

Montgomery County, MD - Veterans Network Directory

Benefits and Claims Assistance

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This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs. To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov, 240-777-1252 (V), MD Relay 711.

For education benefits, view [GI Bill and Education](#) and [Tuition Assistance and Scholarships](#)

For retirement benefits from the military, view [Retirement Benefits](#)

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

www.va.gov

Provides information on VA benefits such as disability, health care, education and training, housing assistance, careers and employment, life insurance, pension, and burials and memorials. Users can register with the site and manage their health and benefits including refill prescriptions, get VA health records, check claim and appeal status, check Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, and message their health care team. Please review the [Annual Income Limits](#) to learn more about VA National Income Limits for medical benefits and prescriptions.

Requesting Your DD-214

Whenever a veteran requests benefits and services, a copy of the individual's discharge papers are required to verify eligibility. This includes admission to Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Maryland's five cemeteries, VA claims and a myriad of other services provided to veterans and their families. Veterans and their next of kin can request a copy of the service member's DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty from the National Archives. You can request the DD214 online via their website - www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records. Click on the link "Submit your request online". You can also make a request by sending [Standard Form 180 \(SF-180\) to Request Military Service Records](#) to the address listed below.

- **DD-214 requests for Homeless Veterans** – Fill out [VA Standard Form 180 \(SF 180\)](#) and write HOMELESS VETERAN at the top and bottom of the form, fax form to 314-801-9195 or 314-801-0764.

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

314-801-0800 (V)

Recording of Military Discharges (DD-214s)

Montgomery County Circuit Court License Department
50 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

240-777-9400 (V)

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cct/military-discharges.html

As one of the general duties of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, the License Department maintains permanent records of military discharge papers. Montgomery County military Veterans may file their military discharge papers at the Montgomery County Circuit Court License Department. Military discharge records include:

- Copy of 4, DD Form 214 issued by the United States Government;
- Any copy of DD Form 214 with a raised seal issued by the United States National Personnel Records Center; or
- United States National Archives Form 13038.

Customers must provide identification and a Social Security Number when requesting copies of their discharge papers. The service of recording the records is free, and Veterans receive one certified copy of their discharge papers free of charge. The fee is \$5.50 for each additional copy. Military discharge papers (DD 214s) are not public records, and the inspection of these records is restricted as stipulated by Maryland Code.

American Legion – Benefits Claims Assistance

For Claims: Adrian Gamboa, American Legion Maryland Service Officer 410-230-4420 (V)
31 Hopkins Plaza, Room 1234
Baltimore, MD 21201
Email: adrian@mdlegion.org

www.legion.org/veteransbenefits

Accredited American Legion service officers are specially trained to provide expert assistance, free of charge, to veterans and their families. While the majority of a service officer's work involves application for VA disability benefits, these professionals also provide information, referrals and resources on education, employment and business, death benefits and other important topics.

American Red Cross – Montgomery, Howard and Frederick Counties Chapter

2020 East-West Highway 301-588-2515 (V)
Silver Spring, MD 20910

www.redcross.org/get-help/military-families/services-for-veterans.html

Provide assistance and information in preparing, developing, and obtaining sufficient evidence to support applicants' claims for veterans' benefits and also assist claimants who seek to appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA). Red Cross staff at the BVA and a network of State Work-Share Representatives who are accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs work on behalf of the Red Cross to assist claimants. Counseling, guidance, information, referrals and other social services are also available. Volunteers serve in 153 VA hospitals around the nation transporting patients to and from treatment sessions, providing companionship and personal services, and bringing magazines, books, and comfort items to patients.

AMVETS Benefits Claims Assistance

VA Regional Office 410-230-4430 (V)
31 Hopkins Plaza #1235
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dana Bolton, NSO
Email: dana.bolton@va.gov

Lanham Office 1-800-810-7148 (Toll Free)
AMVETS National Service Foundation
4647 Forbes Boulevard
Lanham, MD 20706

Derrick Williams, HR Generalist
Email: dwilliams@amvets.org

www.amvetsnsf.org/nsop.html

National service officers, accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs, provide free claims assistance to veterans, their dependents and spouses. Advocate for America's veterans on important issues such as employment and training, mandatory funding for government-provided health care and other benefits for which they are entitled.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

Federal Building 410-230-4440 (Toll Free)
Room 1229, 31 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201

www.dav.org/get-help-now/va-benefits-help

DAV National Service Officers (NSOs) assist veterans and their families in filing claims for VA disability compensation and pension, vocational rehabilitation and employment, education, home loan guaranty, life insurance, death benefits, health care and much more.

Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc.

201 N. Charles Street, Suite 1104
Baltimore, MD 21201

410-685-6589 (V)
1-800-773-4340 (Toll Free)

www.hprplaw.org/get_legal_help/veterans_benefits_and_discharge_upgrades

Satellite Office Serving Montgomery and Prince George's Counties

1111 Spring Street, Suite 110
Silver Spring, MD 20910

410-387-3126 (V)
Call to schedule an appointment.

Offers legal assistance to homeless or low-income Veterans in Maryland. Assistance includes service-connected disability benefits; non-service connection pension; and discharge upgrades.

Maryland's Commitment to Veterans

Joy Ashcraft, LMSW, Director
Email: bha.mcv@maryland.gov

1-877-770-4801 (24/7 - Toll Free)

Western Regional Resource Coordinator

David Galloway
Email: david.galloway1@maryland.gov

410-725-9971 (V)

<https://health.maryland.gov/bha/veterans/Pages/Home.aspx>

Serving Montgomery, Frederick, Garrett, Allegany, Carroll, and Washington Counties.

Regional Resource Coordinators are available to assist veterans and their families obtain services through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other available local resources. Resource Coordinators offer knowledge and assistance in VA benefits, issues of homelessness and unemployment, crisis and emergency services, substance abuse services, and individual, family, and group therapy.

Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) – Montgomery County Service Center

David Skisano, Veterans Benefits Specialist II (VBS)
Email: davidj.skisano@maryland.gov
Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration Service Center
Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs
15 Metropolitan Grove Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

301-987-8412 (V)
301-987-8496 (FAX)
Contact via email or phone. Please leave a message
and he will return the call as soon as possible.

By appointment only.

Phil Munley, Director of Program Services
Email: phillip.munley@va.gov
www.veterans.maryland.gov

410-230-4444 x 6457 (V)

Veterans Benefits Specialists (VBS) provide assistance to the men and women who served in the Uniformed Services of the United States, their dependents, and survivors in obtaining benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, State of Maryland and other programs for veterans and their families. Staff are authorized to represent veterans and their dependents before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, as well as provide general information to those seeking assistance, regardless of representation. Contact your nearest full-time VBS to make an appointment:

Baltimore: 1-800-446-4926 x 6450 (Toll Free)

Frederick: 301-600-2155 (V)

Bel Air: 410-638-6501 (V)

Glen Burnie: 410-424-3039 (V)

Camp Springs: 301-248-0463 (V)

Hagerstown: 240-527-6894 (V)

Charlotte Hall: 301-884-8177 (V)

Laurel: 410-313-0229 (V)

Cumberland: 301-729-4676 (V)

Salisbury: 410-713-3482 (V)

Easton: 410-690-7181 (V)

Military.com - Benefits

www.military.com/benefits

Website featuring resources and information on burial and memorial benefits, education, insurance, legal matters, life insurance, military pay, survivor benefits, TRICARE, VA home loans, veteran benefits, veteran health care, and veteran state benefits.

National Military Family Association

2800 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 250
Alexandria, VA 22314

703-931-6632 (V)

Email: info@militaryfamily.org
www.militaryfamily.org

Educate military families concerning their rights, benefits and services available to them regarding the issues that affect their lives. The website is a one-stop resource for military families, servicemembers, and their friends on a wide-range of topics relevant to the "military" lifestyle. Also produce a monthly newsletter and a free quarterly Military Money magazine filled with financial literacy information, lifestyle tips, and advice on every day living.

National Veterans Legal Services Program – Lawyers Serving Warriors®

1100 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 900
Arlington, VA 22209

202-265-8305 (V)

Email: info@nvlsp.org

www.nvlsp.org/what-we-do/lawyers-serving-warriors

Offer pro bono legal help with disability issues to veterans from all eras. Provides assistance to unrepresented veterans and family members who have filed appeals at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

Network of Care for Service Members, Veterans & Their Families

<http://montgomery.md.networkofcare.org/veterans/services/index.aspx>

Comprehensive online database of services available throughout the state of Maryland for veterans. Resources include veteran benefits assistance, military transition assistance programs, drop-in centers, information and referral, and street outreach programs.

Silver Spring Vet Center

Wayne Miller, Team Leader/Director
2900 Linden Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20910

301-589-1073 (V)

202-273-9116 (Bereavement Counseling)

Email: wayne.miller3@va.gov

www.va.gov/silver-spring-vet-center

Hours: Open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Closed Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays. Walk-ins are permitted during these hours, but appointments are requested. After hours appointments as needed. Veterans must show proof of service. The center provides benefits counseling and assistance with navigating the VA and paperwork, as well as employment counseling, counseling on PTSD and sub-PTSD, substance abuse counseling, family and marital counseling, psychological counseling related to readjustment, coordination and referral with doctors, employment related issues, assistance with basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing, medical and legal referrals, homeless assistance and will work with Montgomery County to find shelter placement, sexual trauma counseling, community outreach, bereavement counseling, and more. All services are provided at no cost to the veteran and their family. Veterans do not need to be enrolled with the Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Centers to use the Vet Center. Veterans do not need a disability rating or service connection for injuries from either the Department of Veteran Affairs or the Department of Defense, to use the Vet Center. View [Vet Center Eligibility Criteria](#). If you live outside of Montgomery County [view a list of other locations](#) that may be closer to you. **Directions:** The Silver Spring Vet Center is located near the intersection of Seminary Road/Capitol View Avenue. You can also take the #5 Ride On Bus from either the Silver Spring Metro Station or the Twinbrook Metro Station and be dropped off at the Capitol View Avenue stop.

Social Security Administration – Military and Veterans

www.ssa.gov/people/veterans

1-800-772-1213 (Toll Free)

1-800-325-0778 (TTY)

Hours: Monday through Friday 8am to 7pm

The Social Security Administration offers military service members expedited processing of disability claims from Social Security. Benefits available through Social Security are different than those from the Department of Veterans Affairs and require a separate application. The expedited process is used for military service members who become disabled while on active military service on or after October 1, 2001, regardless of where the disability occurs. You may apply for disability benefits at any time while in military status or after discharge, whether you are still hospitalized, in a rehabilitation program or undergoing out-patient treatment in a military or civilian medical facility.

TRICARE Combat-Related Disability Travel Benefit

Email: DHA.CRDT@health.mil

1-844-204-9351 Option 3 (Toll Free)

www.tricare.mil/Plans/SpecialPrograms/CRDTravelBenefit

If you are a retiree and your Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Board has awarded you Combat-Related Special Compensation, you may be entitled to the CRSC travel benefit. This benefit provides reimbursement for travel-related expenses when you must travel more than 100 miles from your referring provider's location to obtain medically necessary, nonemergency specialty care for a combat-related disability. Only reasonable, actual-cost travel expenses (e.g., lodging, fuel [rather than mileage], meals, parking, tolls) associated with receiving specialty care can be reimbursed.

Veterans Benefits Administration

Baltimore Regional Office

31 Hopkins Plaza

Baltimore, MD 21201

<http://benefits.va.gov/benefits>

1-800-827-1000 (VA Benefits)

1-888-442-4551 (Education/GI Bill)

1-877-222-8387 (Health Care Benefits)

Provide benefits, such as education, compensation and pension, survivors' benefits, vocational rehabilitation, and life insurance, and services to veterans and their families. Guide: [Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors - 2021 Edition](#). Handbook: [VA Health Benefits Handbook](#) - designed to provide veterans and their families with the information needed to understand VA's health-care system, including eligibility requirements, health benefits and services available to help veterans, and copays that certain veterans may be charged. VA can pay additional compensation to a veteran who, as a result of military service, incurred the loss or loss of use of specific organs and extremities. Loss, or loss of use, is described as either an amputation or having no effective remaining function of an extremity or organ. Fact Sheet: [Special Monthly Compensation \(SMC\) for Serious Disabilities](#).

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) National Veterans Service

Joseph Thornton, VFW Department Service Officer

Fallon Federal Building

31 Hopkins Plaza, Room 1226

Baltimore, MD 21201

Email: vfw.vbabal@va.gov

410-230-4480 (V)

Offer research and advice to veterans who wish to handle their own claims. Assist veterans who are filing original claims for compensation and/or pension with the Department of Veterans Affairs and complete the required VA forms on behalf of the claimant. Assist veterans in reopening claims for service-connected disabilities and complete the required VA forms. Follow up on status of claims filed by veterans with the VA Regional Office. File Notice of Disagreement with the VA Regional Office if a veteran believes the decision made by the VA was incorrect. Review statements of the case from the VA regarding denials of claim and assist veterans with the preparation of responses. Assist veterans or surviving spouses in the preparation of appeals for denial of claims and file the appeals with the local VA Regional Office for forwarding to the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, D.C. Complete VA Forms other than for original claims. Answer/research telephone inquiries regarding medical, death/burial and their miscellaneous benefits.

VetsFirst

www.vetsfirst.org

Help America's veterans with disabilities, their spouses, dependents, survivors and other eligible family members receive health care, disability compensation, rehabilitation and other benefits offered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Supply direct representation, proactive legislative and regulatory advocacy, individual support and counseling services, guidance on education and employment, timely news and information and valuable self-help guides. Program of the United Spinal Association.