

STATE & FEDERAL

BENEFITS • INFORMATION • RESOURCES • SERVICES

For Utah Veterans and Service Members



2023

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This guide was produced by the Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs and provides a comprehensive list of benefits, services, resources, and other information for Veterans and service members in Utah. **Additional information can be found at veterans.utah.gov**

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

The Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs (UDVMA) assists Veterans and current members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents in numerous capacities. This includes the preparing and securing of claims for compensation, hospitalization, education, vocational training, and other benefits or privileges which Veterans and our current armed forces have earned through their military service. Additionally, UDVMA oversees four State Veteran nursing homes and the Utah Veterans Cemetery and Memorial Park.

UDVMA also advises the Governor and state legislature on matters pertaining to military affairs throughout Utah and serves as a liaison to the leadership of Utah's military installations, defense industry, and economic development organizations.

Main Office:
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 105
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113

Phone: (801) 326-2372
Toll Free: (800) 894-9497
Fax: (801) 326-2369

PO Box 581217
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113

E-mail: veterans@utah.gov
Website: veterans.utah.gov

HEALTHCARE

VA Healthcare System

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has the largest integrated healthcare system in our nation. It has over 1500 facilities throughout the country that address most of the issues affecting our nation's Veterans. Eligible Veterans may receive care from a full range of health care services provided by facilities within these networks. Veterans within the state of Utah can receive care from a variety of facilities including the SLC VA Medical Center, seven Community Based Outpatient Clinics and four Vet Centers. Learn more about VA health care eligibility and benefits: [VA.gov/health-care](https://www.va.gov/health-care)

George E. Wahlen VA Medical Center

500 Foothill Boulevard
Salt Lake City, UT 84148-0001
Phone: 801-582-1565

Veteran Service Officers at UDVMA are trained and accredited to represent Utah Veterans at no cost in filing claims with the VA and during the appeals process. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have or if you need assistance applying for VA Health Care benefits.

Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC)

CBOCs are an important part of the VA healthcare system. These clinics are separate facilities from the SLC VA Medical Center and provide outpatient services, primary care and mental health care. There are seven CBOCs throughout the state of Utah.

Cache Valley VA Clinic

2380 North 400 East, Suite G
North Logan, UT 84341-1769
Phone: 435-787-9921

Ogden VA Clinic

3945 South Washington BLVD, Suite 1
Ogden, UT 84403-1825
801-479-4105

Orem VA Clinic

774 South State Street
Orem, UT 84058-6308
Phone: 801-235-0953

Price VA Clinic

189 South 600 West, Suite B
Price, UT 84501-2833
Phone: 435-613-0342

Roosevelt VA Clinic

245 West 200 North
Roosevelt, UT 84066-2740
Phone: 435-725-1050

South Jordan VA Clinic

5119 West Daybreak Parkway
South Jordan, UT 84009-5111
Phone: 801-417-5734

St. George VA Clinic

230 North 1680 East, Building N
St. George, UT 84790-2579
Phone: 435-634-7608

Vet Centers

VA Vet Centers offer confidential help for eligible Veterans, service members, and their families at no cost in a non-medical setting. Services include counseling for depression, post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and the psychological effects of military sexual trauma (MST). They can also connect you with more support in VA and your community.

Salt Lake City Vet Center

84 West 4800 South, Suite 100
Murray, UT 84107
Phone: 801-266-1499

Major Brent Taylor Vet Center

2357 N Washington Blvd
North Ogden, UT 84414
Phone: 801-737-9737

Gail S. Halvorsen Vet Center

360 S. State Street, Bldg C Suite 103
Orem, UT 84058
Phone: 801-377-1117

St. George Vet Center

1664 South Dixie Drive, Suite C-102
Saint George, UT 84770
Phone: 435-673-4494

Mental Health Resources

Veterans, service members and their families can access mental health resources from federal, state and local organizations. If you or someone you know is in crisis, please do not hesitate to seek support. For more mental health resources, visit veterans.utah.gov/healthcare

Veterans Crisis Line – Dial 988 then press 1

The Veterans Crisis Line provides free, 24/7 confidential support to Veterans, their families and friends. You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to call. Dial 988 then press 1 to get connected.

SafeUT National Guard

SafeUT National Guard is designed for Utah Air and Army National Guard members, civilian personnel, and their families, linking them to licensed mental health professionals who are trained to understand their unique challenges.

Learn more: safeut.org/national-guard

VA Mental Health Services

The VA Healthcare System has a variety of mental health resources, information, treatment options, and more. The George E. Wahlen VA Medical Center Mental health services can be reached at 801-582-1565 x1255. Learn more: mentalhealth.va.gov

VA CLAIMS ASSISTANCE

The Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs (UDVMA)

UDVMA offers free assistance to Veterans and their family members with claims, applications, and appeals to the VA. Any individual providing VA benefits claims assistance must be accredited by the VA. Contact us today at 801-326-2373 or visit veterans.utah.gov/va-claims-assistance

National Veterans Service Organizations

The National Veterans Service Organizations listed below also provide free claims assistance to Veterans, service members and their families.

American Legion: 801-326-2380

Disabled American Veterans: 801-326-2375

Veterans of Foreign Wars: 801-326-2385

EMPLOYMENT

Utah Department of Workforce Services

If you are seeking employment in the private sector, the Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS) is a great place to start. DWS brings together job seekers and potential employers from across Utah. You can create a profile, access job postings, participate in employment workshops, and learn about upcoming hiring events in your area all at jobs.utah.gov/veteran. As a veteran, you receive a “veteran preference” on the website, giving you an identifier next to your name for employers to easily identify. Veterans, members of the military, and their spouses can also find additional employment resources and speak to a Veteran specialist in their area.

State of Utah Jobs

The State of Utah is continually seeking individuals with a wide range of abilities. Invest your skills, knowledge, and experience in a career in one of the many state agencies and departments serving the people of Utah. Explore job openings and career opportunities on the State of Utah jobs website to get started: governmentjobs.com/careers/utah

Employment Preference

The State of Utah, local governments and some local private sector businesses offer employment preference to qualified veterans, servicemembers and their spouses.

Federal Government Employment Resources

The federal government has a long and outstanding record of employing veterans. Veterans have technical skills in areas of critical importance, and many also already have security clearances required for some federal positions. Federal service provides a means for veterans to continue their noble service to this country. As a Veteran, you may be eligible for Veterans' preferences as well as other Veteran specific hiring options. All federal hiring is done through the USAJobs website: USAJobs.gov/veterans

U.S. Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS)

VETS is committed to helping America's veterans, separating service members and their spouses by preparing them for meaningful careers, providing employment resources and expertise.

Learn more: dol.gov/agencies/vets

Feds Hire Vets

Feds Hire Vets is the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's Government-wide Veterans Employment Website and provides in-depth information and resources to help you Veterans, transitioning military service members

and their families understand and navigate the federal employment process.

Learn more: fedshirevets.gov

VA Career and Employment Resources

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs offer several resources and programs to help Veterans and transitioning service members build a career and find employment opportunities. These programs include the Veteran Readiness and Employment designed to provide services and benefits to enable Veterans with service-connected disability that limits their ability to work or prevents them from working. The VA also offers career counseling for eligible Veterans.

Learn more: va.gov/careers-employment

EDUCATION

Utah State Approving Agency for Veterans Education

The Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs is the State Approving Agency for Veterans Education (SAA) for the state of Utah. The SAA performs all duties necessary for the inspection, approval, and supervision of schools, training establishments, and other educational institutions to ensure standards and requirements are met for Veterans utilizing their GI Bill funds. These standards are defined in Title 38, U.S.C.

Please reach out the Utah SAA team with any questions about veteran and military education benefits. The SAA office can be reached at 801-584-1973 or by email at utahsaa@utah.gov.

Federal Education Benefits

VA education benefits help Veterans, service members, and their qualified family members with needs like paying college tuition, finding the right school or training program, career counseling, and covering other education expenses. Learn how to apply

for and manage the education and training benefits you've earned at va.gov/education or call the GI Bill Hotline at 888-GIBILL-1 (888-442-4551).

Post-9/11 GI Bill®

The Post-9/11 GI Bill® helps Veterans pay for school, job training, housing and other education expenses. You may be eligible if you meet at least one of the requirements listed below.

At least one of these must be true:

- You served at least 90 days on active duty (either all at once or with breaks) on or after September 11, 2001, or
- You received a Purple Heart on or after September 11, 2001, and were honorably discharged after any amount of service, or
- You served for at least 30 continuous days (all at once, without a break) on or after September 11, 2001, and were honorably discharged with a service-connected disability, or
- You're a dependent child using benefits transferred by a qualifying Veteran or service member

Eligible Veterans may receive up to 36 months of benefits, including tuition and fees, money for housing, money books, and more.

**GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits*

More federal education benefits for Veterans, service members and their families can be found at va.gov/education

State Education Benefits

The state of Utah offers several education benefits and programs for Veterans, service members and their families.

In-state Tuition

Active duty military and Veterans that have been released from active service within the 12 months of attending school will receive tuition at the rate of in-state tuition at public degree granting and certificate granting schools. Immediate family members may be eligible as well. Contact your school admissions office to apply. *Utah Code 53B-8-102 (8)*

Purple Heart Tuition Waiver

The Purple Heart Tuition Waiver provides Purple Heart recipients with a tuition waiver at all public institutions of higher learning in Utah. This benefit can be used toward a degree up to and including a Masters Degree. To receive this benefit the Veteran must submit proof that they are a Purple Heart recipient to the State Institution they are attending. Contact your school admissions office for more information. *Utah Code 53B-8e-103*

Veterans Tuition Gap Program

The Veterans Tuition Gap Program is a supplemental grant provided by the State of Utah that can cover tuition, fees, and books for veterans who are attending institutions of higher education in Utah and whose benefits under the federal program have been exhausted or are not available. Contact your school admissions office for more information. *Utah Code 53B-13b-104*

Scott Lundell Military Survivors Tuition Waiver

The Scott Lundell Military Survivors Tuition Waiver provides that surviving dependents of service members killed in action on or after September 11, 2001 are eligible for a tuition waiver at state schools. *Utah Code 53B-8-107*

Utah National Guard Education Services

Members of the Utah National Guard can find education benefits Information and obtain assistance from the UTNG Education Services Office. Learn more at ut.ng.mil/Resources/Education-Services

Accelerated Credentialing to Employment Program (ACE)

The ACE Program is designed to assist Utah veterans, members of the Active Components, actively drilling members of the Guard and Reserve and their respective spouses, overcome barriers to employment or better employment. It is intended to provide an avenue for eligible participants to gain employment in the civilian job market by capitalizing on their past experience, training and knowledge or by assisting them with short-term training that leads to a certificate or license. For more information, contact the Utah Department of Workforce Services at 801-452-5306.

Honorary High School Diplomas

Veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam who left high school for military service during those conflicts may be eligible to receive Honorary High School Diplomas from the particular school that they left. Contact the local school district for information on how to receive the diploma. *Utah Code 53A-3-426*

More education benefits, resources and information for Veterans, service members and their families can be found at veterans.utah.gov/education

BUSINESS RESOURCES

Utah Veterans Business Resource Center

The State of Utah has created the Veterans Business Resource Center (VBRC) at Salt Lake Community College to directly support veterans in starting and growing their businesses. Whether you need assistance in growing your business or you have only a germ of a business idea, the VBRC is here to support forming the company, testing your business idea, developing a business plan, analyzing the financial needs, and creat-

ing a marketing approach with you. Veterans can schedule one-on-one consultation with the VBRC by calling an advisor at 801-957-5288 or by visiting themillatlscc.com/resources/veterans-business-resource-center

U.S. Small Business Association

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) helps Americans start, build, and grow businesses. They provide several resources for Veteran-owned business that can be found at sba.gov/business-guide/grow-your-business/veteran-owned-businesses

Veteran Entrepreneur Portal

The Veteran Entrepreneur Portal is developed by the VA and is designed to save you time with direct access to the resources necessary to guide every step of entrepreneurship. Learn more at va.gov/osdbu/entrepreneur

More business resources and information for Veterans, service members and their families can be found at veterans.utah.gov/business-resources

Employer Resources

The below resources are designed to support employers as they hire and work with Veterans and service members.

Utah Department of Workforce Services

The Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS) has compiled various state and federal tools, training and other resources to support employers hiring and working with Veterans and service members. You can learn how to best recruit, engage and retain Veterans and find information on tax credits and other programs. DWS also houses several employment specialists dedicated to assisting Veterans seeking employment and supporting employers with their organization's veteran, military and spouse employment needs, initiatives and more. Learn more at jobs.utah.gov/veteran/4-employer

Utah Patriot Partnership

The Utah Patriot Partnership network is a Utah DWS program that empowers businesses through their pledge to extend priority consideration of employment practices to veterans, military members and spouses. Joining the network allows your organization to stand out and be recognized as an employer of choice by veteran and military talent. Employers who have taken advantage and optimized this talent have gained a competitive edge.

Utah Veteran Employment Tax Credit

The Utah Veteran Employment Tax Credit is for employers who hire qualified veterans. The credit is separate from the Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit available to an employer who hires a veteran, especially one who is disabled. The federal and state tax credits can be combined if the veteran meets the eligibility criteria. Learn more at incometax.utah.gov/credits/veteran-employment

HIRE Vets Medallion Program

The HIRE Vets Medallion Program is the only federal-level Veterans employment award for employers. It seeks to recognize a company or organization's commitment to veteran hiring, retention, and professional development. Learn more at hirevets.gov

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Utah@EASE

Utah@EASE is a referral program led by the Office of the Utah Attorney General in partnership with the Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs and the Utah State Bar. This public-private partnership connects eligible Veterans and current service members with pro bono legal services and representation for covered Utah issues.

Covered legal issues include:

- Power of Attorney
- Wills and trusts
- Consumer fraud
- Predatory lending
- Debt
- Landlord or tenant rights
- Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)
- Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act (USERRA)

Criminal, family law, personal injury, VA claims, and legal matters against a public entity (city, county, state, or federal) are not covered. Learn more at attorneygeneral.utah.gov/utah-at-ease

Veterans Legal Clinic

The VA has partnered with volunteer attorneys who provide a free monthly legal clinic for Veterans. The clinic is held the second Thursday of each month from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in building 16 lobby of the VA Medical Center. This gives veterans an opportunity to speak to an attorney, free of charge, to get some direction on their legal matter. No appointment needed.

BURIAL BENEFITS

Utah Veterans Cemetery & Memorial Park

The Utah Veterans Cemetery and Memorial Park is a state-operated cemetery located just north of Camp Williams in Bluffdale, Utah. It offers a beautiful panoramic view of the Wasatch Mountains and pays tribute as an honored burial ground to Veterans, their spouses, and dependent children. It also provides an appropriate venue for memorial services, funerals, meditation, and other Veteran memorial related events.

Families can choose any funeral home or mortuary to help plan your services. Bring the veteran's DD-214 or military discharge paperwork to the mortuary. The mortuary will send the DD-214 to the cemetery. The mortuary will also contact the cemetery to reserve a day and time for the graveside service and burial. There are no fees for a veteran's burial. However, there is a small fee of \$893.00 (adjusted annually) for the burial of an eligible veteran's spouse or dependent child. Contact the cemetery office for specific details.

17111 South Camp Williams Road
Bluffdale, Utah 84065
Hours: Mon – Fri, 9:00AM to 5:00PM
Phone: (801) 254-9036
Fax: (801) 254-5756

More burial benefits such as headstone, markers and medallions; burial allowance; graveside military honors; survivor benefits and more can be found at veterans.utah.gov/burial-benefits and at cem.va.gov/burial-benefits

RECREATION

Utah State Parks Honor Pass

The Utah Division of State Parks is proud to offer qualifying veterans access to our Veterans With Disabilities Honor Pass! The Honor Pass will be available for veterans who (1) are a Utah resident, (2) were honorably discharged from their military service, and (3) have a service-related disability and can provide a current summary of benefits letter issued by the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Pickup locations include Utah State Parks Region Offices and all state parks — excluding Flight Park, Piute State Park, Jordan River OHV State Park, Utahraptor State Park, Lost Creek State Park, and This is the Place Heritage Park.

America the Beautiful – National Parks & Federal Recreational Lands Military Pass

Gold Star Families and US military veterans are eligible to receive free lifetime access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas, including national parks, wildlife refuges, and forests. The free Military Pass is a way to thank America's veterans, Gold Star Families, and current military and their dependents for their support of our country and to encourage them to explore recreational opportunities on their public lands and waters. Learn more at store.usgs.gov/MilitaryPass

Utah Disabled Veteran Hunting/ Fishing License

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources offers discounted hunting, fishing or combination licenses to any Veteran who is a Utah resident and has a service-connected disability of 20 percent or greater. Learn more at wildlife.utah.gov/application-for-a-disabled-veteran-license.html

National Ability Center

The National Ability Center empowers individuals of all abilities by building self-esteem, confidence and lifetime skills through sport, recreation and educational programs. They welcome members of the Armed Forces and Veterans from every era to participate in ANY of their programs. These programs provide recreational, rehabilitative, and therapeutic programs to service members AND their families that include ongoing lessons, specialized camps, mobile programs and adaptive wilderness expeditions. In most cases service members are provided access to all National Ability Center recreation and adventure programs at NO COST, with scholarships being available by request for their accompanying family members. Learn more at discovernac.org

More recreation resources and opportunities for Veterans, service members and their families at veterans.utah.gov/recreation

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE

Utah State Veterans Nursing Homes

The State of Utah has four beautiful Veteran nursing homes for Veterans needing long-term care. The Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs oversees these homes and the day-to-day operations are provided by a contracted private health-care provider. All four homes carry high rating by the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services.

In general, a Veteran is eligible for admission to these homes if they served on active duty or deployed while serving in the reserves. There is no cost for veterans with a 70 percent or higher service-connected disability (SCD). For Veterans with no SCD or an SCD that is less than 70 percent, the VA subsidizes the cost with a per diem of approximately \$120 a day. Spouses of Veterans and Gold Star Parents are also eligible for admission, however the cost of care is not covered or subsidized by the VA. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the homes directly at the contact information below.

William E. Christoffersen Salt Lake Veterans Home

700 S. Foothill Drive
Salt Lake City, UT, 84113-1104
Phone: 801-584-1900

George E. Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home

1102 North 1200 West
Ogden, UT 84404
Phone: 801-334-4300

Mervyn Sharp Bennion Veterans Home

1551 North Main Street
Payson, UT 84651
Phone: 801-465-5400

Southern Utah Veterans Home

160 N. 200 E Street
Ivins, UT 84738
Phone: 435-634-5220

More information about the Utah State Veterans nursing homes can be found at veterans.utah.gov/veterans-homes

Utah Veteran First-Time Homebuyer Grant

The Utah Veteran First-Time Homebuyer Grant program is open to eligible Veterans and current service members (Active Duty, Reserve or Guard). Eligible first-time homebuyers may apply for a \$2,500 grant to go towards the purchase of a home in Utah. If you are a recently separated Veteran (last 5 years) or a currently serving member of the military living in Utah and are interested in buying a home for the first time in Utah, this program is for you. Learn more at veterans.utah.gov/first-time-homebuyer-grant

Disabled Veteran Property Tax Abatement

This property tax abatement is available to veterans disabled in military service (at least 10 percent disability), their unmarried surviving spouse or minor orphans. The abatement is up to \$283,964 of taxable value of a residence, based on the percentage of disability incurred in the line of duty and on the unemployability classification.

- Example: A Veteran with a 100 percent service-connected disability rating would receive the maximum \$283,964 subtracted from the taxable value of their property. A Veteran with a 10 %

percent disability would receive \$28,396 (10% of \$283,964) subtracted from the taxable value of their property.

The abatement can also be applied toward tangible personal property, such as motor vehicles. An application with proof of military service and proof of disability (or death) must be on file with the county where the eligible property is located.

Active or Reserve Duty Armed Forces Property Tax Exemption

This exemption is available to active or reserve members of the US Armed Forces on active duty outside the state 200 days in a continuous 365-day period beginning in the prior year. The exemption equals the total taxable value of the claimant's primary residence.

To receive the exemption you must (1) apply on or before September 1 of the year after the year of qualifying service, and (2) include with your application verifying military documentation including orders for qualifying active or reserve service. You must apply each year you are eligible. Only one exemption is allowed for each period of qualifying service. Contact your county treasurer/tax assessor/clerk to apply.

Utah Veterans License Plates

A special group plate inscribed with "UTAH HONORS VETERANS" and featuring the decal emblems of the U.S. Military branch of choice (as well as the American Legion) can be obtained from the Utah Division of Motor Vehicles. This plate benefits the Utah Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs and generates funds to be used in support of efforts benefiting Veterans and service members in Utah. It is available to any person who desires to make the required contribution of \$25 for the initial plate and \$10 for the annual renewal. Learn more at dmv.utah.gov/plates

Purple Heart/Combat Wounded Plate

This plate recognizes recipients of the Purple Heart and is provided free of charge to eligible Veterans.

Pearl Harbor Survivor Plate

This plate recognizes those on duty and surviving the attack at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941.

Disabled Veteran Plate

This license plate recognizes Utah resident disabled veterans for their military service. Note that this plate does not provide handicapped parking space privileges for the Disabled Veteran. A disabled windshield placard must be obtained separately. This plate may be transferred to the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran so long as the surviving spouse remains unmarried.

Additional combat badges are available with the Utah Department of Motor Vehicles.

Utah Veterans Information System

In 2012 the UDVMA launched the Veterans Information System (VIS). This was designed in cooperation with the Utah Department of Technology Services (DTS) to improve the ability to provide information and services to Utah Veterans. To be included in the VIS, which enhances our ability to serve you, complete the online application at uvisreg.utah.gov/vtsreg/public/Register

Homeless Veterans Fellowship

The Homeless Veterans Fellowship provides transitional housing for up to 18 months for Veterans. They also provide emergency food bags and personal hygiene items, and coffee and donuts are provided during open hours.

Homeless Veterans Fellowship
541 23rd Street, Ogden, UT 84401
Phone: (801) 392-7662

Find more information at
veterans.utah.gov



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS



550 Foothill Drive, Suite 105
Salt Lake City, UT 84113

Phone: 801-326-2372
Email: veterans@utah.gov
Website: veterans.utah.gov