions are presumed to be service-connected, including leukemia (except for chronic lymphocytic leukemia); several cancers; bronchiolo-alveolar carcinoma; multiple myeloma; lymphomas (other than Hodgkin's disease), and primary liver cancer (except if cirrhosis or hepatitis B is indicated).

To determine service connection for other conditions or exposures not eligible for presumptive service connection, the VA considers factors such as the amount of radiation exposure, duration of exposure, elapsed time between exposure and onset of the disease, gender, family history, age at time of exposure, the extent to which a non-service-related exposure could contribute to disease, and the relative sensitivity of exposed tissue.

Gulf War veterans with chronic disabilities may receive disability compensation for chronic disabilities resulting from undiagnosed illnesses and/or medically unexplained chronic multi-symptom illnesses defined by a cluster of signs or symptoms. A disability is considered chronic if it has existed for at least 6 months. The undiagnosed illnesses must have appeared either during active service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations or by December 31, 2026, and be at least 10% disabling.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about exposure injuries [here](#).

Kidney Disease

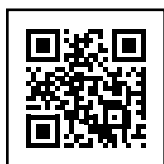
The Veteran's Health Administration provides nephrology care, which is the treatment of acute or chronic kidney disease, to veterans across the country through VA medical centers.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA nephrology care [here](#).

Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

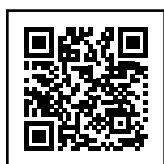
The Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Centers for Excellence is a part of the VA that is dedicated to understanding MS, minimizing the impairment of veterans, and maximizing the quality of life for veterans diagnosed with MS.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA MS care [here](#).

Parkinson's Disease

To address the needs of veterans who develop Parkinson's Disease, the VA has established 6 Parkinson's Disease Research, Education, and Clinical Centers across the country, with expanded care through a network of providers with expertise in movement disorders.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA Parkinson's care [here](#).

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

A traumatic brain injury (TBI) is an injury to the head that disrupts the normal functioning of the brain. It can be caused by direct or indirect involvement with an Improvised Explosive Device (IED), mortar, grenade, bullet, car accident, or fall.

It is sometimes called the invisible wound because the injury can be sustained without visible external wounds. The extent of damage from a TBI might not be realized until after the service member is back home. Further, the symptoms may not be recognized as a TBI and may even be confused with PTSD.

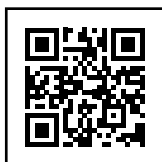
Veterans who use VA health care must undergo a mandatory TBI screening if they served in combat operations. The Brain Injury Association of Michigan (BIAMI) works to improve the lives of those affected by brain injury through education, advocacy, research, and local support groups.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA TBI support [here](#).



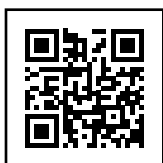
If viewing this online, you can learn more about TBIs in Michigan [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can visit BIAMI's website [here](#).

Spinal Injuries

The VA has established a Spinal Cord Injuries and Disorders System of Care, which provides coordinated life-long services to veterans with spinal cord injuries or disorders. The connected networks that provide veterans with care are coordinated to address each phase of life. The VA maintains 25 of these centers across the country.

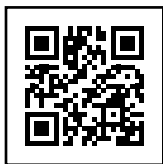


If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA spinal injury care [here](#).



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Paralyzed Veterans of America is a nonprofit veteran service organization that assists veterans with spinal cord injuries, disorders, and diseases, like MS and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The organization provides veterans with various services, including adaptive sports, vocational counseling, and medical and legal advocacy.



If viewing this online, you can visit the Paralyzed Veterans of America's website [here](#).

Mental Health and Trauma-Related Services

Mental Health Services

To address the mental health needs of service members and veterans returning to civilian life, the VA offers a wide array of mental health services. These services include peer support, counseling, therapy, and medications.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA mental health services [here](#).

Readjustment Counseling

Vet Centers are community-based counseling centers that provide professional counseling to eligible veterans, service members, and their families. Individual, group, marriage, and family counseling is offered in addition to referrals and connections to other VA or community benefits and services. Counseling is offered to help veterans adjust to civilian life and process traumatic events experienced in the military.

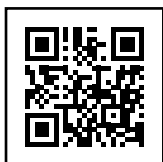
Health Care continued...

Veterans are eligible for readjustment counseling if they served in any combat theater or area of hostility, provided mortuary services or direct emergent medical care while on active duty, experienced military sexual trauma, served as a member of an unmanned aerial vehicle crew providing direct support to operations in a combat zone, served on active duty in response to a national emergency or disaster, participated in a drug interdiction operation while in the Coast Guard, are a current member of the Reserve with a behavior health condition or physiological trauma related to military service, or are pursuing a course of education covered by assistance benefits. Veterans who served in the active military during the Vietnam-era are eligible if they requested services at a Vet Center prior to January 2, 2013. Family members are also eligible if their participation would support the growth and goals of the veteran or service member.

Bereavement counseling is available at community-based Vet Centers to family members of service members who died while on active duty, by suicide, or while the veteran was receiving Vet Center services.

The Vet Center Call Center is an around-the-clock confidential call center where combat veterans and their families can call to talk about their military experience or any other issues they are facing in their readjustment to civilian life.

1-877-927-8387



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA Vet Centers [here](#).

Depression Treatment

VA health care benefits include services to treat depression in veterans. This type of care can include medication or psychotherapy.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA depression treatment services [here](#).

Substance Use Treatment

VA health care benefits include services to treatment substance use disorders. In some circumstances, a veteran who does not have VA health care benefits may still be able to access some substance use treatments, such as if they served in a combat zone or are homeless or at risk of being homeless. This type of care can include medications, counseling, or therapy, depending on the nature of the substance use disorder.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA substance use treatment services [here](#).

Veterans Treatment Court

Michigan's Veterans Treatment Courts address the need to better support Michigan veterans and assist them with their transition to civilian life. Veterans Treatment Courts use a hybrid integration of drug court and mental health court principles. The courts promote sobriety, recovery, and stability by collaborating with community and state-wide partners. To be eligible to participate in a Veterans Treatment Court, a veteran cannot be charged with a violent offense and must complete a confidential pre-admissions screening and evaluation assessment. As of July 2025, there were 29 Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about Michigan's Veterans Treatment Courts [here](#).

Military Sexual Trauma

Military sexual trauma refers to the sexual assault or sexual harassment that service members experience during their time in military service. The VA provides free physical and mental health treatment for conditions resulting from military sexual trauma. Proof of the trauma or proof of reporting is not required in order to receive care.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA care for military sexual trauma [here](#).

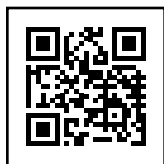
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

According to the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, the condition known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a mental health problem that can occur following the experience or witnessing of life threatening events such as military combat, natural disasters, terrorist incidents, serious accidents, or violent personal assaults like rape. Most survivors of trauma return to normal given a little time. However, some people will have stress reactions that do not go away on their own or may even get worse over time. These individuals may develop PTSD. People who suffer from PTSD often relive the experience through nightmares and flashbacks, have difficulty sleeping, and feel detached or estranged, and these symptoms can be severe enough and last long enough to significantly impair the person's daily life.

PTSD is marked by clear biological changes as well as psychological symptoms. PTSD is complicated by the fact that it frequently occurs in conjunction with related disorders such as depression, substance use disorders, problems of memory and cognition, and other problems related to their physical and mental health. The disorder is also associated with impairment of the person's ability to function in social or family life, including occupational instability, marital problems and divorces, family discord, and difficulties in parenting.

Health Care continued. . .

The VA has provided information about PTSD and treatment options through an interactive “PTSD Treatment Decision Aid” that can be accessed online. PTSD treatment programs are also provided across the U.S. and offer various types of therapy, medication, and inpatient care programs.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA PTSD care services [here](#).

PTSD Coach

PTSD Coach is a mobile application that provides information about PTSD, self-help, and symptom management tools and resources available to assist in dealing with post trauma effects.

Several other apps are also available including PTSD Family Coach, Mindfulness Coach, CPT (Cognitive Processing Therapy) Coach, and PE (Prolonged Exposure) Coach.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about PTSD Coach and other apps [here](#).

Emergency Mental Health Care

The Veterans Crisis Line provides help for veterans or service members who are experiencing a crisis and the individuals who are supporting them. The service is available regardless of enrollment in VA benefits or health care.

Same-day access to emergency mental health care is available at any VA health care facility nationwide. All VA medical centers offer emergency stabilization care for former service members who arrive at the facility with an emergent mental health need, no matter the individual's discharge status. Individuals with an other-than-honorable discharge may receive care for up to 90 days on an inpatient, residential, or outpatient basis. If it is determined that the mental health condition is a result of a service-related injury, the service member becomes eligible for ongoing coverage for that condition, even with an other-than-honorable discharge.

Phone: 988 and press 1

Text: 838255



If viewing this online, you can chat online with the Veterans Crisis Line [here](#).

Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (MH RRTP)

Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs (MH RRTPs) provide residential rehabilitative and clinical care to eligible veterans with illnesses or rehabilitative care needs. Evidence-based treatment for mental illnesses, including PTSD and substance use disorders, is provided. An assessment is required to determine admission to MH RRTP facilities.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about MH RRTPs [here](#).

Home Health Care and Assisted Living

Nursing Home Care

Veterans may obtain VA benefits to help pay for nursing home care. Nursing home settings include:

- » Community Living Centers, owned and operated by the VA.
- » State Veterans Homes, owned and operated by the states.
- » Community Nursing Homes, private organizations that contract with the VA.

Each program has admission and eligibility criteria specific to that program. Nursing home care is available to veterans who meet eligibility criteria involving service-connected status, level of disability, and income. VA-provided nursing home care for all other veterans is based on available resources.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA long-term care benefits [here](#).

Michigan Veterans Homes

Michigan Veterans Homes provide long-term nursing care and services for veterans in home-like settings. Individuals may be eligible to live in a Michigan Veterans Home if they are an honorably discharged veteran or a dependent of a veteran who is deemed eligible for admission or was deemed eligible at the time of the veteran's death. Individuals may also be qualified if they are eligible for USDVA healthcare or financial assistance for long-term nursing care. There are 3 Michigan Veterans Homes communities:

Michigan Veteran Homes
at Chesterfield Township
47901 Sugarbush Road
Chesterfield Township, MI 48047

Main Line: 586-210-7102

Admissions: 586-210-7103

DMVA-MVHCT-Admissions@michigan.gov

Michigan Veteran Homes
at Grand Rapids
2950 Monroe Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Main Line: 616-345-6107

Admissions: 616-345-6110

DMVA-GRHV-Admissions@michigan.gov

Michigan Veteran Homes
D.J. Jacobetti
425 Fisher Street
Marquette, MI 49855

Main Line: 906-226-3576

Admissions: 906-225-6889

DMVA-DJJHV-Admissions@michigan.gov

Veterans' Facility Ombudsman

The Michigan Veterans' Facility Ombudsman was created by Public Act 198 of 2016. The office is responsible for investigating complaints and concerns brought by legislators, residents, and family members regarding Michigan Veterans' Facilities.

1-517-373-1347
MVFO@legislature.mi.gov



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Veterans' Facility Ombudsman [here](#).



Caregiver Programs and Services

The VA has long advocated for caregivers as vital partners in providing care worthy of the sacrifices by America's veterans and service members. VA medical centers house a designated caregiver support point of contact to coordinate caregiver activities and serve as a resource expert for veterans, their families, and VA providers. Several programs are available for veteran caregivers including:

- » Caregiver support line, 1-855-260-3274.
- » Caregiver support coordinator.
- » Peer support mentoring.
- » Caregiver education and training programs.
- » Family support services.

Enhanced services are available for eligible caregivers and may include respite care, health care insurance, counseling, travel benefits, and financial stipend under the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. Veterans may be eligible if they have a service-connected disability and are in need of personal care services for a minimum of 6 continuous months. This program can be applied for online or by filling out VA Form 10-10CG.

For more information, you can contact a caregiver support coordinator located at the VA medical centers in Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Detroit, Iron Mountain, or Saginaw.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA caregiver programs and services [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can find information about local caregiver support coordinators [here](#).

Area Agencies on Aging

Under MDHHS, some local providers offer services to aging adults with the goal of keeping them in the setting of their choice (such as living at home) for as long as possible. These types of services are complementary to the care that is provided by family and friends. Services offered by area agencies on aging can include caregiver services, community services, in-home services, and nutrition services.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about aging services [here](#).

Michigan VA Medical Centers and Clinics

VA Medical Centers

**Aleda E. Lutz
VA Medical Center**
1500 Weiss St.
Saginaw, MI 48602
989-497-2500

**Battle Creek
VA Medical Center**
5500 Armstrong Rd.
Battle Creek, MI 49037
269-966-5600

**John D. Dingell
VA Medical Center**
4646 John R. St.
Detroit, MI 48201
313-576-1000

**Lt. Col. Charles S. Kettles
VA Medical Center**
2215 Fuller Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
734-769-7100

**Oscar G. Johnson
VA Medical Facility**
325 E. H. St.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
800-215-8262

Vet Centers

Dearborn Vet Center
19855 Outer Dr.
Dearborn, MI 48124
313-277-1428

Detroit Vet Center
11214 E. Jefferson Ave.
Detroit, MI 48214
313-822-1141

Escanaba Vet Center
301 N. 30th St.
Escanaba, MI 49829
906-233-0244

Great Lakes Bay Vet Center
5360 Hampton Place
Saginaw, MI 48604
989-321-4650

Macomb County Vet Center
42621 Garfield Rd.
Clinton Township, MI 48038
586-412-0107

Traverse City Vet Center
4960 Skyview Court
Traverse City, MI 49684
231-935-0051

Clinics

Adrian VA Clinic
770 Riverside Ave., 1st Flr.
Adrian, MI 49221
734-222-7160

Bad Axe VA Clinic
1142 S. Van Dyke Rd., Ste. 100
Bad Axe, MI 48413
989-497-2500, ext. 13540

Benton Harbor VA Clinic
1275 Mall Dr.
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
269-934-9123

Century Avenue VA Clinic
620 Century Ave. Southwest,
Ste. 120
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
269-966-5600, ext. 39201

Clare VA Clinic
11775 N. Isabella Rd.
Clare, MI 48617
989-497-2500, ext. 13530

Col. Demas T. Crow VA Clinic
701 US Highway 31 South
Traverse City, MI 49685
989-497-2500, ext. 11412

Downriver VA Clinic
1640 Fort St., Ste. D
Trenton, MI 48183
734-559-8101

Duane E. Dewey VA Clinic
1905 N. Mitchell St.
Cadillac, MI 49601
989-497-2500, ext. 11410

Flint VA Clinic
2360 S. Linden Rd.
Flint, MI 48532
810-720-2913

Gladstone VA Clinic
2001 Minneapolis Ave.
Gladstone, MI 49837
800-215-8262

Grayling VA Clinic
1680 Hartwick Pines Rd.
Grayling, MI 49738
989-497-2500, ext. 13550

Green Road VA Clinic
2500 Green Rd., Ste. 200
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
734-769-7100

Hancock VA Clinic
787 Market St., Ste. 9
Hancock, MI 49930
800-215-8262

Howell VA Clinic
3399 E. Grand River Ave.,
Ste. 100
Howell, MI 48843
517-552-3700

Ironwood VA Clinic
629 W. Cloverland Dr., Ste. 1
Ironwood, MI 49938
800-215-8262

Jackson VA Clinic
4328 Page Ave.
Michigan Center, MI 49254
517-764-3609

Lansing VA Clinic
5656 S. Cedar St.
Lansing, MI 48911
517-267-3925

**Lt. Col. Clement Van Wagoner
VA Clinic**
180 N. State St.
Alpena, MI 49707
989-497-2500, ext. 13510

Manistique VA Clinic
813 E. Lakeshore Dr.
Manistique, MI 49854
800-215-8262

Marquette VA Clinic
1414 W. Fair Ave., Ste. 285
Marquette, MI 49855
800-215-8262

Menominee VA Clinic
1110 10th Ave., Ste. 101
Menominee, MI 49858
800-215-8262

MG Oliver Dillard VA Clinic
5900 N. Lotz Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
734-394-4500

Muskegon VA Clinic
2734 E. Apple Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49442
231-798-4445

**Navy Corpsman Steve
Andrews VA Clinic**
2782 S. Otsego Ave.
Gaylord, MI 49735
989-497-2500, ext. 13520

Oscoda VA Clinic
5671 Skeel Ave., Ste. 4
Oscoda, MI 49750
989-497-2500, ext. 11411

Packard Road VA Clinic
3800 Packard Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
734-222-7600

Pfc. Justin Paton VA Clinic
5739 Highway M-68
Indian River, MI 49749
989-497-2500, ext. 13560

Piquette Street VA Clinic
301 Piquette St.
Detroit, MI 48202
313-576-1580

Pontiac VA Clinic
44200 Woodward Ave.,
Ste. 212
Pontiac, MI 48341
248-332-4540

Saginaw VA Clinic
4241 Barnard Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48603
800-406-5143, ext. 11959

Saginaw North VA Clinic
2830 McCarty Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48603
989-497-2500, ext. 11400

Sault Saint Marie VA Clinic
3440 I-75 Business Spur
Sault Saint Marie, MI 49783
800-215-8262

Valor Center
3245 E. Jefferson Ave.
Detroit, MI 48207
313-576-1550

Wyoming VA Clinic
5838 Metro Way Southwest
Wyoming, MI 49519
616-249-5300

Yale VA Clinic
7470 Brockway Rd.
Yale, MI 48097
810-387-3211

Housing

Housing Programs

Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program works to provide both vouchers for rental assistance and case management and clinical services for homeless veterans.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the HUD-VASH program [here](#).

Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)

The Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) program aims to reduce homelessness amongst veterans by providing various services related to housing.

HCHV Contract Residential Services Programs allow VA medical centers to contract with community-based agencies to provide short-term residential care and treatment to eligible veterans who need an immediate housing placement as they seek permanent housing or additional care and services.

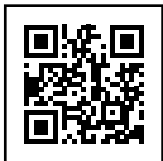
The VA also uses Stand Down events to reach homeless veterans to provide food, shelter, clothing, health screenings, counseling, and referrals. Stand Downs are typically 1- to 3-day events and are held in numerous cities each year.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the HCHV program [here](#).

Veterans Housing Program – Volunteers of America

Volunteers of America Michigan is the largest contract provider of veterans services in Mid-Michigan. Veteran services provided include transitional housing assistance for veterans making the transition from homelessness to housing.



If viewing this online, you can visit the Volunteers of America Michigan website [here](#).

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)

Through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, the VA aims to improve very low-income veteran families' housing stability by providing supportive services to families in, or transitioning to, permanent housing. The VA funds community-based organizations to provide eligible veteran families with outreach, case management, and assistance in obtaining benefits. Several Michigan organizations have received funding to assist Michigan veterans.

» Alger Marquette Community Action Board	1-906-228-6522 x207
» Community Action Agency	1-800-491-0004
» Community Rebuilders	1-616-250-0352
» Disability Network Oakland & Macomb	1-586-268-4160
» Mid Michigan Community Action Agency	1-877-213-5955
» Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency, Inc.	1-844-900-0500
» Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency	1-517-599-6954
» Southwest Counseling Solutions	1-313-481-7915
» Volunteers of America of Michigan, Inc.	1-877-509-8387
» Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency	1-313-388-9799



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the SSVF program [here](#).

Housing Supports

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans

The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans assists homeless veterans, veterans at risk of homelessness, and their families and supporters by providing information about programs and services that help combat homelessness. Trained VA staff members are available 24-hours a day, 7-days a week to assess callers' needs and connect them with appropriate resources.



1-877-424-3838



If viewing this online, you can visit the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans website [here](#).

2-1-1

2-1-1 provides assistance with locating shelter, affordable housing, and rent and utility assistance.



If viewing this online, you can visit the 2-1-1 website [here](#).

Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans

The Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans program offers outreach, referrals, and short-term case management assistance for incarcerated veterans who may be at risk for homelessness upon their release.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans program [here](#).

Home Loans, Mortgages, and Utilities

VA Home Loans

VA-backed home loans may be made to eligible service members, veterans, reservists, National Guard, and unmarried surviving spouses for the purchase of homes, condominiums, and manufactured homes and for refinancing loans. VA home loans are usually handled by private lenders, with the VA “standing behind” the loan to guarantee a portion of it. Applicants must have a good credit rating, have an income sufficient to support mortgage payments, and agree to live in the property.

A VA loan guaranty can be used to:

- » Buy or build a home.
- » Buy an approved residential condominium.
- » Repair, alter, or improve a veteran's home.
- » Refinance an existing home loan.
- » Buy a manufactured home and/or a lot.
- » Install a solar heating or cooling system or other energy-efficient improvements.

To be eligible, applicants must have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions. Veterans may be eligible for financing if they served during the following time periods:

- » Between September 16, 1940 and July 25, 1947 (WWII);
- » Between July 26, 1947 and June 26, 1950 (post-WWII period);
- » Between June 27, 1950 and January 31, 1955 (Korean War);
- » Between February 1, 1955 and August 4, 1964 (post-Korean War period);
- » Between November 1, 1955 and May 7, 1975 (in the Republic of Vietnam);
- » Between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975 (Vietnam War);
- » Between May 8, 1975 and October 16, 1981 (as an officer);
- » Between May 8, 1975 and September 7, 1980 (post-Vietnam War period);
- » Between October 17, 1981 and August 1, 1990 (as an officer);
- » Between September 8, 1980 and August 1, 1990; or
- » From August 2, 1990 to present (Gulf War period to present).

Reservists and National Guard members may be eligible if they meet certain minimum service requirements.

Housing continued...

Unless exempt, a funding fee must be paid to the VA at the time of loan closing. The fee may be paid in cash or included in the loan. Closing costs such as VA appraisal, credit report, loan processing fee, title search, title insurance, recording fees, transfer taxes, survey charges, or hazard insurance may not be included in the loan.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA-backed home loans [here](#).

VA Assistance to Veterans in Default

The VA urges all veterans who are encountering problems making their mortgage payments to speak with their servicers as soon as possible to explore options to avoid foreclosure. Contrary to popular opinion, servicers do not want to foreclose because foreclosure costs a lot of money. Depending on a veteran's specific situation, servicers may offer any of the following options to avoid foreclosure:

- » Repayment Plan.
- » Special Forbearance.
- » Loan Modification.
- » Short Sale.
- » Deed-in-Lieu of Foreclosure.
- » Additional time to arrange a private sale.

If the loan servicer is unable to help, the VA has loan technicians in 8 Regional Loan Centers and a special servicing center who take an active role exploring all options to avoid foreclosure. Veterans with VA-guaranteed home loans can call 1-877-827-3702 to reach the nearest VA office where loan specialists are prepared to discuss potential ways to help save the loan. Veterans with non-VA-guaranteed loans may also call this number. However, the VA does not have the legal authority to intervene on a non-VA-guaranteed borrower's behalf.

Veterans may be able to refinance a non-VA-guaranteed loan with a VA-guaranteed loan which may be helpful in situations where the veteran is at risk of defaulting.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA assistance for mortgage default [here](#).

Home Alternations for Disabled Veterans

Home Improvements and Structural Alterations Program (HISA)

The Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) program provides funding for eligible veterans to make medically necessary home improvements for the continuation of treatment or for disability access to the home and essential lavatory and sanitary facilities. Home improvement benefits for service-connected reasons and for nonservice-connected reasons may be provided.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the HISA program [here](#).



Specially Adapted Homes

The VA has 2 grants available for veterans with certain service-connected disabilities to assist in either building a new specially adapted home, adapting a home they already own, or in purchasing an existing home to modify and remodel to meet their disability requirements. Eligible veterans may utilize money from their grant up to 6 different times over their life. The maximum dollar amount for the Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant is \$121,812 for fiscal year 2025. The maximum dollar amount for the Special Home Adaptation (SHA) grant is \$24,405 for fiscal year 2025.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about disability housing grants [here](#).



Tax Benefits

Michigan Homestead Property Tax Credit

The Michigan Homestead Property Tax Credit is available if the homestead is located in Michigan, the owner was a Michigan resident for at least 6 months during the tax year, and the owner pays property taxes or rents a house or apartment in the state. Not all taxpayers are eligible for this tax credit. Some veterans are eligible for an increased credit (see MI-1040CR-2). Homestead Property Tax Credit forms must be filed by the time state income tax forms are due each April. Tax forms MI-1040CR-2 and MI-1040CR can be found online.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the homestead property tax credit [here](#).

Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption

The Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption allows certain honorably discharged, disabled veterans (or their surviving unremarried spouses) to apply for an exemption for their homestead from property taxation. To qualify, a veteran must meet one of these 3 qualification categories:

- » The veteran has been determined by the VA to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service and entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100% rate;

Housing continued...

- » The veteran has received a certificate from the VA certifying that the veteran is receiving or has received pecuniary assistance due to disability for specially adapted housing; or
- » The veteran has been rated by the VA as unemployable.

Previously, a qualified veteran was required to annually submit an application for the exemption. However, beginning January 1, 2025, exemptions granted for that year remain in effect without need for subsequent reapplication.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the disabled veteran property tax exemption [here](#).

Other Benefits

VFW National Home

Founded in 1925, the VFW National Home provides essential supports, services, and programs to help veterans and their families prepare to face ever-evolving challenges. In addition to providing eligible families with no-cost housing within the community, the National Home provides a network of programs and services – including case management, education, childcare, and recreation – to assist families in achieving their goals.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the VFW National Home [here](#).

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides federal funds to each state to assist low-income families with energy costs. As of September 10, 2025, federal funds had not been appropriated for the continuation of the LIHEAP in the 2026 fiscal year. In Michigan, the LIHEAP block grant is used for the following programs:

- » Home Heating Credit
The Home Heating Credit is designed to assist low-income families and seniors in paying their home heating costs. Homesteads can include permanent homes, rented apartments, and mobile homes. Qualified disabled veterans or their spouses may be eligible for an increased credit.
- » State Emergency Relief (SER)
State Emergency Relief (SER) provides assistance to low-income families with energy-related expenses, such as heating fuel, electricity, and home repairs. A demonstration of need, such as a past due or shutoff notice, is required to receive SER assistance.
- » Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) provides low-income homeowners and renters with free home energy conservation services with the goal of reducing energy use and costs. These services can include insulation, air leakage reduction, smoke detectors, or dryer venting.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about LIHEAP [here](#).

Monetary Benefits

Financial Hardship Assistance

Michigan Veterans Trust Fund Emergency Grant Program

Financial assistance may be available to certain Michigan veterans serving at least 180 days of active duty who were discharged under honorable conditions. The program assists with an unforeseen situation that causes a temporary or short-term financial emergency or hardship that a grant will resolve. Examples of such needs include delay in unemployment benefits or other income or unexpected hospitalizations that cause reductions in income to meet household needs. The grants may assist with housing, utilities, car payments, or insurance or medical assistive devices. Coordination is made with other agencies that may also assist with these types of needs.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the emergency grant program [here](#).

Soldiers Relief Commission

In some counties, emergency relief grants are available to Michigan veterans who do not meet Michigan Veterans Trust Fund criteria. Funds are limited, so the commission makes an effort to refer veterans who are eligible to other sources of financial assistance.



If viewing this online, you can read the Veterans' Relief Fund Act [here](#).

Army Emergency Relief (AER)

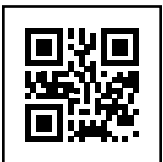
Army Emergency Relief (AER) provides zero-interest loans and grants to active-duty and retired soldiers and their eligible dependents. Financial support is provided for various needs and circumstances, including basic living, medical, vehicles, emergencies, family support, permanent change of station, education, and survivor assistance.



If viewing this online, you can visit the AER website [here](#).

Air Force Aid Society (AFAS)

The Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) provides no-interest loans and grants to help meet the immediate financial needs of active-duty, reserve, and retired air force and space force members and their eligible family members. AFAS also offers community programs that assist with childcare and spouse employment education.



If viewing this online, you can visit the AFAS website [here](#).

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS)

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) provides interest-free loans and grants to help with emergency travel, disaster relief, and everyday living expenses such as rent, food or a car repair, military pay issues, permanent change of station support, or medical and dental costs. Financial support is available to active-duty, reserve, and retired sailors and marines and their eligible family members.



If viewing this online, you can visit the NMCRS website [here](#).

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA)

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) provides interest-free loans, grants, counseling, referrals, and other assistance for active-duty, reserve, and retired members of the Coast Guard and their eligible family members.



If viewing this online, you can visit the CGMA website [here](#).

Michigan National Guard Family Program

The Michigan National Guard Family Programs Office provides care and support to members of the Michigan National Guard and their families. Responsibilities and services include: family readiness; resource management; mobilization and reintegration coordination; crisis intervention and referral; outreach; volunteer recruitment; training and management; team building; information, referral, and follow up; child and youth programs; and contact information.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the Michigan National Guard Family Program [here](#).

American Red Cross Financial Assistance

The American Red Cross partners with Military Aid Societies to provide grants and loans for emergency travel, burial of a loved one, and emergency food and shelter. Emergency financial assistance is available for active-duty, reserve, and retired service members and their immediate family members.

1-877-272-7337



If viewing this online, you can learn more about financial assistance from the American Red Cross [here](#).

MDHHS Cash Assistance

MDHHS provides cash assistance to families with children and pregnant women to help them pay for living expenses such as rent, heat, utilities, clothing, food, and personal care items. Assistance in finding a job or developing needed job skills, help with transportation, childcare, and other needs related to employment and training may also be provided.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about MDHHS cash assistance [here](#).

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a federal program that provides food benefits to low-income families. In order to qualify for SNAP benefits, households must meet income, expense, and asset requirements. The maximum amount of benefits that a recipient can receives is dependent upon the size of the household. SNAP benefits can be utilized to purchase food from authorized retailers.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about SNAP assistance [here](#).

Benefits for Disabled Veterans and Retirees

VA Disability Compensation

VA disability compensation is a monetary benefit paid to veterans who are disabled by injury or disease incurred or aggravated during active military service. The service of the veteran must have been terminated through separation or discharge under conditions that were other than dishonorable. Disability compensation varies with the degree of disability and the number of dependents, and is paid monthly.

Veterans with disability ratings between 30 and 100% are eligible for additional allowances for a spouse and for each minor child, a child 18-23 years of age that is attending school, a child disabled before 18 years of age, and a dependent parent. The amount depends on the disability rating.

2025	
VA Disability Compensation (No Dependents)	
Disability Percentage	Monthly Payment
10 percent	\$175.51
20 percent	\$346.95
30 percent	\$537.42
40 percent	\$774.16
50 percent	\$1,102.04
60 percent	\$1,395.93
70 percent	\$1,759.19
80 percent	\$2,044.89
90 percent	\$2,297.96
100 percent	\$3,831.30



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA disability compensation [here](#).

Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC)

Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) provides military retirees a monthly compensation that is intended to replace some or all of their retired pay that is withheld due to receipt of VA disability compensation. Applications for CRSC must be made through the veterans uniformed service.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about CRSC [here](#).

Disability Compensation for Presumptive Conditions

The VA presumes that specific disabilities diagnosed in certain veterans were caused by their military service. If one of these conditions is diagnosed in a veteran in one of these groups, the VA presumes that the circumstances of his or her service caused the condition, and disability compensation can be awarded. Certain time limits for diagnosis apply depending on the disease.

All veterans who develop ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, at any time after separation from service may be eligible for compensation for that disability.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about disability compensation for presumptive conditions [here](#).

Social Security Benefits

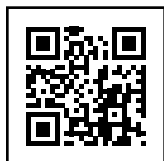
Social Security provides expedited processing of disability claims for disabled veterans.

Monthly retirement, disability and survivor benefits under Social Security are payable to veterans and dependents if the veteran has earned enough work credits under the program. In addition, a veteran may qualify at age 65 for Medicare's hospital insurance and medical insurance. Medicare protection is available to people who have received Social Security disability benefits for 24 months, and to insured people and their dependents who need dialysis or kidney transplants, or who have ALS.

Those 65 or older and those who are blind or otherwise disabled may be eligible for monthly Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments if they have little or no income or resources. States may supplement the federal payments to eligible persons and may disregard additional income.

Upon the veteran's death, a one-time payment may be made to the veteran's spouse or child.

1-800-772-1213



If viewing this online, you can learn more about Social Security benefits [here](#).

Pensions

Pension benefits are available to certain veterans based on need. To be eligible for pension benefits, a veteran must be 65 or older, totally and permanently disabled, a patient in a nursing home receiving skilled nursing care, or receiving social security disability benefits. Service requirements also apply. The veteran's discharge must have been under conditions other than dishonorable and their disability must be for reasons other than their own willful misconduct. Payments are made to bring the veteran's total income, including other retirement or Social Security income, to a level set by Congress. Unreimbursed medical expenses may reduce countable income for VA purposes.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VA pension benefits [here](#).

Aid and Attendance and Housebound Benefits

Veterans and their survivors may be eligible for VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits. These benefits provide an additional monthly amount to the veteran's VA pension. VA Aid and Attendance is available for veterans who need help performing daily activities, have to stay in bed due to illness, are a patient in a nursing home due to their disability causing the loss of mental or physical abilities, or have limited eyesight. Housebound benefits are available for veterans who spend most of their time in their home because of a permanent disability.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about aid and attendance and housebound benefits [here](#).

Life Insurance

Service Members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)

Active-duty members and reservists of uniformed services are automatically enrolled for up to \$500,000 under the Service Members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI). Service members pay a monthly premium that is taken out of their base pay. The current basic SGLI premium rate is 5 cents per \$1,000 of insurance coverage and includes an additional \$1 per month for traumatic injury protection coverage.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about SGLI [here](#).

Monetary Benefits continued...

SGLI Disability Extension

Service members who are totally disabled at the time of separation are eligible for free SGLI Disability Extension of up to 2 years. Individuals covered under SGLI Disability Extension are automatically converted to VGLI subject to payment of premiums. They must apply to the Office of Service Members' Group Life Insurance (OSGLI) for the SGLI Disability Extension.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about the SGLI Disability Extension [here](#).

Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI)

At the time of separation from service, SGLI can be converted to either Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) or a commercial plan through participating companies. Veterans must apply to convert SGLI to VGLI within 1 year and 120 days from discharge. If the application is submitted within 240 days after discharge, evidence of good health is not required. Those who apply after the no-health period are required to answer questions about their health.

Under VGLI, veterans may be eligible to receive between \$10,000 and \$500,000 in term life insurance benefits, depending upon the amount of coverage the veteran had when they left the military. Rates are based upon the veteran's age and amount of coverage.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VGLI [here](#).

Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife)

Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) provides up to \$40,000 in whole life insurance coverage to veterans who applied for VA disability compensation before turning 81 years old, received a service-connected disability rating after turning 81, and applied for VALife within 2 years of getting a disability rating, even if the rating is 0%. Premium amounts depend upon age and coverage. Benefits, including cash value, will begin 2 years after a veteran applies and pays the required premiums.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VALife [here](#).

Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI)

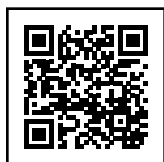
Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI) is mortgage protection insurance that helps pay off a mortgage in the event of a severely disabled veteran's death. The maximum amount of mortgage life insurance available to severely disabled veterans granted a specially adapted housing grant is \$200,000. Protection is automatic when the veteran submits required information, assuming he/she does not decline coverage. Coverage terminates when the mortgage is paid off. If a mortgage is disposed of, VMLI may be obtained on the mortgage of another home. Payment is to the current mortgage lender.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about VMLI [here](#).

VA Life Insurance Center

The VA Life Insurance Center provides assistance with life insurance programs. Specialists are available 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. to discuss premium payments, insurance dividends, changes of address, policy loans, naming beneficiaries, and reporting the death of an insured.



1-800-669-8477

If viewing this online, you can visit the VA Life Insurance Center website [here](#).

Survivors Benefits

Survivors Pension

The Survivors Pension benefit, which may also be referred to as death pension, is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to a low-income, un-remarried surviving spouse and/or unmarried child(ren) of a deceased veteran with wartime service.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about survivors pension benefits [here](#).

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is a tax-free monetary benefit paid to eligible survivors of veterans whose death resulted from a service-related injury or disease or while in the line of duty. Eligible survivors may include a spouse, parents, and unmarried children under the age of 18, or 23 if attending school. The amount of benefits received depends upon the type of survivor.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about DIC [here](#).

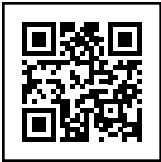
Burial Benefits

Headstones and Markers

Veterans and retired Reservists and National Guard service members are eligible for an inscribed headstone or marker for their unmarked grave at any cemetery. The VA will deliver a headstone or marker at no cost, anywhere in the world. For eligible veterans or service members who died on or after November 1, 1990, and are buried in a private cemetery, the VA may furnish a government headstone or marker (for marked or unmarked graves). A medallion to affix to an already existing privately purchased headstone or marker for those who served on or after April 6, 1917, can be requested as well.

Spouses and dependent children are eligible for a government headstone or marker only if they are buried in a national or state veterans cemetery.

Before ordering, check with the cemetery to ensure that the government-furnished headstone or marker will be accepted. All installation fees at private cemeteries are the responsibility of the applicant.



If viewing this online, you can visit the National Cemetery Administration's website [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can learn more about headstone and marker benefits [here](#).

Burial Flags

Generally, the VA will furnish a U.S. burial flag to memorialize veterans who received an other than dishonorable discharge. The flag is provided to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased veteran and is given to the next-of-kin, as a keepsake, after the funeral service. Families of veterans buried in national cemeteries may donate the burial flags of their loved ones to be flown on patriotic holidays.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about burial flags [here](#).

Military Funeral Honors

Upon request, the DoD will provide military funeral honors for eligible deceased veterans. Military funeral honors ceremonies include folding and presenting the U.S. burial flag and the playing of taps by 2 or more uniformed military persons. Family members should inform their funeral directors if they want military funeral honors.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about military funeral honors [here](#).

Burial Benefits continued...

Presidential Memorial Certificates

Certificates signed by the President are issued upon request to recognize the military service of honorably discharged deceased veterans. Next of kin, relatives, and friends may request Presidential Memorial Certificates.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about Presidential Memorial Certificates [here](#).



Burial in VA National Cemeteries

Burial in a VA national cemetery is available for eligible veterans, their spouses, and dependents at no cost to the family and includes the gravesite, opening and closing of the grave, a headstone or marker, perpetual care, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate. Veterans who served in active duty may also receive a burial flag and military funeral honors upon request.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about eligibility requirements for burial in a VA national cemetery [here](#).



If viewing this online, you can learn more about scheduling a burial in a national cemetery [here](#).

The VA currently has space available in 2 national cemeteries in Michigan:

Fort Custer National Cemetery

15501 Dickman Road
Augusta, MI 49012
Phone: 1-269-731-4164
Fax: 1-269-731-2428

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road
Holly, MI 48442
Phone: 1-248-328-0386
Fax: 1-248-328-0612

Reimbursement of Burial Expenses

VA burial allowances are flat-rate monetary benefits paid for an eligible veteran's burial and funeral costs. Eligible surviving spouses of record are paid automatically upon notification of a veteran's death. With some exceptions, the burial allowance for a nonservice-connected death is \$300, and \$2,000 for a death connected to military service. Individuals are eligible for this benefit if they have not been reimbursed by another program or entity after paying for a veteran's burial or funeral, and the veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about reimbursements for burial expenses [here](#).

State Veterans' Burial Expenses

Under Michigan Public Act 235 of 1911, eligible veterans or their spouses, who meet residency requirements and asset limits, may qualify to have \$300 of their burial expenses paid for by the County Board of Commissioners or the Board of County Auditors. The Soldiers' Relief Commission of each county has the responsibility for investigating each claim.



If viewing this online, you can review the provisions of Public Act 235 of 1911 [here](#).



IDs and Licenses

State ID and Drivers Licenses

Honorably discharged veterans may request their drivers license or state ID card to include a special veteran designation. This will allow veterans to take advantage of many discounts and services available to them that require proof of military service. The designation is available when applying for an original or renewal Michigan license or ID at no additional charge. If added at another time, correction fees will apply.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about veteran designations [here](#).

Federal ID

The VA provides digital Veteran ID Cards for veterans who served on active duty and received an honorable or general discharge. Veteran ID Cards can be used to prove military service to obtain discounts offered to veterans.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about federal veteran ID cards [here](#).

Hunting and Fishing Licenses

Fees for fishing and hunting licenses are waived for disabled veterans. Only licenses that do not require a lottery can be obtained free of charge. Proof of eligibility must be presented at time of purchase and carried when hunting or fishing. Disabled hunters are those who have been determined by the VA to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service for a disability other than blindness.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about hunting and fishing licenses for disabled veterans [here](#).

State Park Access

The Recreation Passport sticker provides access to all state parks, state recreation areas, and state boat launches. This does not include local, county, municipal, or metropolitan parks or recreation areas. Vehicles with a 100% disabled veteran license plate, an ex-prisoner of war license plate, or a Medal of Honor license plate do not require a Recreation Passport to obtain free entry.



If viewing this online, you can learn more about state park access for veterans [here](#).

Of Interest to Veterans

Veteran Holidays

Veterans Day

Veterans Day is an opportunity to publicly commemorate the contributions of living veterans. Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar congressional action.

If World War I had indeed been "the war to end all wars," November 11th might still be called Armistice Day. Realizing that peace was equally preserved by veterans of World War II and Korea, Congress decided to make the day an occasion to honor all those who have served America. In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day. (Historically, the first Veterans Day parade was held in 1953 in Emporia, Kansas.)

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11th was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

Memorial Day

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868, by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873.

By 1890, it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South continued to honor their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated as a federal holiday on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90-363) to ensure a 3-day weekend for Federal holidays).

Flag Etiquette

Federal law stipulates many aspects of flag etiquette. The section of law dealing with American flag etiquette is generally referred to as the federal Flag Code. Some general guidelines from the federal Flag Code answer many of the most common questions.



If viewing this online, you can review the Flag Code [here](#).

Flag Displayed Outdoors

Over the Middle of the Street

The flag should be suspended vertically with the union or blue field to the north on an east and west street or to the east on a north and south street.

Flown at Half-Staff

The flag should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the halfstaff position. The flag should again be raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. "Half-staff" means the flag has been lowered to one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff.

Flown on the Same Halyard with Non-National Flags

The American flag should always be at the peak. When flags are flown from adjacent staffs, the flag of the United States should be hoisted first and lowered last. No flag or pennant may be placed above or to the right of the flag of the United States.

Suspended Over a Sidewalk

The flag may be suspended from a rope extending from a house to a pole at the edge of the sidewalk. The flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building.

From a Staff Projecting Horizontally or at an Angle

The flag may be projected from a window sill, balcony, or front of a building, with the union of the flag placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half-staff.

In a Parade with Other Flags

The flag, when carried in a procession with another flag, or flags, should be either on the marching right (that is, the flag's own right), or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line. Crepe streamers may be affixed to spear heads or flagstaffs in a parade only by order of the President of the United States.

With Non-National Flags

The flag of the United States should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of states or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.

With Other National Flags

When flags of 2 or more nations are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.

With Another Flag Against a Wall from Crossed Staffs

The American flag should be on the right (the flag's own right which is the viewer's left) and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.

Flag Displayed Indoors

From a Staff in a Church or Public Auditorium on a Podium

The flag of the United States should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he/she faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker (to the right of the audience).

From a Staff in a Church or Public Auditorium off the Podium

Custom – not the Flag Code – holds that the flag of the United States should hold the position of superior prominence, as part of the audience, in the position of honor at the audience's right.

Used to Cover a Casket

The American flag should be so placed on a casket that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder of the deceased. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.

Other than Being Flown from a Staff

The flag should be displayed flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right (that is, to the observer's left). When displayed in a window, it should be displayed in the same way (that is, with the union to the left of the observer in the street). When festoons, rosettes, or drapings are desired, bunting of blue, white, and red should be used, but never the flag itself.



Conduct by Service Members and Veterans

P.L. 110-181 amended section 9, title 4 of the United States Code, to allow veterans to render the hand salute to the United States flag. The section reads: "During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all persons present in uniform should render the military salute. Members of the armed forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute. All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries present should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes."



If viewing this online, you can review 4 U.S.C. § 9 [here](#).

State Policy for Flying American Flags at Half-Staff

State policy for displaying the United States flag at half-staff as a mark of respect for the memory of military personnel who are killed in the line of duty is found in Executive Order 2013-10.

As recognized under Proclamation 2003-4, the flag of the United States shall be displayed at half-staff throughout the State of Michigan on a day designated by the Governor when a member of the Michigan National Guard or a Michigan resident servicing as a member of the United States Armed Forces is killed in the line of duty.

When an order providing for the flag to be displayed at half-staff on a statewide basis is issued, Michigan residents, businesses, schools, local governments, and other organizations also are urged to display the flag at half-staff. Flag honor news can be found online.



Flag Disposal

The United States Flag Code provides:

"The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

Many veterans service organizations conduct ceremonies for the destruction of unserviceable flags by burning. Such ceremonies may be done on June 14th, Flag Day, to mark the dignity and solemnity of the occasion. Some local governments may also conduct these ceremonies.

In practice, for individuals who wish to destroy a flag in poor condition, this should be done discreetly so the act of destruction is not perceived as a protest or desecration.



Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency

Contact Information by County

Alcona.....	989-724-9510	Lake.....	231-745-6003
Alger.....	906-387-1635	Lapeer.....	810-667-0256
Allegan.....	269-673-0501	Leelanau.....	231-995-6070
Alpena.....	989-354-9671	Lenawee.....	517-264-5335
Antrim.....	231-533-8499	Livingston.....	517-546-6338
Arenac.....	989-846-9080	Luce.....	906-293-4890
Baraga.....	906-524-5454	Mackinac.....	906-643-9411
Barry.....	269-945-1296	Macomb.....	586-469-5315
Bay.....	989-895-4190	Manistee.....	231-299-1414
Benzie.....	231-882-0034	Marquette.....	906-485-1781
Berrien.....	269-983-7111	Mason.....	231-583-2028
Branch.....	517-279-4322	Mecosta.....	231-592-0124
Calhoun.....	269-969-6735	Menominee.....	800-575-2876
Cass.....	269-445-4472	Midland.....	989-832-6600
Charlevoix.....	231-547-7220	Missaukee.....	231-839-4200 ext. 507
Cheboygan.....	231-627-8833	Monroe.....	734-240-3287
Chippewa.....	906-635-6370	Montcalm.....	989-831-7477
Clare.....	989-539-3273	Montmorency.....	989-785-8043
Clinton.....	517-887-4331	Muskegon.....	231-724-7143
Crawford.....	989-344-3861	Newaygo.....	231-689-7218
Delta.....	906-786-7228	Oakland.....	248-858-0785
Dickinson.....	906-774-2820	Oceana.....	231-873-6834
Eaton.....	517-543-3740	Ogemaw.....	989-345-5170
Emmet.....	231-348-1780	Ontonagon.....	906-884-6204
Genesee.....	810-257-3068	Osceola.....	231-680-4341
Gladwin.....	989-426-4891	Oscoda.....	989-826-9500
Gogebic.....	906-667-1110	Otsego.....	989-731-7575
Grand Traverse.....	231-995-6070	Ottawa.....	616-393-8387
Gratiot.....	989-875-5258	Presque Isle.....	989-734-0302
Hillsdale.....	517-437-3630	Roscommon.....	989-275-6047
Houghton.....	906-482-0102	Saginaw.....	989-753-7721
Huron.....	989-269-8911	St. Clair.....	810-989-6945
Ingham.....	517-887-4331	St. Joseph.....	269-467-5512
Ionia.....	517-220-2745	Sanilac.....	810-648-0212
Iosco.....	989-362-6571	Schoolcraft.....	906-341-3669
Iron.....	906-265-3819	Shiawassee.....	989-743-2231
Isabella.....	989-317-4093	Tuscola.....	989-673-8148
Jackson.....	517-788-4425	Van Buren.....	269-657-8200
Kalamazoo.....	269-373-5361	Washtenaw.....	734-973-4540
Kalkaska.....	231-258-3370	Wayne.....	313-224-5045
Kent.....	616-632-5722	Wexford.....	231-775-6654
Keweenaw.....	906-934-2354		



Phone numbers are subject to change. Current phone numbers can be found on the MVA website [here](#).

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Contact Information by County

Alcona.....	989-724-9000
Alger.....	906-628-7002
Allegan.....	844-464-3447
Alpena.....	989-354-7200
Antrim.....	231-533-8664
Arenac.....	989-846-5500
Baraga.....	906-275-5050
Barry.....	269-948-3200
Bay.....	989-895-2100
Benzie.....	231-882-1330
Berrien.....	269-934-2000
Branch.....	517-279-4200
Calhoun.....	269-966-1284
Cass.....	269-445-0200
Charlevoix.....	231-348-1600
Cheboygan.....	231-627-8500
Chippewa.....	906-635-4100
Clare.....	989-539-4260
Clinton.....	989-224-5500
Crawford.....	989-348-7691
Delta.....	906-786-5394
Dickinson.....	906-779-4100
Eaton.....	517-543-0860
Emmet.....	231-348-1600
Genesee.....	844-464-3447
Gladwin.....	989-426-3300
Gogebic.....	906-663-6200
Grand Traverse.....	231-941-3900
Gratiot.....	989-875-5181
Hillsdale.....	517-439-2200
Houghton.....	906-482-0500
Huron.....	989-269-9201
Ingham.....	517-887-9400
Ionia.....	616-527-5200
Iosco.....	989-362-0300
Iron.....	906-265-9958
Isabella.....	989-772-8400
Jackson.....	517-780-7400
Kalamazoo.....	269-337-4900
Kalkaska.....	231-258-1200
Kent.....	616-248-1000
Keweenaw.....	906-337-3302

Lake.....	231-745-8159
Lapeer.....	810-667-0800
Leelanau.....	231-941-3900
Lenawee.....	517-264-6300
Livingston.....	517-548-0200
Luce.....	906-293-5144
Mackinac.....	906-643-9550
Macomb.....	586-412-6100
Manistee.....	231-723-8375
Marquette.....	906-228-9691
Mason.....	231-845-7391
Mecosta.....	231-796-4300
Menominee.....	906-863-9965
Midland.....	989-835-7040
Missaukee.....	231-779-4500
Monroe.....	734-243-7200
Montcalm.....	989-831-8400
Montmorency.....	989-785-4218
Muskegon.....	231-733-3700
Newaygo.....	231-689-5500
Oakland.....	844-464-3447
Oceana.....	231-873-7251
Ogemaw.....	989-345-5135
Ontonagon.....	906-813-7006
Osceola.....	231-796-4300
Oscoda.....	989-826-4000
Otsego.....	989-732-1702
Ottawa.....	616-394-7200
Presque Isle.....	989-734-2108
Roscommon.....	989-366-2300
Saginaw.....	989-758-1100
St. Clair.....	810-966-2000
St. Joseph.....	269-467-1200
Sanilac.....	810-648-4420
Schoolcraft.....	906-341-2114
Shiawassee.....	989-725-3200
Tuscola.....	989-673-9100
Van Buren.....	269-621-2800
Washtenaw.....	734-481-2000
Wayne.....	313-456-1000
Wexford.....	231-779-4500



Phone numbers are subject to change. Current phone numbers can be found on the MDHHS website [here](#).

State and Federal Elected Officials

Michigan Congressional Delegation



United States Senate

Every state has 2 members of the United States Senate. Contact information for Michigan's elected United States Senators can be found [here](#).



United States House of Representatives

The number of representatives a state has in the United States House of Representatives is dependent upon population and can be adjusted following a decennial census. Currently, Michigan has 13 members of the United States House of Representatives, and their contact information can be found [here](#).

Michigan Governor and Lieutenant Governor



Contact information for Michigan's Governor can be found [here](#).



Contact information for Michigan's Lieutenant Governor can be found [here](#).

Michigan State Legislature



Michigan State Senate

There are 38 members of the Michigan State Senate, and their contact information can be found [here](#).



Michigan House of Representatives

There are 110 members of the Michigan State House of Representatives, and their contact information can be found [here](#).

Notes

Notes

*The information in this publication is available,
upon request, in an alternative, accessible format.*



For more information regarding publications from the Michigan Legislature,
scan this QR code with your smartphone.