



THE UTAH

A PUBLICATION OF THE UTAH DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

# VETERANS VOICE

VETERANS.UTAH.GOV • JULY 2017



WORLD WAR II/KOREAN WAR • VIETNAM WAR • COLD WAR/PEACETIME • GULF WAR/OIF/OEF • FAMILY



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Register Now

Register your information with the Veterans Information System:  
[uvisreg.utah.gov/vtsreg/public/Register](https://uvisreg.utah.gov/vtsreg/public/Register)

Outreach, Websites, Claims Assistance, Events, and Resources



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS  
[veterans.utah.gov](https://veterans.utah.gov)



CLAIMS ASSISTANCE CALENDAR  
[veterans.utah.gov/outreach-calendar](https://veterans.utah.gov/outreach-calendar)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
[veterans.utah.gov/events-calendar](https://veterans.utah.gov/events-calendar)



COORDINATION OF VETERANS  
SERVICES  
[veterans.utah.gov/coordination-of-veteran-services](https://veterans.utah.gov/coordination-of-veteran-services)

Upcoming Events — [veterans.utah.gov/events-calendar](https://veterans.utah.gov/events-calendar)

JULY

Saturday– 1 July • 1300 - 1600  
Veterans Luncheon & Resource Fair  
• Grand Building at UT State Fair Park  
155 N 1000 W, SLC, UT

Tuesday– 4 July • All Day  
Independence Day

Wednesday– 5 July • 1730  
St. George Veterans Legal Clinic  
• CBOC 230 No. 1680 East, Bldg. N St.  
George, UT

AUGUST

Wednesday– 2 August • 1730  
St. George Veterans Legal Clinic  
• CBOC 230 No. 1680 East, Bldg. N St.  
George, UT

Wednesday– 23 August • 0930 - 1130  
Richfield Veterans Benefit Open House

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday– 6 September • 1730  
St. George Veterans Legal Clinic  
• CBOC 230 No. 1680 East, Bldg. N St.  
George, UT

Monday– 11 September • All Day  
UT State Fair, Veterans Free Entry Day  
• 155 N 1000 W, Salt Lake City, UT

Monday to Sunday– 11- 17 September  
Fleet Week





## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

**Gary Harter, Executive Director**

*Utah Department of Veterans & Military Affairs*

Hopefully everyone is having a great Summer, with friends and family.

I always really enjoy the month of May as the "unofficial" start of Summer and the great recognitions that are held for veterans and military with Memorial Day and Armed Forces Day, and this year was no different. Some great events across our state. We also held our annual Veterans Owned Business Summit. There are photos of these events and many others in this edition.

You may notice that this edition of The Voice has a slightly updated format and we hope that you find the additional information beneficial. When we rolled out our new concept a few years ago, we focused a little bit more on a newsletter-type style, with shorter articles and recurring standard pieces. What we've done this time is listened to input from veterans and the types of requests we typically receive, and tried to put them in here. So, while The Voice will continue to be put out every other month with themed content, event calendars and regular input from the VA, Utah National Guard and Hill AFB, we now are including more information on resources, benefits and expanded contact information. These additional standard pages will allow you to use each issue not only to find out new and interesting information, but also a place to quickly touch resources, each and every time.

One number I want to pass along is that the VA compensation number for Utah continues to increase and the FY2016 figure hit \$499 million, which is a 42% increase in four years. Amazing work by the VA, veterans organizations, our department and many others in serving Utah veterans. While this is a great number, there are still thousands of veterans that don't know that they may be eligible for benefits, so we ask everyone to assist in finding those veterans and getting them connected.

Hopefully everyone will have a great and safe Summer. Thanks to everyone who has served our great country and those that support them.

Gary 🇺🇸





*by Governor Gary R. Herbert*

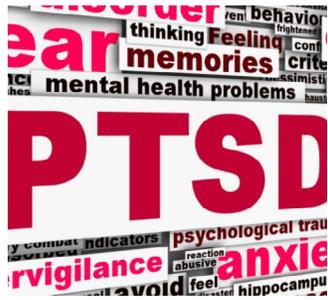
When our fathers signed the Declaration of Independence 241 years ago they pledged their loyalty — not merely to a document, but to a dream. In doing so they also made a solemn promise, not just to hope for freedom and equality for all, but to give everything necessary to achieve it.

On this Independence Day, let us each reflect upon the freedoms we so effortlessly enjoy: those freedoms which are the culmination of the hope of patriots and pioneers. For centuries, such freedoms could only be dreamed of — but they are ours each day of our lives. Let us protect them. Let us use

them. As we celebrate, let us remember the sacrifices of those who came before us.

We also honor our brave military and veterans today. Let us strive to be more like them. As we remember these men and women who fight to ensure these freedoms and vouchsafe this birthright, we should solemnly consider what we can offer our country in thanks. And like our forefathers, let us arise and stand for what is right, and let us always dream for a better world.

May God bless the state of Utah, and may God bless America. 🇺🇸



### New VA Online Tool Helps Veterans Learn About and Compare Effective PTSD Treatments

WASHINGTON - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) launched a new online tool this week that will help Veterans compare various treatment options for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

To read the full article visit: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2913>

### VA Secretary announces decision on next generation Electronic Health Record

U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. David J. Shulkin announced his decision on the next-generation Electronic Health Record (EHR) system for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) at a news briefing at VA headquarters in Washington.

To read more go to: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2914>



### New VA Initiative Focuses on Combating Fraud, Waste and Abuse

WASHINGTON - Today, the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) announced it will launch the 'Seek to Prevent Fraud, Waste and Abuse (STOP FWA)' initiative that will capitalize on existing departmental activities that prevent or identify FWA, as well as ensure a consistent approach to FWA risk management as a way to centralize organizational resources.

To read more go to: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2912>



### VA and healing powers of nature, rescue Veteran

When the transition to civilian life left an Air Force Veteran in a "dark place," he turned to VA and nature for help. "There is so much healing that goes on when you are alone surrounded by nature."

To read more go to: <http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/38430/va-healing-powers-nature-rescue-veteran/>





## UTAH CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Utahns are often asked by charities to donate for a cause. In fact, in the State of Utah there are over 5,000 registered charities. Charities exist to serve many different causes, and military-related charities are no different. With so many options, what can you do to determine which charity or charities you want to donate to?

In Utah, in order to solicit for contributions in the state, a charity must first register with the Utah Division of Consumer Protection. This registration includes disclosing key information to the Division, such as information about the charity's purpose, financial and tax information about the charity, and the percentage of contributions that remains available for the charitable purpose.

Below are a few tips for charitable giving and "doing your homework" before giving to a charity.

- First, take your time. If you can give to a charity today, you will still be able to give to it tomorrow. Don't be pressured into giving before you have done your homework and are comfortable with what you are doing.
- Be sure to do your homework. In order to ask for contributions in Utah, a charity has to first register with the Division of Consumer Protection as described above. You can check the website of the Utah Division of Consumer Protection ([consumerprotection.utah.gov](https://consumerprotection.utah.gov))

to see if a charity is registered, and to see what percentage of contributions remains available for the charitable purpose. Also, search on the Internet for information about the charity.

- Ask the charity for information about how it will use the donation, how much money goes to the charitable purpose (compare this with the information on the Division's website), whether the money is used locally, etc. – anything that is relevant to you in making a donation.
- Finally, if you have concerns, if there are misrepresentations, if there is an unregistered charity soliciting for donations, etc., file a complaint with the Division of Consumer Protection. You can download the Division's complaint form at [consumerprotection.utah.gov](https://consumerprotection.utah.gov).

Take the time you need to make sure you give to a charity that you have researched and that will use your contribution the way you want it used.

For more information about charitable giving or the laws governing charities, please visit the Division's website at <https://dcp.utah.gov/consumerinfo/charities.html>, or contact the Division at (801) 530-6601. 🇺🇸

## Utah's defense industry and economic driver

*Adapted from Gardner Policy Institute Press Release*

Utah's defense industry directly and indirectly supported over 109,000 jobs and \$9.2 billion in economic activity in the state, according to new research released by the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute.\* Federal defense spending was responsible for 5.8 percent of Utah's jobs, 7.1 percent of its earnings and 6.2 percent of its GDP.

The Utah Defense Alliance and the Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs commissioned the Gardner Policy Institute to assess the economic impacts of Utah's defense industry. The Gardner Policy Institute analyzed the impacts of current operations of Hill Air Force Base, Dugway Proving Ground, Tooele Army Depot, the Utah National Guard, reserves, recruiting, ROTC and expenditures on behalf of veterans. It also examined Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs grants and contract expenditures that were not associated with one of the aforementioned installations.

"Utah's defense industry continues to be an important contributor to the state economy with an impact in every county of the state," said Juliette Tennert, director of economic and public policy research at the Gardner Policy Institute. "With the Trump Administration's recent proposals to increase defense spending, this could mean additional money and jobs for Utahns."

Veterans in Utah also generated significant economic impact, supporting over 24,000 jobs and \$1.9 billion in GDP for Utah. Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense spending for Utah veterans was \$1.8 billion.\*

The full report is available at: <http://gardner.utah.edu/wp-content/uploads/DefenseReportFinal.pdf>

\*The reference year of 2015 is the most recent year for all of the available data. 🇺🇸

**Table 1: Statewide Economic Impacts of Utah Defense Sector by Component, 2015**

(Millions of Dollars)

Category	Hill Air Force Base	Dugway Proving Ground	Tooele Army Depot	Utah National Guard	Reserves, Recruiting & ROTC*	Veterans	Grants & Contracts*	Total
Total Employment	47,341	2,479	1,164	13,176	6,746	24,480	13,635	109,021
Total Earnings	\$3,202.3	\$175.9	\$75.0	\$477.3	\$199.2	\$1,437.8	\$816.8	\$6,384.3
Gross Domestic Product	\$4,569.8	\$225.0	\$113.8	\$841.9	\$339.8	\$1,891.9	\$1,230.4	\$9,212.7

\* To avoid double counting, reserves, recruiting, contracts and grants impacts reported here include only additional economic activity not included under a Utah military installation or other defense component in this table.

Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis using the REMI PI+ model.



This year both Tooele Army Depot (TEAD) and Dugway Proving Ground (DPG) celebrate their 75th anniversary as military installations serving our national defense. The attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 drew the United States and its military forces into World War II. The nation suddenly realized a need for increased military capability in many areas, which included chemical and biological warfare, as well as ammunition storage and outload.

In 1942, 75 years ago, President Roosevelt withdrew 127,000 acres of Utah land for use by the War Department. Dugway Proving Ground was established with weapons testing under way by that summer. 1942 was also the year TEAD, originally called Tooele Ordnance Depot, was established as a storage depot for war supplies.

Over the decades, both TEAD and DPG have evolved and adapted to changing defense priorities. Today they have established themselves as critical installations for Army and Joint missions. They continue to deliver essential combat capabilities to active,

reserve, and National Guard forces across all services.

DPG marked its 75th Anniversary on June 14th, a day coinciding with the Army's 242nd birthday celebration. Other activities included a special video presentation, remarks from the Director, Utah Division of State History, a Governor's Proclamation, and an anniversary cake cutting ceremony.

Although the TEAD's actual anniversary day falls on April 14, the depot has scheduled an employee/community celebration August 10th, including a Governor's Proclamation recognizing that day as Tooele Army Depot Day.

According to the recent economic impact study by the Kem Gardner Policy Institute, TEAD and DPG contribute 3,600 jobs and over \$338 million in Gross Domestic Product to the Utah economy. The military and civilian employees, as well as their families, are proud members of a 75 year legacy of service and excellence to our nation. 🇺🇸



### **Veteran Owned Businesses Conference**

May 12th 2017 Utah Veterans attend the Business Conference at SLCC where 160 Veterans learned best practices and resources available for entrepreneurs and those in business. The Keynote address for the Conference was provided by Tony Horton. Tony is the wildly popular creator of the best-selling fitness series: P90X®, P90X2®, P90X3®, and Ten Minute Trainer. Sponsors for the event included The Salt Lake Chamber, Utah Department of Veterans & Military Affairs, and Zions Bank along with, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, Utah SBD, and Score

### **Governors Award for Excellence & Operational Success**

May 2017 the UDVMA Outreach Team received the Governor's Award for Excellence through innovation and efficiencies throughout the state to serve veterans. Through awareness and assistance with claims, benefits, employment, education, and healthcare. The UDVMA as a whole also received an award by the Governor in June 2017 for Operational Success. The Department achieved Utah's goal to improve government performance by at least 25 percent by December 2016. A set of tools and concepts known as the SUCCESS Framework were designed to achieve this goal.



### **Memorial Day Ceremony 2017**

Our annual event at the Veterans Cemetery & Memorial Park was held on Memorial Day, May 29th, 2017. Major General Jefferson S. Burton, the Adjutant Major General of the Utah National Guard, and Representative Jason Chaffetz were the guest speakers. The ceremony was held on the grounds and included performances by the 23rd Army Band Quintet, vocalist Alexia Adair, and the White Peaks Centennial Pipe Band.

### **Swing into Spring Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament**

The Utah Department of Veteran & Military Affairs held their annual Swing into Spring Golf Tournament at Hill AFB on May 25th 2017. The day was full of gorgeous weather, great golf and excellent networking opportunities. Thank you to Zions Bank, and all our sponsors, and to all who came out to support this great event. Photos can be found at: <https://veterans.utah.gov/veteransgolfsocial2017/>



## Northern Outreach Program Manager - Larry Dawson



Larry joined the department in October 2007 after retiring as a civilian from the Department of Defense. During this 30 year period he managed Military Family Centers. These included the Air Forces' Family Support/Airman and Family Readiness Centers, Army Community Services, and the Navy Fleet and Family Service Centers. He served 4 years active duty in the United States Air Force in the early 1970s, as well as the AF Reserves, Utah Air National Guard, and Alaska Air National Guard. Mr Dawson was born and raised in Hooper, UT and looks forward to assisting Veterans and family members in Northern Utah. To contact or for assistance 801-662-8256 📞

## Central Outreach Officer - Stephanie Reeder



Stephanie was born and raised in Central Minnesota. She enlisted in the Minnesota National Guard in high school and served 10 years as an IT specialist. She also supported Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Spartan Shield with a deployment to Iraq and Kuwait. She moved to Central Utah last year with her husband to be closer to family. Aside from assisting Veterans and their families, Stephanie enjoys cooking, gardening, and of course hockey! Stephanie feels it is a great privilege and honor to support Veterans and their families in Central Utah. To contact or for assistance 385-414-0155 📞

## Southern Outreach Program Manager - Courtney Pendleton



Courtney was born and raised in Southern Utah. He moved to St. George to raise his family and enjoy the quality of life the unique area affords. Camping, Hiking, or Fishing is where you can find Courtney and his family on any given weekend. He joined the Utah National Guard right out of high school and retired after 26 years of service, with 2 combat tours to Iraq and 2 stateside deployments. Becoming a Veteran Service Officer was a perfect fit and natural progression for Courtney. He is honored each day to meet and work with the Veterans, families, and the communities that support them. To contact or for assistance 435-218-5128 📞

## Current Conflict Program Manager - David Salgado



David is a Chicago land native, but has lived in Utah County for approximately 10 years. As an Infantry Marine, David supported both OIF and OEF combat operations. His last billet was as a Weapons Platoon Sergeant/Commander for a Light Armored Vehicle Company. After leaving the military he earned a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Science with an emphasis in Psychology graduating Summa Cum Laude. He went on to also earn a Masters Degree in Business Administration. Having worked previously for the Veterans Administration, David has an in-depth knowledge of Veteran services and programs. Outside of helping Veteran's, David spends most of his time with his family or on a golf course. To contact or for assistance 385-272-7003 📞



**H**ILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — Pilots from the 419th and 388th Fighter Wings honored fallen World War II veterans with an F-16 flyover above Loa, Utah, Memorial Day.

Loa, located in Wayne County, lies outside the site of a crash in July 1943, when an AT-18 bomber came apart midair over the remote Utah desert during a flight from California to Colorado, killing all six crewmembers.

Lt. Col. Chris Robinson, 419th FW pilot, and Capt. Michael Wierenga, 388th FW pilot, performed the flyover as part of a ceremony to unveil a monument in honor of the crewmembers.

“I volunteered to take part in this flyover,” Robinson said. “It’s important to honor these service members and their families for their sacrifice to our great nation.”

Kade Brown, a land surveyor in Central Valley, Utah, headed the effort to build a monument after learning it was his family who discovered the wreckage in October 1943 while herding cattle across the desert.

Brown said the ceremony, which featured a 21-gun salute and remarks from family members of the deceased, was an emotional event for the roughly 500 people who attended.

“This story has been part of our community for more than 70 years and the ceremony was sort of a closure for some of these families,” Brown said. “This is something that won’t be forgotten.”

Wierenga, who coordinated the flyover, said he was happy to take time out of his holiday to support the small-town event.

“We have to remember the foundation these men set for us, especially those who served in World War II,” Wierenga said. “I felt some pride in making this flyover happen for them.”

The fallen crewmembers were Maj. Paul E. Spence; 1st Lt. Leonard A. Keyes, Jr.; 2nd Lt. Orin L. Mock; Staff Sgt. Allen C. Hebert; Sgt. Charles F. Royse; and Capt. Robert D. Spitzer.





## VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION & EMPLOYMENT—TELL THE WORLD!

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors with the Salt Lake Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E) Office often have Veterans ask them why no one tells Veterans about Ch. 31 VR&E benefits. Actually, the reality is much the opposite. The Veterans Benefits Administration goes to great lengths to educate wounded, ill and injured service members and Veterans about this benefit.

The Disabled Transition Assistance Program (DTAP) and Transition Assistance Program (TAP) are briefings offered through a joint effort of the Department to Defense, Department of Labor, and Department of Veterans Affairs. The purpose of these small group presentations is specifically to provide information about Vocational Rehabilitation benefits.

The Veterans Benefits Administration includes literature about Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment with correspondence sent to Veterans regarding their disability claims and/or service connected benefits. Social networking sites such as Facebook, twitter, YouTube, and others highlight Veteran benefits.

For more information about the Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment program and benefits offered download or view a Benefit brochures at [www.benefits.va.gov](http://www.benefits.va.gov). 🇺🇸



## WHY VETERANS SHOULD CHOOSE VA SALT LAKE CITY HEALTH CARE

by Shella Stovall, Director, VA SLC Health Care System



This is an extraordinary time for us and the Department of Veterans Affairs as we undergo a complete transformation in order to better serve Veterans. We know that they have a choice when it comes to healthcare and it's our responsibility to not only meet but exceed their expectations.

In Salt Lake City and in our surrounding clinics we are focused on the Veteran experience now more than ever by building a greater network of healthcare choices, and by getting Veterans services when and where they need to be seen. We now offer same day services and are proud to acknowledge we are getting our new and established Veteran patients in to see their providers sooner than this time last year.

VA has also recently authorized emergency mental health treatments for Veterans with "other than honorable" discharges. No Veteran in crisis should ever be denied or have to wait for help and we are committed to being that lifeline for those that need us most. I am reminded daily of the magnitude of our responsibility through interactions with our most vulnerable Veterans, but I remain in awe of their courage. Suicide prevention is one of our top priorities and something we continue to improve upon through outreach

and research. If you are a Veteran in crisis or know one that is, please call our Veterans Crisis Hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

We are also acutely aware of the need to be more efficient with tax payer dollars. That means acknowledging, finding and fixing areas where we fall short. Reaching our most rural Veterans is one area we can improve upon through expanded telehealth technology.

This will allow Veterans hundreds of miles away from our medical center to receive state of the art treatment and consults through a computer screen. We know we can always do more to better serve our Veterans.

It has been my honor to work for the VA Salt Lake City Health Care System for the past 29 years. I am privileged to work alongside some of the most dedicated employees in healthcare who also choose VA as their employer because of their passion for serving Veterans. These are the behind the scenes heroes that don't make headlines. Please know that despite what you may hear or read our commitment never wavers.

Admittedly, we cannot do it all alone. We are continuously growing community partnerships to benefit Veterans and their families. On behalf of the VA Salt Lake City Healthcare, I would like to thank you for your support.

In closing, I would ask you to please visit our new Access and Quality in VA Healthcare Website to compare wait times and quality of care measures across the VA Salt Lake City Health Care System and across the health care industry. Check it out at: <http://www.accessstocare.va.gov/> 🇺🇸

**ATTENTION**



**VETERANS**

The Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs is here to serve you. We operate:

- The Utah Veterans Cemetery and Memorial Park
- Four Veterans Homes from Ogden to St. George
- The State Approving Agency for Veterans Education

In addition, our staff of trained professionals stands ready to assist you in many other ways, such as:

- Outreach Activities  
Help with VA Pension, and Aid & Attendance claims
- Job Fairs  
Getting you employed, skills workshops, etc.
- Benefit Information Programs  
Health and education eligibility, state benefits, etc.
- VSOs (Veteran Service Officers) that travel the state  
Assistance in filing claims and receiving benefits
- The Homeless Veterans Stand-Down  
Providing food, shelter, and clothing

**Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs**

550 Foothill Drive, Suite 150

Salt Lake City, Utah 84113

Phone: 801-326-2372

Email: [veterans@utah.gov](mailto:veterans@utah.gov)

[www.veterans.utah.gov](http://www.veterans.utah.gov)



## GUARD HELPS FILL UTAH FOOD BANKS DURING SCOUTING FOR FOOD DRIVE

by Sgt. Ariel Soloman. Photos by 1st Sgt. Brock Jones

**D**raper, Utah -- The Utah Guard helped local Boy Scout troops gather food from neighborhoods across Utah for local food banks in their annual Scouting for Food drive March 18, 2017.

This annual event not only provides meals to needy families, but also gives service members the opportunity to serve the communities they live in.

"We're having a good time," said 2nd Lt. David Chan, 141st Military Intelligence Battalion. "We want to give back to the community. I really feel it fulfills the oath we took when we joined [The Guard]."

According to the Utah Food Bank, on in seven people in Utah faces hunger. In 2016, the Utah Food Bank helped provide 38 million meal for those in need, with Scouting for Food gathering 122 tons of food last year. According to Utah Food Bank's Heidi Cannella, the amount of food donated this year should exceed the amount given in 2016.

"It gives the Scouts a chance to really see how much they're helping and everything we're doing," said Sgt. 1st Class Erik Andersen, 142nd MI Battalion. "People donate a bag

of food, but so do their neighbors. It all adds up and we gather literally tons of food."

While Guard units are tasked with providing Soldiers and Airmen to serve during the event, many of the service members participating are volunteers coming from every level of leadership within their units. Working together in small groups at the donation sites, leaders are able to work more closely with junior enlisted Soldiers and build camaraderie between all levels of their organizations.

"As a senior leader, it's really great," said Andersen. "I get to meet a lot of junior Soldiers that I might be assigned and it lets ups work together."

While Scouting for Food is one of the Largest food donation events the Utah Food Bank holds, there are other financial and food drives throughout the year to ensure they can continue to feed the needy all year round. To get involved, the food bank has several suggestions on their website at [utahfoodbank.org](http://utahfoodbank.org) 🇺🇸



# WE SERVE THE VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED AMERICA



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# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## HOW DO I FILE A CLAIM WITH THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION?

There are a number of ways to apply for VA disability benefits depending on the type of benefit you are seeking. To apply:

- Visit eBenefits
- Complete and mail your claim form to your nearest VA regional office
- Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you. To find the VA regional office nearest you use the Veterans Affairs National Facilities Locator or call VA toll free at 1-800-827-1000
- Work with an accredited service representative:
  - Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs (801) 326-2372
  - American Legion (801) 326-2380
  - Disabled American Veterans (DAV) (801) 326-2375
  - Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) (801) 326-2385
  - Military Order of the Purple Heart (801) 326-2471.

## WHAT IS THE DISABLED VETERANS PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT?

A Utah permanent place-of-residence property tax abatement using the military service-connected disability rating percentage is available for disabled Veterans, their un-remarried widows, or minor orphans. The Veteran's disability rating must be at least 10% in order to qualify for this abatement.

Here is the formula used to determine eligibility:

The maximum property tax abatement rated at 100% military service-connected disability is \$255,301. Multiply your percentage of disability by 255,301. Example: a 10% disability X 255,301 = \$25,530.10 tax abatement. This amount is then subtracted from the taxable value of the property and taxes are paid on the remaining amount

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE DISABLED VETERANS PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT?

To apply for Utah Disabled Veterans Property Tax Abatement, request a Summary of Benefits Letter from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Once received, submit the letter with a completed Property Tax Abatement application, on or before 01 SEP, to the applicable county treasurer, tax assessor, or clerk / recorder located in the county courthouse or county government building of the county in which the property is located. All property must be on record as of 01 JAN of the year you wish to file. However, a recent change allows qualified widows and orphans an exemption to that rule. Disabled Veterans only have to file for the abatement one time; after which it will automatically renew each year. However, Veterans will have to re-file if:

- all or a portion of their abatement is used towards tangible personal property
- their service connected disability percentage changes
- the Veteran dies, sells the property, or no longer claims that property as the primary place of residence.

Ref: (Utah Code 59-2-1104 & 1105). 

**Camp Williams Medical Records:**  
801-878-5120

**CHAMPVA**  
800-733-8387

**Defense Finance & Accounting Services (DFAS):**  
888-332-7411 or  
800-321-1080

**eBenefits**  
800-983-0937

**Fisher House Foundation**  
<https://www.fisherhouse.org/>  
&  
<http://www.fisherhousesaltlakecity.com/>  
801-588-5900 or x5900

**Homeless Veterans Fellowship, Ogden**  
801-392-7662

**Medicare Customer Service:**  
800-633-4227

**National League of POW/MIA**  
<http://www.pow-miafamilies.org/>

**North Star Substance Abuse Program**  
801-528-1565 Ext. 1840/5405

**Office Personnel Management (OPM):**  
202-606-1800

**Operation Home Front Post 9/11 Financial Assistance**  
[www.operationhomefront.org](http://www.operationhomefront.org)  
888-305-1486

**Outpatient Clinics**  
Nephi: 435-623-3129  
Ogden: 801-479-4105  
Orem: 801-235-0953  
Roosevelt: 435-725-1050  
St. George: 435-634-7608 ext. 6000  
West Valley: 801-417-5734

**Salt Lake City VA Homeless Program**  
801-582-1565 ext. 2746

**St. George Veterans Legal Clinic**  
435-634-7608

**The Road Home**  
801-359-4142

**Tri-Care West Region is United Health Care:**  
877-988-9378

**UTA Customer Service:**  
801-743-3882

**Utah DMV:**  
800-368-8824

**Utah Honor Flight**  
435-272-0254  
<https://www.utahhonorflight.org/>

**Utah National Guard Military Records:**  
801-432-4558

**Utah Veterans Legal Clinic**  
<http://younglawyers.utahbar.org>  
&  
[www.representveterans.com](http://www.representveterans.com)

**VA Caregiver Program post 9/11 Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers**  
[www.caregiver.va.gov/support/support\\_benefits.asp](http://www.caregiver.va.gov/support/support_benefits.asp)  
855-260-3274  
801-582-1565 ext. 6317  
**VA Debt Management:**  
800-827-0648

**VA Dental Office:**  
801-584-1206

**VA Emergency Care Authorization within 72 hours**  
888-795-0773

**VA Enrollment**  
801-584-2585

**VA Fiduciary Hub:**  
888-407-0144

**VA GI Bill Education:**  
888-442-4551

**VA Home Front**  
877-424-3838

**VA Loan Office (in Colorado)**  
888-349-7541

**VA One Choice Card:**  
866-606-8198

**VA Patient Advocate office Direct Line:**  
801-582-1565 Ext. 1900

**VA Payment Problems**  
888-795-0773

**Valor House**  
801-582-1565 ext. 2703  
or 800-613-4012 ext. 2703

**Veteran, Spouse and Marriage Counseling Support Groups**  
Provo: 801-377-1117  
Salt Lake: 801-266-1499  
St. George: 435-673-4494

**Veterans Upward Bound**  
801-626-7173

**Veterans Vocational Rehab, Ogden**  
8001-625-5057



# Outreach Calendar

A Veterans Service Officer (VSO) is scheduled to be at the location on the day and time indicated. Be advised that unforeseen events may cause the VSO to cancel or change a visit. Please verify this by calling the Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs (UDVMA) at 801-326-2372 or by visiting the UDVMA website: <http://veterans.utah.gov/outreach-calendar/>

**Beaver DWS**

- July 10, 0900 - 1000
- August 7, 0900 - 1000
- Sept. 11, 0900 - 1000

**Cedar City**

- July 11, 0900 - 1200
- July 25, 0900 - 1200
- August 8, 0900 - 1200
- August 22, 0900 - 1200
- Sept. 5, 0900 - 1200
- Sept. 19, 0900 - 1200

**Clearfield**

- July 5, 1300 - 1400
- July 19, 1300 - 1400
- August 9, 1300 - 1530
- August 30, 1300 - 1530
- September 6, 1300 - 1530
- September 20, 1300 - 1530

**Delta DWS**

- July 6, 1400 - 1600
- July 20, 1400 - 1600
- August 3, 1400 - 1600
- August 17, 1400 - 1600
- Sept. 7, 1400 - 1600
- Sept. 21, 1400 - 1600

**Farmington**

- July 5, 1130 - 1400
- July 19, 1130 - 1230
- July 26, 1130 - 1230
- August 9, 1130 - 1230
- August 30, 1130 - 1230
- Sept. 6, 1130 - 1230
- Sept. 20, 1130 - 1230

**Fillmore**

- July 6, 0900 - 1100
- July 20, 0900 - 1100
- August 3, 0900 - 1100
- August 17, 0900 - 1100
- Sept. 7, 0900 - 1100
- Sept. 21, 0900 - 1100

**Hill AFB**

-N/A

**USU**

- July 6, 1000 - 1500
- August 3, 1000 - 1500
- Sept. 7, 1000 - 1500

**Ivins**

- July 11, 0900 - 1500
- July 12, 0900 - 1500
- July 17, 0900 - 1500
- July 18, 0900 - 1500
- August 2, 0900 - 1500
- August 3, 0900 - 1500
- August 8, 0900 - 1500
- August 9, 0900 - 1500
- August 22, 0900 - 1500
- August 23, 0900 - 1500
- Sept. 6, 0900 - 1500
- Sept. 7, 0900 - 1500
- Sept. 19, 0900 - 1500
- Sept. 20, 0900 - 1500

**Kanab DWS**

- July 10, 1400 - 1500
- August 7, 1400 - 1500
- Sept. 11, 1400 - 1500

**Lehi DWS**

- July 25, 0830 - 1500
- August 22, 0830 - 1500

**Logan DWS**

- July 6, 0800 - 1000
- July 20, 0800 - 1000
- August 3, 0800 - 1000
- August 17, 0800 - 1000
- Sept. 7, 0800 - 1000
- Sept. 21, 0800 - 1000

**Manti DWS**

- July 5, 1230 - 1400
- July 19, 1230 - 1400
- August 2, 1200 - 1400
- August 16, 1200 - 1400
- Sept. 6, 1230 - 1400
- Sept. 20, 1230 - 1400

**Ogden DWS**

- July 5, 0800 - 1000
- July 19, 0800 - 1100
- August 9, 0800 - 1000
- August 30, 0800 - 1000
- Sept. 6, 0800 - 1000
- Sept. 20, 0800 - 1000

**SLCC**

- July 26, 0930 - 1600
- August 30, 0930 - 1600
- Sept. 27, 0930 - 1600

**Ogden Veterans Home**

- July 6, 1100 - 1600
- July 13, 0800 - 1600
- July 20, 1100 - 1600
- July 27, 0800 - 1600
- August 3, 1100 - 1600
- August 10, 1100 - 1600
- August 17, 1100 - 1600
- August 24, 1100 - 1600
- August 31, 1100 - 1600
- Sept. 7, 0800 - 1000
- Sept. 14, 0800 - 1000
- Sept. 21, 0800 - 1000
- Sept. 28, 0800 - 1000

**Panguitch DWS**

- July 10, 1130 - 1230
- August 7, 1130 - 1230
- Sept. 11, 1130 - 1230

**Payson**

- July 3, 0900 - 1530
- July 10, 0900 - 1530
- July 17, 0900 - 1530
- July 24, 0900 - 1530
- July 31, 0900 - 1530
- August 7, 0900 - 1530
- August 14, 0900 - 1530
- August 21, 0900 - 1530
- August 28, 0900 - 1530

**Price DWS**

- July 18, 1000 - 1500
- August 1, 1000 - 1500
- August 15, 1000 - 1500
- Sept. 5, 1000 - 1500
- Sept. 19, 1000 - 1500

**Provo Courthouse**

- July 20, 1000 - 1500
- August 17, 1000 - 1500

**Provo DWS**

- July 6, 0830 - 1500
- July 13, 0830 - 1500
- July 20, 0830 - 1500
- July 27, 0830 - 1500
- August 3, 0830 - 1500
- August 10, 0830 - 1500
- August 17, 0830 - 1500
- August 24, 0830 - 1500
- August 31, 0830 - 1500
- Sept. 14, 0830 - 1500
- Sept. 28, 0830 - 1500

**Provo Vet Center**

- July 5, 0830 - 1530
- July 12, 0830 - 1500
- July 19, 0830 - 1500
- July 26, 0830 - 1500
- August 2, 0830 - 1500
- August 9, 0830 - 1500
- August 16, 0830 - 1500
- August 23, 0830 - 1500
- August 30, 0830 - 1500
- Sept. 6, 0830 - 1500
- Sept. 13, 0830 - 1500
- Sept. 20, 0830 - 1500
- Sept. 27, 0830 - 1500

**Richfield DWS**

- July 5, 0930 - 1130
- July 19, 0930 - 1130
- August 2, 0930 - 1130
- August 16, 0930 - 1130
- Sept. 6, 0930 - 1130
- Sept. 20, 0930 - 1130

**Roosevelt DWS**

- July 11, 1000 - 1430
- August 8, 1000 - 1430
- Sept. 12, 1000 - 1430

**Salt Lake VA Medical Cntr**

- July 11, 1000 - 1200
- July 18, 1000 - 1200
- July 25, 1000 - 1200
- August 1, 1000 - 1200
- August 8, 1000 - 1200
- August 15, 1000 - 1200
- August 22, 1000 - 1200
- August 29, 1000 - 1200
- Sept. 5, 1000 - 1200
- Sept. 12, 1000 - 1200
- Sept. 19, 1000 - 1200
- Sept. 26, 1000 - 1200

**St. George**

- July 6, 0900 - 1200
- July 20, 0900 - 1200
- August 3, 0900 - 1200
- August 17, 0900 - 1200
- Sept. 7, 0900 - 1200
- Sept. 21, 0900 - 1200

**Uinta Basin**

- July 11, 0830 - 1700
- July 12, 0830 - 1400
- August 1, 0830 - 1700
- August 2, 0830 - 1400
- Sept. 6, 0830 - 1700
- Sept. 7, 0830 - 1400

**ADDRESSES:**

- Beaver DWS (875 North Main St.)
- Cedar City (176 East 2nd North)
- Clearfield (1290 East 1450 South)
- Delta DWS(44 South 350 East)
- Farmington (28 East State St.)
- Fillmore (75 West Center St.)
- Hill AFB (RAO, Building 430)
- Kanab DWS (468 East 300 South)
- Logan (180 North 100 West)
- Manti DWS (55 S. Main, ste 3)
- Ogden DWS (480 27th Street)
- Ogden Wahlen Veterans Home (1102 North 1200 West)
- Panguitch DWS (665 North Main St.)
- Price DWS (475 West Price River Dr.)
- Payson VH (1551 N. Main Street)
- Provo Courthouse (51 South University Ave.)
- Provo Vet Center (1807 N. 1120 W.)
- Provo DWS (1550 North 200 West)
- Richfield DWS(115 East 100 South)
- Roosevelt DWS (140 West 425 South)
- Salt Lake VA Medical Cntr. (500 Foothill Dr)
- SLCC ( 4600 South. Redwood Road)
- St. George (162 North 400 East)
- Tooele DWS Center (305 N Main St #100)
- USU ( Utah State University)

FIND YOUR NEXT

# ADVENTURE

Join Utah State Parks in honoring the men and women who have served in the U.S. Military on our **Military Appreciation Day** on **Saturday, August 12, 2017**

Learn about our **Veterans With Disabilities Honor Pass** at [stateparks.utah.gov](http://stateparks.utah.gov)





THE UTAH

# VETERANS VOICE

A PUBLICATION OF THE UTAH DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS  
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 105 - Salt Lake City, UT 84113  
(801) 326-2372

**VETERANS.UTAH.GOV**

Cory Pearson, Editor - [corypearson@utah.gov](mailto:corypearson@utah.gov)  
Nina J Alvarez, Designer - [nalvarez@utah.gov](mailto:nalvarez@utah.gov)

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs  
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 105  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113  
(801) 326-2372  
<https://veterans.utah.gov>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Regional Benefits Office  
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 200  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113  
1 (800) 827-1000

VA Salt Lake City Health Care System  
George E. Wahlen Veterans Affairs Medical Center  
500 Foothill Drive  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113  
(801) 582-1565  
<http://www.saltlakecity.va.gov>

American Legion Service Office  
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 105  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113  
(801) 326-2380

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)  
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 105  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113  
(801) 326-2375

Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)  
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 105  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113  
(801) 326-2471

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)  
550 Foothill Drive, Suite 105  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84113  
(801) 326-2385

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve  
12953 South Minuteman Drive  
Draper, Utah 84020  
(801) 432-4536

Utah National Guard  
Bart Davis, Transition Assistance  
12953 South Minuteman Drive  
Draper, Utah 84020  
(801) 432-4937

U.S. Department of Labor  
Veterans Employment and Training Service  
140 East 200 South, Suite 209  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
(801) 524-5703