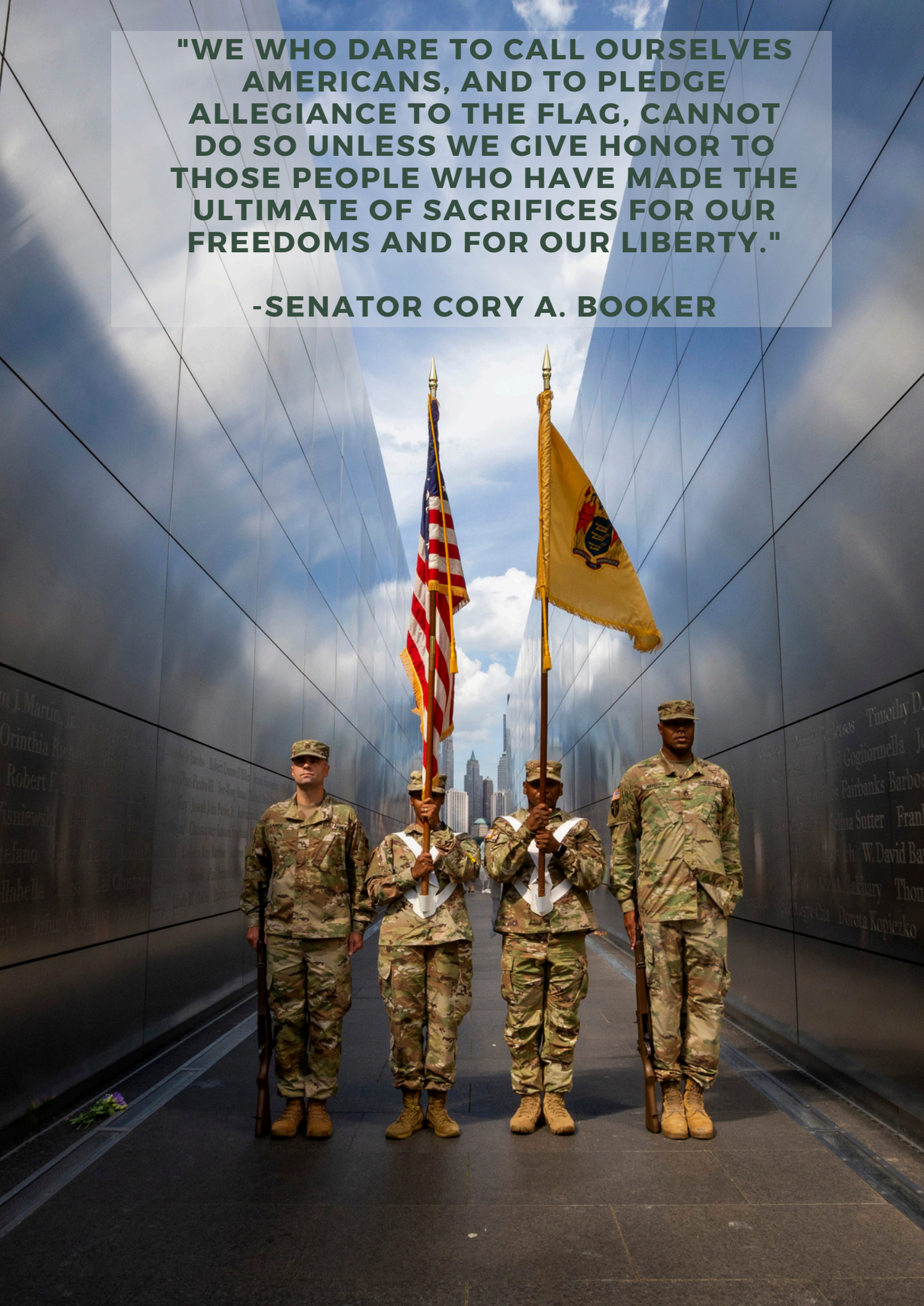
2027

The Office of U.S. Senator Cory A. Booker Presents:

NEW JERSEY VETERANS HANDBOOK




"WE WHO DARE TO CALL OURSELVES AMERICANS, AND TO PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG, CANNOT DO SO UNLESS WE GIVE HONOR TO THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE MADE THE ULTIMATE OF SACRIFICES FOR OUR FREEDOMS AND FOR OUR LIBERTY."
-SENATOR CORY A. BOOKER

DEAR VETERAN,



It has been an honor to represent you in the United States Senate, and as I begin a new term in the U.S. Senate, I remain steadfast in my commitment to fighting for the recognition, care, and benefits you have earned. Caring for our nation's veterans and their families is one of our most sacred responsibilities, one that must be upheld not just on Veterans Day, but every day of the year.

As I traveled the state, I had the privilege of meeting countless New Jersey veterans and hearing firsthand about the challenges you face. I know that transitioning to civilian life, accessing quality healthcare, and navigating benefits for employment, housing, and education can be unnecessarily difficult.

While there is still much work to do in Washington to fulfill our promise to our veterans, I am proud to have helped pass landmark legislation, including the PACT Act and COMPACT Act, and secured millions of dollars in federal funding to strengthen veterans' programs and services across New Jersey. I will continue to advocate for our veterans in the Senate by fighting to pass legislation extending eligiblity for veteran education benefits, supporting our military families, and increasing support programs for those veterans at risk of homelessness.

I developed this guidebook to help consolidate the information New Jersey veterans and their families need to enable you to care for your families, pursue your aspirations, and live healthy, fulfilling lives. My office is always open to you, and I encourage you to use this guidebook as one of the many resources available to assist you.

In President Harry S. Truman's first address to Congress in 1945, he stated –

Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices. Because of these sacrifices, the dawn of justice and freedom throughout the world slowly casts its gleam across the horizon.

As your United States Senator, I will never stop fighting to uphold our nation's promises to those who have served. While we can never fully repay the immeasurable debt we owe our veterans, we must honor your service and sacrifice not only with words of gratitude, but with meaningful action



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

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CONTACT MY OFFICE:

Newark Office:

One Gateway Center
23rd Floor
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 639-8700
Fax: (202) 224-5702
casework@booker.senate.gov

Camden Office:

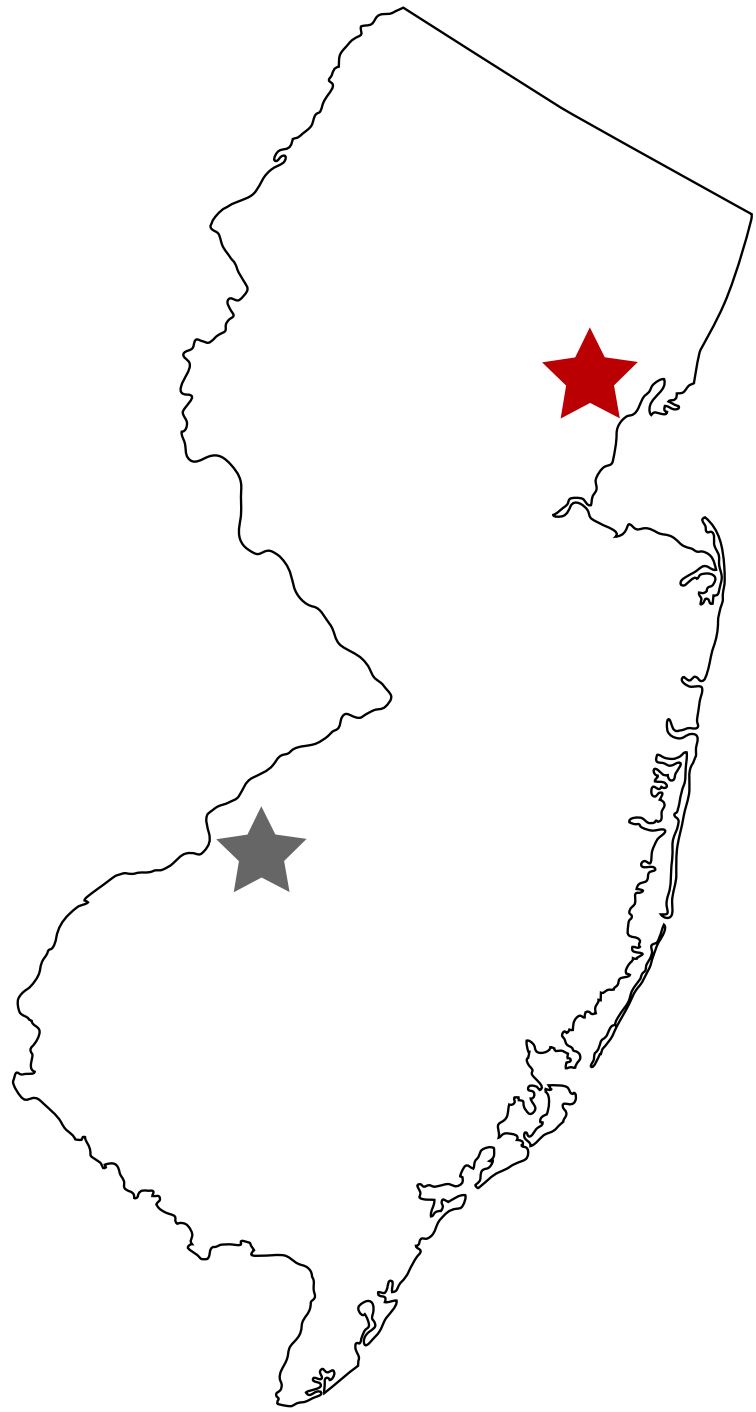
401 Market Street
Camden, NJ 08102

Phone: (856) 338-8922
Fax: (202) 224-5701
casework@booker.senate.gov

Washington DC Office:

306 Hart Senate Office
Washington, DC 20510

Phone: (202) 224-3224
Fax: (202) 224-8378



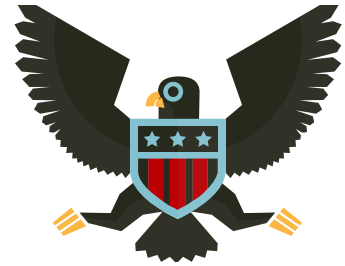
CONTACT ME FOR HELP WITH:



Military Medals and Records



VA Healthcare



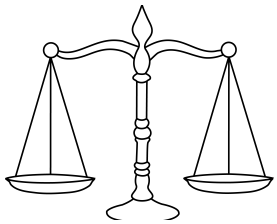
VA Benefits



The Department of Defense and National Guard



Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security



The Bureau of Prisons



Immigration and State Department



Student Loans



Mortgage Issues, DOL, IRS and CFPB



Capitol Tours and Flag Requests



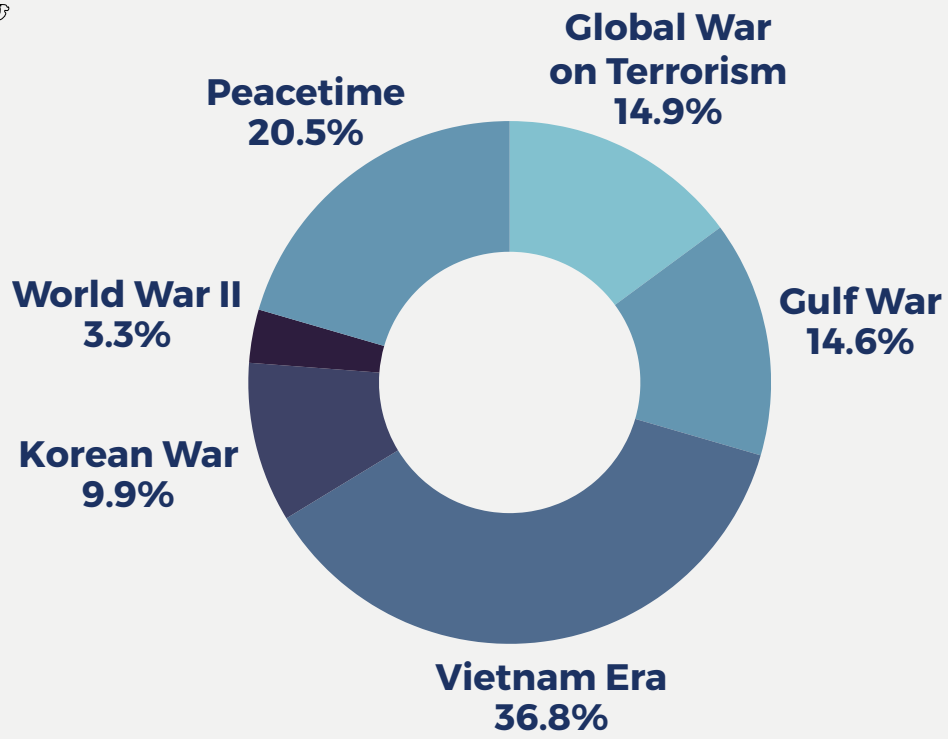
Service Academy Nominations

NJ VETERANS AT A GLANCE



350,538

Veterans in NJ





92% Male

8% Female



SUPPORT SERVICES

IMMEDIATE SUPPORT

National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
988

When you call, you will be connected to trained personnel at a crisis center near you.

Veterans Crisis Line

Dial (800) 273-8255 and Press 1
and/or text 838255 or chat online

The Veterans Crisis Line is a free phone, online chat, and text-messaging service available to all service members and veterans.

NJ VET 2 VET
1-866-VETS-NJ4 (866-838-7654)

This is a hotline coordinated by Rutgers University Behavioral Health. It is a 24/7 peer counseling service.

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans
1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838)

The hotline helps homeless veterans find the services and support they need.

NATIONAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

AMVETS
(301) 459-6181

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)
(877) I AM A VET (877-426-2838)

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America
(202) 544-7692

Jewish War Veterans
(202) 265-6280

Military Order of the Purple Heart
(703) 642-5360

Paralyzed Veterans of America
1 (800) 424-8200

Service Women's Action Network
(888) 502-8755

The American Legion
(609) 695-5418

Veterans of Foreign Wars
(816) 756-3390

Vietnam Veterans of America
1 (800) 882-1316

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Vietnam Veterans of America
1 (800) 882-1316

NJ SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

NJ Department of Veterans Affairs (NJDVA)
Benefit Bureau: 1 (888) 865-8387
VBB@dva.nj.gov

New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation
(732) 335-0033

Vets4Warriors
1 (855) 838-8255

Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson
(855) SOS-VETS (855-767-8387)

Community Hope
(973) 463-9600

North Hudson Community Action Corporation
(201) 210-0200

Soldier On
1 (866) 406-8449

GI Go Fund
1 (866) 389-4446

YWCA of Northern NJ - Operation Sisterhood
(201) 881-1700

The New Jersey Veterans Network
(973) 332-1556

USO Center Newark Liberty International Airport
(856) 508-4425

New Jersey Reentry Corporation
(201) 252-7641

VETERAN MEDIA

The Welcome Home Veterans Radio Show



The Welcome Home Veterans Radio Show airs every Sunday from 9 to 11 am. Hosted by veterans Joe Griffies, Bill Davenport, and POW Ralph Galati, the show focuses on pressing issues within the veteran community and features weekly guests and live calls from listeners.

You can listen live on 1020AM, 97.9FM, 101.3FM, 101.9FM and www.wwacradio.com

Or listen later by visiting wibg.com

The Veteran News Network (VNN)

VNN is a television channel for veterans used by VA Medical Centers across the country.

The Veteran News Network is accessible at:

https://www.va.gov/VHALEADERSHIPDEVELOPMENT/Resources/ILEAD_VNN.asp

Need help finding or connecting to resources in your community?

For assistance with housing, food, employment, transportation, peer support, or other services visit:

uniteus.com/njveterans

UNITE NEW JERSEY

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

S.5100 - Anthony 'Tony' J. Gallopo Clinic Designation

Introduced: July 23rd, 2026

Senator Booker introduced this bill to rename the Newton, New Jersey VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic in honor of Navy veteran Anthony Gallopo, a tireless veteran advocate who helped establish the Newton clinic.

S.4225 - DOULA for VA Act of 2026

Introduced: March 26th, 2026

Following conversations with women veterans on Veterans Day, Senator Booker introduced the DOULA for VA Act, which requires the VA to establish a five-year pilot program to furnish doula services to pregnant veterans who are enrolled in the VA health care system.

S.1032 - Major Richard Star Act

Introduced: March 13th, 2025

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of this bill providing for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability.

S.3287 - SSVF for Reserve Component Veterans and Families Act

Introduced: November 9th, 2023

Senator Booker's SSVF for Reserve Component Act expands the VA's supportive services for very low-income veteran families (SSVF) to include former members of the National Guard and Reserve Components.

S.Res.293 - Women Veterans Appreciation Day

Senator Booker's resolution designates June 12, 2023, as Women Veterans Appreciation Day to recognize the service and sacrifices of women veterans who have served valiantly on behalf of the United States.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

S.740 - GUARD VA Benefits Act of 2023

Introduced: March 9th, 2023

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of this bill imposing criminal penalties on individuals for directly or indirectly soliciting, contracting for, charging, or receiving any unauthorized fee or compensation with respect to the preparation of any claim for VA benefits.

S.1952 - Reserve Component Healthcare Access and Expansion Act

Introduced: June 13th, 2023

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of this bill expanding VA health care to include members of the Reserve Components of the Armed Forces who are not on active orders.

S.112 - A bill to strengthen benefits for children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida

Passed into law October 6th, 2023

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of this bill requiring the VA to provide health care, job training, and monetary benefits for the duration of the lives of children born to Vietnam veterans with spina bifida.

S.1266 - Love Lives on Act of 2023

Introduced: April 25th, 2023

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of this bill extending entitlement for various benefit programs and services for surviving spouses of deceased members of the Armed Forces or veterans.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

S.3255 - Vet CENTERS for Mental Health Act of 2021

Introduced: November 18th, 2021

Senator Booker's Vet CENTERS for Mental Health Act of 2021 identifies ten states that are considered to be underserved based on the results of the 2020 Census and the VA's own veteran population data and adds at least one additional Vet Center to each of those states, including New Jersey.

S.682 - SAVE LIVES ACT

Passed into Law: March 24th, 2021

After hearing from Welcome Home Veterans Radio, Senator Booker supported the SAVE LIVES Act, authorizing the VA to give COVID-19 vaccinations to veterans who are not enrolled in the VA health care system, veteran spouses, caregivers, and others. It increased the number of individuals eligible for vaccines from the VA from 9.5 million to more than 33 million.

S.1938 - Gold Star Mothers Family National Monument Extension Act

Introduced: May 27th, 2021

Senator Booker's Gold Star Families National Monument Extension Act extends funding for the Gold Star Mothers National Monument Foundation to establish commemorative work in honor of Gold Star families.

S.2102 - SERVICE Act of 2021

Passed into Law: June 7th, 2022

Senator Booker's bill allows a military spouse who is participating in the My Career Advancement Account program to remain eligible despite a promotion in grade of the Armed Forces member to whom the person is married.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

S.3541 - Health Care for Burn Pit Veterans Act

Introduced: February 1st, 2022

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of this bill expanding VA hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care for combat veterans who served after September 11, 2001, and were exposed to toxic substances, radiation, or other conditions. This bill was included in the PACT Act.

S. 1936 GI Bill and VR&E NEED Acts of 2021

Introduced: November 17th, 2021

Senator Booker's GI Bill and VR&E National Emergency Extended Deadline Acts of 2021 provide critically necessary protections for veterans' GI Bill and Vocational Rehabilitation and Education (VR&E) benefits as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as future national emergencies.

S.1970 - Clean Water For Military Families Act

Introduced: June 8th, 2021

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of the Clean Water For Military Families Act, which requires the DOD to conduct testing for and remediation of perfluoroalkyl substances and polyfluoroalkyl substances at active duty and formally used defense sites, and State-owned facilities of the National Guard.

S.1611 - I am Vanessa Guillén Act of 2021

Introduced: May 13th, 2021

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of the I am Vanessa Guillén Act of 2021, which shifts prosecutorial decisions for sexual harassment and sexual assault outside the chain of command and requires sexual harassment allegations to be investigated outside the immediate chain of command.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

S.1520 - Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act of 2021

Introduced: April 29th, 2021

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of the Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act of 2021, which reforms the disposition of charges for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and increases the prevention of sexual assaults and other crimes in the military.

S.951 PAWS Act of 2021

Introduced: March 24th, 2021

Senator Booker was a cosponsor of the PAWS Act, which establishes a VA grant program to pair service dogs with veterans experiencing severe post-traumatic stress symptoms.

S.3279 VET Extension Act of 2019

Introduced: February 12th, 2020

Senator Booker introduced the VET Extension act, which expands Post-9/11 GI Bill educational benefits for veterans and servicemembers who require additional time to complete their education due to a need to take remedial courses.

S.191 Burn Pits Accountability Act of 2019

Passed into Law: December 27th, 2021

Senator Booker cosponsored the Burn Pits Accountability Act, which required the Department of Defense to establish procedures to document and track military personnel who may have been exposed to toxic airborne hazards during their service.

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING

Congressionally Directed Spending directs specified amounts of money to state and local governments or to eligible non-profit entities for a specific project at a specific location. Veteran projects successfully supported by Senator Booker include:

FISCAL YEAR 2026

Recipient	Project	Award Amount
Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of New Jersey	Veteran Outreach Initiative/Mental Health Services	$547,000
New Jersey State Veterans Chamber of Commerce	Small & Diverse Business Training Platform and Network Development	$630,000

FISCAL YEAR 2024

Recipient	Project	Award Amount
NJ SOS Veteran Stakeholders Group	Veteran Housing Assistance Project	$500,000
Soldier On, Inc.	Veterans and Senior Village at West Deptford	$900,000

FISCAL YEAR 2023

Atlantic County Economic Alliance	Atlantic County Economic Alliance, NJ, for an apprenticeship program for veterans	$150,000
Domus Corporation	Residence of St. Martin of Tours Veteran Affordable Housing	$500,000

MEDICAL SERVICES

PACT ACT

HONORING OUR PACT ACT OF 2022

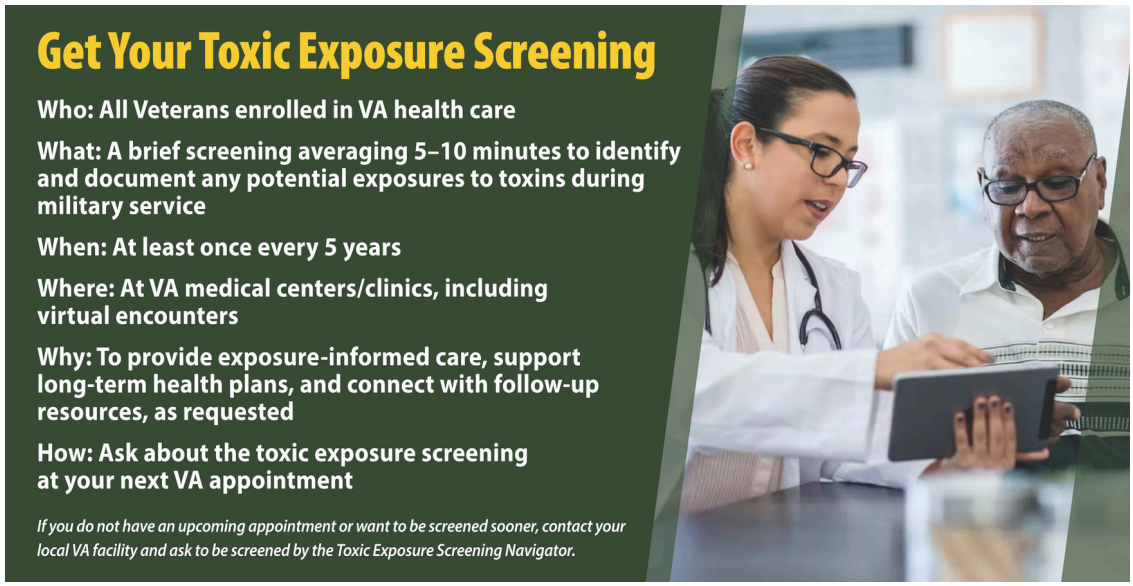
The PACT Act or The Honoring Our Pact Act of 2022 is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act brings these changes:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- Adds 20+ more presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic exposures
- Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care
- Helps the VA improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now for PACT Act benefits. For more information, please visit:

https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits



COMPACT ACT

Under the Veterans Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care, and Treatment (COMPACT) Act, Veterans with acute suicidal crisis can go immediately to any VA or non-VA health care facility for emergency health care at no cost to them.

Overview:

- Any Veteran – whether enrolled in VA or not – can go to a VA or non-VA emergency room for emergent suicidal care.
- We strongly recommend Veterans in suicidal crisis call 988 or 911 or visit their nearest emergency room for expedited care. Veterans may also go to a VA community outpatient clinic; however, these clinics are only open Monday – Friday during normal business hours.
- VA will provide the treatment or cover the costs for treatment including transportation, inpatient, or crisis residential care for up to 30 days, and outpatient care for up to 90 days

Regardless of VA enrollment status, COMPACT-eligible individuals are:

- Former members of the armed forces who were discharged or released from active duty after more than 24 months of active service under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Former members of the armed forces, including reserve service members, who served more than 100 days under a combat exclusion or in support of a contingency operation either directly or by operating an unmanned aerial vehicle from another location who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Former members of the armed forces who were the victim of a physical assault of a sexual nature, a battery of a sexual nature, or sexual harassment while serving in the armed forces.

MEDICAL SERVICES

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL 9-1-1

The VA Health Care System

EAST ORANGE CAMPUS

(973) 676-1000
385 Tremont Avenue
East Orange, NJ 07018

LYONS CAMPUS

(908) 647-0180
151 Knollcroft Road
Lyons, NJ 07939



CORPORAL MICHAEL J. CRESCENZ VA MEDICAL CENTER

(215) 823-5800
3900 Woodland Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19104

WILMINGTON VA MEDICAL CENTER

(800) 461-8262
1601 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington, DE 19805

OUTPATIENT CLINICS

VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs)

North and Central New Jersey CBOC Locations

Bergen County CBOC 385 Prospect Ave Hackensack, NJ 07601 (201) 342-4536	Monmouth County CBOC 55 N Gilbert St, Bldg. 4, Suite 4101 Tinton Falls, NJ 07701 (732) 842-4751	Ocean County CBOC 1055 Hooper Ave Toms River, NJ 08755 (732) 206-8900
Mercer County CBOC 3635 Quakerbridge Rd Hamilton, NJ 08619 (609) 570-6600	Hudson County CBOC 115 Christopher Columbus Dr Jersey City, NJ 07302 (201) 435-3055	Morris County CBOC 540 West Hanover Ave Morristown, NJ 07960 (973) 539-9791
Passaic County CBOC 11 Getty Ave, Bldg. #275 Paterson, NJ 07503 (973) 247-1666	Middlesex County CBOC 14 Willis Way, Bldg. 5 Piscataway, NJ 08854 (732) 981-8193 x 295481	Sussex County CBOC 222 High St, Suite 103 Newton, NJ 07860 (973) 756-1504

OUTPATIENT CLINICS

VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs)

South Jersey CBOC Locations

Atlantic County CBOC 1909 New Rd Northfield, NJ 08225 (800) 461-8262 x 32800	Burlington County CBOC 3000 Lincoln Dr Marlton, NJ 08053 (844) 441-5499
Camden County CBOC 300 S Broadway, Suite 103 Camden, NJ 08104 (215) 823-5240	Cape May County CBOC 3801 Route 9 South, Suite 2 Rio Grande, NJ 08242 (800) 461-8262 x 32850
Cumberland County CBOC 79 W Landis Ave Vineland, NJ 08360 (800) 461-8262 x 6500	Gloucester County CBOC 211 County House Rd Sewell, NJ 08080 (877) 823-5230

NJ VETERANS MEMORIAL HOMES

Nursing homes for veterans, spouses, and Gold Star Parents operated by the NJ Department of Military & Veterans Affairs.

NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland

Main Number: (856) 405-4200
Admissions: (856) 405-4217
Volunteer Coordinator: (856) 405-4213

524 North West Blvd
Vineland, NJ 08360

NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park

Main Number: (732) 452-4100
Admissions: (732) 452-4272
Volunteer Coordinator: (732) 452-4236

132 Evergreen Rd
Edison, NJ 08837

NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Paramus

Main Number: (201) 634-8200
Admissions: (201) 634-8435
Volunteer Coordinator: (201) 634-8505

One Veterans Dr
Paramus, NJ 07652

VET CENTERS

Operated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Vet Centers provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to Combat Veterans and their families. Vet Centers guide Veterans and their families through many of the major adjustments in lifestyle that often occur after a Veteran returns from combat. All services are free of cost and are strictly confidential.

VET CENTER	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Bloomfield	2 Broad Street, Suite 703 Bloomfield, NJ 07003	(973) 748-0980
Lakewood	1255 Route 70, Unit 22N Lakewood, NJ 08701	(732) 905-0327
Secaucus	110A Meadowlands Parkway, Suite 102 Secaucus, NJ 07094	(201) 223-7787
South Jersey	2900 Fire Road, Suite 101 Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234	(609) 487-8387
Trenton	2 Princess Road, Suite 100 Lawrenceville, NJ 08648	(609) 882-5744

VET CENTERS

Additional Satellite Locations

Vet Center satellite locations and community access points allow veterans to receive counseling closer to home without traveling to the main center. Most satellite appointments require advanced coordination with the managing center.

SATELITE LOCATION	MANAGING CENTER	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Hackensack	Bloomfield	300 Main Street Hackensack, NJ 07603	(973) 748-0980
Hackettstown	Bloomfield	400 Jefferson St, Lackland Building, Rm 256 Hackettstown, NJ 07840	(973) 748-0980
Morristown	Bloomfield	549 W. Hanover Avenue Morristown, NJ 07960	(973) 748-0980
Oakland	Bloomfield	65 Oak Street Oakland, NJ 07436	(973) 748-0980
Newton	Bloomfield	Sussex County Community College, Building D 1 College Hill Rd Newton, NJ 07860	(973) 748-0980
Verona	Bloomfield	880 Bloomfield Ave Verona, NJ 07044	(973) 748-0980
Manalapan	Lakewood	120 Route 522 Manalapan, NJ 07726	(732) 905-0327
Cherry Hill	Trenton	1532 Martin Ave Cherry Hill, NJ 08002	(609) 487-8387
Vineland	South Jersey	79 West Landis Ave Vineland, NJ 08360	(609) 487-8387

ENROLLMENT & BILLING

The VA New Jersey Health Care System

VA Health Resource Center:

1 (877) 222-8387

Monday to Friday
8:00AM - 10:00PM (EST)

Contact the VA Health Resource Center for information on eligibility for VA Health Care, enrolling in the VA Medical System, as well as questions on copayments and billing.

VA Community Care Network
CHAMPVA

Main VA Contact Center: **(877) 881-7618**
Call Center: **(800) 733-8387**

UNDERSTANDING TRICARE

Eligibility:

- Military Retirees:
  - 20+ qualifying years or Reserve/National Guard eligible for non-regular retirement
- Medically Retired Veterans
  - Separated under Chapter 61 and placed on Permanent or Temporary Disabled List
- Currently Serving (Active Duty or Active Reserve/National Guard)
- Eligible Family Members for the above

Core TRICARE Options:

1. TRICARE Prime (Managed Care/HMO Model)
   Modest annual enrollment fee with low, fixed per-visit copayments
2. TRICARE Select (Self-Managed/PPO Model)
   Annual enrollment fee, outpatient deductible, and cost-share percentages per visit
3. US Family Health Plan (TRICARE Prime Option)
   Identical enrollment fees & copay schedule as TRICARE Prime

TRICARE For Life:

- Eligibility: Military Retirees & dependents 65+
- Requirement: Must be entrolled in Medicare Parts A and B
- How It Works: TFL acts as seconday payer to Medicare
- Cost Structure: No TRICARE enrolmment fee, beneficiaries must maintain Medicare Part B monthly premiums

TRICARE RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Program	Telephone	Website
DEERS	1-800-538-9552	https://www.milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil
TRICARE East	1-800-444-5445	https://tricare-east.com
US Family Health Plan (USFHP)	1-800-818-8589	https://usfhp.com
TRICARE For Life	1-866-773-0404	https://tricare4u.com
TRICARE Pharmacy	1-877-363-1303	https://militaryrx.express-scripts.com

THE VA MISSION ACT

Since taking effect in June 2019, the MISSION Act replaced the VA Choice Act governing how veterans receive VA care. The MISSION Act gives Veterans greater access to health care in VA facilities and the community, expands benefits for caregivers, and improves the VA's ability to recruit and retain quality medical providers.

Under the Veterans Community Care Program, veterans can work with their VA health care provider or other VA staff to see if they are eligible to receive community care based on new criteria. Eligibility for community care does not require a Veteran to receive that care in the community; Veterans can still choose to have VA provide their care. Veterans may elect to receive care in the community if they meet any of the following seven eligibility criteria:

Criteria #1	**The VA has determined that a VA medical service line is not providing care in a manner that complies with the VA's standards for quality based on specific conditions.**
Criteria #2	**The Veteran and the referring clinician agree it is in the best medical interest of the Veteran to receive community care based on defined factors.**
Criteria #3	**28 days for specialty care from the date of request, unless the Veteran agrees to a later date in consultation with his or her VA health care provider**
Criteria #4	**20 days from the date of request for primary care, mental health care and noninstitutional extended care services, unless the Veteran agrees to a later date in consultation with his or her VA health care provider.**
Criteria #5	**Appointment wait time at a specific VA medical facility, or drive time to a specific VA medical facility.**
Criteria #6	**A Veteran lives in a U.S. state or territory without a full-service VA medical facility.**
Criteria #7	**A Veteran needs a service that is not available at any VA medical facility.**

For general MISSION Act health care inquiries contact:
(800) 698-2411

WOMEN VETERANS

The VA New Jersey Heath Care System

The Women Veterans Health Care Program is an integral part of the VA New Jersey Health Care System (VANJHCS) and the Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN2). While the VANJHCS offers services and programs that meet the needs of all Veterans, they pay special attention to women veterans. Their focus is on health promotion, disease prevention and management, and the emotional wellbeing of women Veterans.

Preventative Health Screenings:

Breast and Pelvic Exams, Cancer Screenings, Heart Disease Screenings, Osteoporosis screening and treatment, Smoking Cessation, Weight Management, and Contraceptive management.

Treatment:

Gynecological Procedures, Urinary Incontinence, Military Sexual Trauma, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Menopause, Maternity/prenatal care, Infertility Work-up and treatment, Substance and sexual abuse counseling, Anxiety and Depression treatment, Chronic medical conditions, Pain Management, Integrative Medicine, Acupuncture/Yoga, Home Telehealth.

Supportive Services:

Social Work, Physical Therapy, Nutritional Counseling, Vocational Rehabilitation, Mental Health, Family Planning, and Maternity Care Coordination.

For more information, please contact:

VANJHC Women Veterans Program
973-676-1000 x 202716

LGBTQ+ VA MEDICAL PROVIDERS

The VA New Jersey Health Care System (VANJHCS) is committed to providing top quality care to all Veterans including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Veterans. We recognize that diverse populations have distinctive needs and are training our staff in culturally and clinically-competent care for LGBT Veterans. We are focused on providing the most respectful health care environment possible.

Contact Care Coordinator:

Tierrah Howard LCSW

(908) 647-0180 x 216875

VANJLGBTQ@va.gov

For more information, please visit:
https://www.va.gov/new-jersey-health-care/health-services/lgbtq-veteran-care

MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA

The VA provides free treatment for any physical or mental health conditions related to experiences of MST. No previous report of MST or other proof that the MST occurred is required to access care.

Military Sexual Trauma (MST) Coordinator

Joanna Rosner Psy.D

joanna.rosner@va.gov

(973) 647-0180 x 214968

For Active-Duty Service Members:

DoD Safe Helpline
(877) 995-2547

For more information, please visit:
https://www.va.gov/health-care/health-needs-conditions/military-sexual-trauma/

SUICIDE PREVENTION

VA Suicide Prevention Coordinators promote awareness about suicide and that suicide prevention is everyone's responsibility in our New Jersey healthcare system. SPCs identify high-risk veterans and assure that these veterans receive proper care and monitoring.

Suicide Prevention Coordinators (SPC)

Bradley Jacobs LCSW

East Orange Campus

(973) 676-1000 x203566

Ashish Desai LCSW

Lyons Campus

(908) 647-0180 x214410

Heather Church-Soto LCSW

Toms River CBOC

(732) 206-8900 x226052

VHANJHCSSuicidePreventionTeam@va.gov

BURN PIT REGISTRY

The VA Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry:

The VA established the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry (AHOBPR) in 2014 to help put data to work for Veterans through research about potential health effects of airborne hazard exposures. By joining the registry, you can provide information to help the VA better understand whether long-term health conditions may be related to these exposures.

Eligibility:

You are eligible to participate if you served in Operations Desert Storm/Desert Shield (ODS), New Dawn (OND), or Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom (OIF/OEF), including deployment to countries in the Southwest Asia theater of operations any time after 8/2/1990 or Afghanistan or Djibouti after 9/11/2001.

What Does the Registry Involve?

The registry includes an online questionnaire and an optional health evaluation.

How do I get Started?

- Use your Premium DS Logon Level 2*account to log in, check your eligibility, and complete the online questionnaire.
- Save or print your questionnaire responses for your records. You can also come back to access your responses at any time.
- Contact your local VA environmental health coordinator to schedule your optional medical evaluation at your convenience.

For more information, please visit:
https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AHBurnPitRegistry/#page/home

VA BENEFITS

VETERANS BENEFIT ADMINISTRATION

The Veterans Benefits Administration is an agency of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. It is responsible for administering the Department's programs that provide financial and other forms of assistance to veterans, their dependents, and survivors. Major benefits include Veterans' compensation, Veterans' pension, survivors' benefits, rehabilitation and employment assistance, education assistance, home loan guaranties, and life insurance coverage.

Newark VA Regional Office
20 Washington Pl
Newark, NJ 07102
(800) 827-1000

Philadelphia VA Regional Office
5000 Wissahickon Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19144
(800) 827-1000

Wilmington VA Regional Office
1601 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DC 19805
(800) 827-1000

NJDVA VETERANS SERVICES OFFICERS

Applying for benefits and/or appealing a decision can be a complex and time-consuming endeavor. Do not be afraid to reach out for help. State-run Veteran Service Offices and National Veteran Service Organizations have trained personnel who can help you on this journey.

Atlantic County	Atlantic City Armory 1008 Absecon Blvd Atlantic City, NJ 08401	**Alicia Kagan, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3505 / 3506**
Bergen County	125 State St Suite #109 Hackensack, NJ 07601	**Joseph Restivo, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3511**
Burlington County	Workers' Compensation Court 555 High St Suite #6A Mount Holly, NJ 08060 Joint Military & Family Assistance Center 1048 US Highway 206 Bordentown, NJ 08505	**Trejen Strickland, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3515 / 3516** **Jason Petry, VSO** **Phone: 609 671-2005**
Camden County	Governor James J. Florio Center for Public Service Building 200 Federal St, Suite 146 Camden, NJ 08103	**Jason Newman, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3520 / 3521**
Cape May County	Cape May Armory 600 Garden State Pkwy Cape May Court House, NJ 08210	**David Louderback, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3525 / 3526**

Cumberland County	NJ Veterans Memorial Home 524 Northwest Blvd Vineland, NJ 08360	**Andre Daigle, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3530 / 3531**
Essex County	East Orange VA Medical Center 385 Tremont Ave East Orange, NJ 07018 VA Newark Regional Office 20 Washington Pl Room #439 Newark, NJ 07102 Newark City Hall 920 Broad St Room B-3 Newark, NJ 07102	**Richard Mannes, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (973) 676-1000 Ext 202377** **DeAndre Gurley, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3536** **Kevin China, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (973) 424-1968**
Gloucester County	Woodbury Armory 658 N Evergreen Ave Woodbury, NJ 08096	**Matthew Still, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3540 / 3542**
Hudson County	Jersey City Armory 678 Montgomery St, 2nd Floor Jersey City, NJ 07306	**Michelle Rangel, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3546**
Hunterdon County	Veterans Haven North 200 Sanatorium Rd Glen Gardner, NJ 08826	**Sibley Smith, VSO/Ombudsman** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3551**
Mercer County	Lawrenceville Armory 151 Eggerts Crossing Rd, Room #136 Lawrenceville, NJ 08648	**Tamara Corrales, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3555 / 3556**
Middlesex County	Woodbridge Armory 625 Main St Woodbridge, NJ 07095	**Helen Oppedisano Enriquez, Admin** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3561**
Monmouth County	630 Bangs Ave Suite #320 Asbury Park, NJ 07712	**Peter Midgley, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3566**

Morris County	Dover Armory 479 W Clinton St Dover, NJ 07801	**Edward Puzio, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3571**
Ocean County	Toms River VA Clinic 1055 Hooper Ave Toms River, NJ 08754	**Danielle Cardoso, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3576**
Passaic County	Passaic County Administration Building 401 Grand St Paterson, NJ 07505	**Yahaira Padilla, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3581**
Salem County	90 Market St Salem, NJ 08079	**Milo Hannah, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3585 / 3586**
Somerset County	Somerset Armory 1060 Hamilton St Somerset, NJ 08873	**Lorrainne Burgess, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3591**
Sussex County	48 Wyker Rd Franklin, NJ 07416	**Luis Segura, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3571**
Union County	Township of Union Senior Center 652 Rahway Ave Union, NJ 07083	**Alexandra Madera, VSO** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3596**
Warren County	Port Murray Armory 550 NJ 57 Port Murray, NJ 07865	**Michelle McCloskey** **Toll Free: (844) 671-1019** **Phone: (609) 671-3599**

INTAKE SITES

Operated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The Benefits Delivery at Discharge program allows Service members to submit a claim for disability compensation between 90 to 180 days prior to separation, retirement, or release from active duty or demobilization. The VA requires a minimum of 90 days to complete the medical exam process prior to your separation from service.

New Jersey Intake Sites	
Intake Site at Earle Naval Weapons	NWS Earle Fleet and Family Support Center 201 Highway 34, Bldg.C59 Colt's Neck, NJ 07722
Intake Site at Fort Dix	HQ, US Army Garrison, HRM, Bldg. 5418 Fort Dix, NJ 08640
Intake Site at Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station	Fleet and Family Support Center Lakehurst, NJ 08733
Intake Site at McGuire Air Force Base	Family Support Center McGuire Air Force Base, NJ 08641

Benefits Delivery at Discharge Program	Requirements
Do I have a known separation date?	Yes
When may I apply?	Between 90-180 days prior to separation
When must I submit my service treatment records to VA?	At the time claim is submitted
When must I be available for the VA medical exam?	Up to 45 days from the submission of your claim
When must I complete all phases of the VA/DoD medical separation exam process?	Prior to your release from the military

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

CAREGIVER SUPPORT LINE

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Department of Veterans Affairs Caregiver Support Line

1 (855) 260-3274

When veterans return home from their military service, many have scars and wounds, both seen and unseen.

We thank them for their service and call them heroes, but we sometimes forget the ones who will continue to be by their side, the military caregivers. These caregivers are often their mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, friends and colleagues. They give their blood, sweat, and tears, and devote substantial amounts of time and money to care for their loved ones. These sacrifices should not go unnoticed. The VA Caregiver support line offers immediate assistance and information about their various caregiver programs. The line is staffed by licensed professionals who can provide you with information about caregiver programs, assist you in accessing those programs, help you locate the nearest Caregiver Support Coordinator, and more.

Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) offers enhanced clinical support for Family Caregivers of eligible Veterans.

Eligibility requirements for the family caregiver:
You must be at least 18 years old. And at least 1 of these must be true for you:

- You're a spouse, son, daughter, parent, stepfamily member, or extended family member of the Veteran, or
- You live full time with the Veteran, or you're willing to live full time with the Veteran if we designate you as a family caregiver

Eligibility requirements for the Veteran
All of these must be true for the Veteran you're caring for:

- The Veteran has a VA disability rating (individual or combined) of 70% or higher, and
- The Veteran was discharged from the U.S. military or has a date of medical discharge, and
- The Veteran needs at least 6 months of continuous, in-person personal care services
- The Veteran needs to be enrolled in VA Health Care

Family caregivers of eligible Veterans of all eras can now apply

As of October 1, 2022, this program is now open to family caregivers of eligible Veterans of all eras. This includes eligible Veterans who served after May 7, 1975, and before September 11, 2001.

Family caregivers of eligible Veterans of all eras can now apply

CAREGIVER SUPPORT COORDINATORS

These individuals are licensed professionals who will provide the caregiver with information about the services and the support which are available to them.

Coordinator	Phone Number
Jennifer Adams-Barsch, LCSW	(973) 676-1000 x 203085 Jennifer.Adams-Barsch@va.gov
Peterson Pierre-Paul, MSW, LCSW	(973) 980-3554 Peterson.Pierre-Paul@va.gov

For more information please visit:
https://www.caregiver.va.gov

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS

The VA New Jersey Caring for the Caregiver Support Group meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Lyons VA Transitional Unit
151 Knollcroft Road
Building 4, Room 5
Lyons, New Jersey 07939

VA Hamilton Community Based Clinic
3635 Quaker Bridge Road
Suite 30
Hamilton, New Jersey 08619

CAREGIVER SERVICES

Some of the services you and your loved ones may be eligible for include:

Adult Day Health Care Centers

Adult Day Health Care provides veterans with the services they need while giving them the Opportunity to participate in activities and socialize.

Home Based Primary Care

Under this program, the veteran is provided with routine health care services in their home if the veteran experiences transportation difficulties due to medical issues.

Skilled Home Care

This program engages medical professionals to provide services to homebound veterans. This program is similar to Home Based Primary Care, but in this case, the VA purchases care for the veteran from a licensed non-VA medical professional.

Home TeleHealth

Because it can be difficult to take the veteran to the VA for assistance, the home telehealth program allows the veteran to receive care for a condition using tele-video conference technologies at home.

CAREGIVER SERVICES

Homemaker & Home Health Aide Program

This program is for veterans who need skilled services, case management, and help with activities of daily living a homemaker or home health aide can be used as part of an alternative to nursing home care and to get respite care at home for veterans and their family caregiver.

Respite Care

Caregivers are eligible for 30 days of respite care a year.

Home Hospice Care

An interdisciplinary team from a local community Hospice agency will be available 24/7 to provide services to you and the veteran in your home during this difficult time.

Building Better Caregivers

This is a free six week interactive online workshop provided to family caregivers this workshop teaches caregivers skills that include stress management, healthy eating, and dealing with difficult situations and emotions. This workshop also provides a platform for caregivers to exchange ideas with other caregivers.

ELIZABETH DOLE FOUNDATION HIDDEN HEROES

HiddenHeroes.org is the premier online destination for military caregivers. This first-of-its-kind website includes testimonials from military caregivers who share their personal stories; a vetted directory of valuable resources; the opportunity to join a private Facebook community for military caregivers; and calls-to-action for communities and individuals to get involved.

Resources:

Hidden Heroes offers a vetted directory of resources that help military caregivers find organizations that will help them with their various issues. This list covers everything from finances to child care, and everything in between.

https://www.hiddenheroes.org/resources

https://hiddenheroes.org/resources-online-education

Community Sign Up:

Hidden Heroes offers a secure Facebook group and a caregiver Q&A. This community allows caregivers to connect with their peers so they can share their experiences and seek advice.

https://hiddenheroes.org/meet-other-caregivers/caregiver-community/join/

EASTERSEALS

Easterseals Military & Veterans Services responds rapidly, efficiently, and effectively to the unmet needs of Service Members, Veterans, and their Families to ensure that they can thrive in their communities.

Military Caregiver Training

Easterseals is working with the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) to provide a Program of Comprehensive Support to eligible veteran caregivers. This training is in collaboration with Atlas Research, Family Caregiver Alliance, National Alliance for Caregiving, and the National Alliance for Hispanic Health.

For more information, please visit:
https://www.easterseals.com/get-support/areas-of-support/caregiving-services

Center-based or In-home Adult Day Services

Provides services for caregivers of older veterans who have physical and/or cognitive concerns.

Respite Care

Easterseals offers an assortment of respite care options, to include care for those with special needs. Additionally, they have teamed up with the University of Maryland's Legacy Corps, which provides service members and veterans in-home respite care for themselves and their families at locations around the United States.

EASTERSEALS

Respite Care Continued

Contact Easterseals to learn more:
(855) 215-4541
respite@eseal.org

Easterseals has a toll free number along with an email address where caregivers can learn about local resources and programs. Furthermore, the staff personnel who manage these points of contact can connect caregivers with both the private and public programs and organizations that best fit their needs.

Easterseals Contact Information:

241 Forsgate Drive

Suite 200

Jamesburg, NJ 088831

http://www.easterseals.com

EMPLOYMENT

VETERANS PREFERENCE POINTS

Veterans and disabled veterans receive preference points when applying for some federal jobs. To be eligible, veterans and in certain cases a spouse or parent, must meet the requirements as listed in 5 U.S. Code § 2108.

5 Point Veteran:	10 Point Veteran:
• Served on active duty in the armed forces during a war, in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized, or during the period beginning April 28, 1952, and ending July 1, 1955. • Served on active duty as defined by section 101(21) of title 38 at any time in the armed forces for a period of more than 180 consecutive days any part of which occurred after January 31, 1955, and before October 15, 1976, not including service under section 12103(d) of title 10 pursuant to an enlistment in the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard or as a Reserve for service in the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve. • Served on active duty as defined by section 101(21) of title 38 in the armed forces during the period beginning on August 2, 1990, and ending on January 2, 1992; or served on active duty as defined by section 101(21) of title 38 at any time in the armed forces for a period of more than 180 consecutive days any part of which occurred during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on the date prescribed by Presidential proclamation or by law as the last date of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and, except as provided under section 2108a, who has been discharged or released from active duty in the armed forces under honorable conditions.[5]	• A veteran who served any time and who (1) has a present service- connected disability or (2) is receiving compensation, disability retirement benefits, or pension from the military or the Department of Veterans Affairs. Individuals who received a Purple Heart qualify as disabled veterans. • An unmarried spouse of certain deceased veterans, a spouse of a veteran unable to work because of a service-connected disability • A mother of a veteran who died in service or who is permanently and totally disabled.[6]

[5] 5 U.S. Code § 2108.
[6] Ibid.

VETERANS PREFERENCE

When applying for state civil service jobs, veterans receive an absolute veterans preference. This preference means that qualified veterans who receive a passing score on their exam will be moved to the top of the open competitive employment lists. Disabled veterans and veterans are placed on promotional lists according to their scores, but they have preference over non-veterans.

To receive preference, a veteran must have served on active duty during the following dates for at least 90 days:

- World War II September 16, 1940 to December 31, 1946
- Korean War June 23, 1950 to January 1955
- Vietnam War December 31, 1960 to May 7. 1975

To receive preference hiring a veteran must have served on active duty during the following dates and either:
14 days of active service within the specified theater
OR
1 day of active service within the theater AND service incurred injury

- Lebanon July 1, 1958 to November 1, 1958
- Lebanon Peacekeeping September 26, 1982 to December 1, 1987
- Grenada October 23, 1983 to November 21, 1983
- Panama December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990
- Desert Shield/Storm August 2, 1990 to February 28, 1991
- Somalia December 5, 1992 to March 31, 1994
- Bosnia & Herzegovina November 20, 1995 to December 20, 1998
- Haiti September 19, 1994 to March 31, 1995
- OEF September 11, 2001 to current
- OIF/New Dawn March 19, 2003 to current

VETERANS PREFERENCE

Disabled Veteran:
To qualify, disabled veterans must not only meet the above requirements but also be in receipt of a letter from the VA showing a 10% or more disability rating.

Parents:
The parent of a veteran who died in service is also entitled to receive disabled veteran preference. However, if the deceased veteran also had a spouse, only one can claim the disabled veteran preference.

Spouses:
The surviving spouse of a disabled veteran or of a veteran who died in service is entitled to the disabled veteran preference until they remarry.

The surviving spouse of a veteran who died outside of service is entitled to the same preference as the veteran until they

Required Documentation

To receive preference, the claimant must submit the following items:

- DD Form 214 or WD Form 53-55
- Honorable Discharge Certificate
- New Jersey Civil Service Veterans Preference Claim Form

HIRING AUTHORITIES

Multiple hiring authorities exist that may help veterans in finding employment and employers in hiring veterans.

ELIGIBILITY

Veterans' Recruitment Appointment (VRA): The VRA is an authority which allows federal agencies to appoint veterans without a competitive examination.

- Have an Honorable or General discharge **AND**
- Be a disabled veteran **OR**
- Separated from the service in the last 3 years **OR**
- Have a campaign badge for service during a war, campaign or expedition **OR**

Have participated in operation for which Armed Forces Service Medal awarded

Veterans Employment Opportunity Act (VEOA): This appointment authority gives eligible veterans access to certain vacancies that would otherwise be restricted to current or former federal employees.

- Have an Honorable or General Discharge **AND**
- Be a preference eligible veteran **OR**
- Completed 3 or more years of active service under honorable conditions

HIRING AUTHORITIES

30 Percent or More Disabled Veteran:
This authority allows veterans who have a 30% or more service-connected disability rating to be non-competitively appointed.

- Retired from active military service with a 30% or more disability rating **OR** the veteran has a 30% or more compensable service-connected disability rating from the VA.

Disabled Veterans Enrolled in a VA Training Program:
Veterans participating in the VA's Veteran Readiness and Employment Program (VR&E) may obtain practical experience though on-the-job training with federal agencies.

- Disabled veterans eligible Chapter 31 VR&E services **AND** vocational rehabilitation counselor must determine that the training arrangement is appropriate.

Schedule A Appointing Authority:
Schedule A authority is for those with disabilities. While not explicitly for veteran use, it may be used to appoint eligible veterans who have a severe physical, psychological, or intellectual disability.

- Show proof of disability (can be VA documentation).

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Specialists at the DOL American Job Centers (also known as One-Stop Career Centers) can assist veterans in finding employment opportunities. At these job centers veterans receive priority.

New Jersey's One-Stop Career Centers

Atlantic County One-Stop Career Center 2 S Main St 1st Floor, Suite 1 Pleasantville, New Jersey 08232 (609) 813-3932	Bergen County One-Stop Career Center 60 State Street, 2nd Floor Hackensack, New Jersey 07601 (201) 329-9600
Burlington County One-Stop Career Center 795 Woodlane Rd, 2nd Floor Westampton, New Jersey 08060 (609) 518-3900	(Essex) Newark One-Stop Career Center 990 Kenneth A. Gibson Boulevard Newark, New Jersey 07102 (973) 733-8500
Camden County One-Stop Career Center 101 Woodcrest Rd, Suite 127 Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003 (856) 549-0600	Cape May County One-Stop Career Center 3801 Rt. 9 S, Unit #3 Rio Grande, New Jersey 08242 (609) 224-2000
Cumberland County One-Stop Career Center 3322 College Dr Vineland, New Jersey 08360 (856) 696-6600	Gloucester County One-Stop Career Center 1480 Tanyard Rd, Suite A Sewell, New Jersey 08080 (856) 384-3700
Hudson County One-Stop Career Center 438 Summit Ave, 1st Floor Jersey City, New Jersey 07306 (201) 217-4641	Hunterdon County One-Stop Career Center 8 Bartles Corner Road Flemington, New Jersey (908) 782-2371

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Specialists at the DOL American Job Centers (also known as One-Stop Career Centers) can assist veterans in finding employment opportunities. At these job centers veterans receive priority.

Mercer County One-Stop Career Center 26 Yard Ave, Building 4, 1st Floor Trenton, New Jersey 08609 (609) 989-6523	Middlesex County One-Stop Career Center 161 New Brunswick Avenue Perth Amboy New Jersey 08861 (732) 293-5016
Middlesex County One-Stop Career Center 550 Jersey Ave New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901 (732) 937-6200	Monmouth County One-Stop Career Center 60 Taylor Ave North Neptune, New Jersey 07753 (732) 481-6333
Morris County One-Stop Career Center 13 Emery Ave Randolph, New Jersey 07860 (862) 397-5600	Ocean County One-Stop Career Center 1433 Hooper Ave, Suite 214 Toms River, New Jersey 08753 (732) 286-5616
Passaic County One-Stop Career Center 200 Memorial Dr, 1st Floor Paterson, New Jersey 07505 (973) 742-9226	Passaic County One-Stop Career Center 25 Howe Ave Passaic, New Jersey 07055 (973) 742-9226
Salem County One-Stop Career Center 147 South Virginia Ave Penns Grove, New Jersey 08069 (856) 299-7200	(Somerset) Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center 75 Veterans Memorial Drive E, Suite 102 Somerville, New Jersey 08876 (908) 440-0455

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Specialists at the DOL American Job Centers (also known as One-Stop Career Centers) can assist veterans in finding employment opportunities. At these job centers veterans receive priority.

Sussex County One-Stop Career Center 30 Moran St Newton, New Jersey 07860 (973) 561-4356	Union County One-Stop Career Center 200 W 2nd St, 2nd Floor Plainfield, New Jersey 07060 (908) 412-7970
Union County American Job Center 12 West Jersey St, 3rd Floor Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202 (908) 412-7980	Warren County One-Stop Career Center 445 Marshall Street Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865 (908) 329-9190

OTHER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

GI Go Fund:
A Newark, New Jersey based veteran's organization that hosts job fairs for veterans, provides direct employment assistance and counseling to veterans looking for work, and hosts a job posting and training board exclusively for veterans. For more information, please visit:
https://www.gigo.org or call **(866) 389-4446**

Troops to Teachers:
Troops to Teachers is a DOD program which assists eligible military personnel transition to a new career as a public school teacher. For more information, please visit:
https://troopstoteachers.mil

Troops to Energy Jobs:
This is a program designed to assist veterans in transition into careers in the energy industry. For more information, please visit:
http://www.troopstoenergyjobs.com

Helmets to Hardhats:
Helmets to Hardhats is a program which connects Guard, Reserve, retired, and transitioning military personnel to opportunities in the construction industry. Opportunities include both training and career positions. For more information, please visit:
http://www.helmetstohardhats.org

VETERAN OWNED BUSINESSES

HIRING RESOURCES

Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOCs):

VBOCs provide entrepreneurial training, comprehensive business assessment, and mentoring to active duty personnel, veterans, Guard and Reservists, and service-disabled veterans, as well as military spouses interested in starting a small business.

McNulty Veteran Business Center

Services New Jersey and New York

44 Dalliba Ave
Watervliet, NY 12189
(518) 326-5522
https://vbocregion2.com

NJ STATE VETERANS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



- Access to capital
- How to respond to RFPs
- Navigating business rules and compilance in New Jersey
- Public sector procurement expo's
- Private sector suppiler diversity events
- Veteran job hiring fairs
- Effective social media campaigns
- Improving your marketing efforts
- Getting certified with the federal government
- Contracting opportunities available on Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst
- How to access State certifications, and opportunities
- Entrepreneurship training
- Refining your business plan
- Networking with industry professionals
- Sharing of best practice

GET THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

www.njveteranschamber.com

JOIN US

VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

HOMELESSNESS

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans

(877) 424-3838

Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness—and their family members, friends, and supporters—can make the call to, or chat online with, the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans, where trained counselors are ready to talk confidentially 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

New Jersey Supportive Services for Veterans & Families (SSVF) Contacts:

Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Camden:
(856) 342-4100

Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson:
(855) 767-8387

Community Hope:
(855) 483-8466

Soldier On:
(866) 406-8449

Veterans Multi-Service Center:
(215) 923-2600

HOMELESSNESS

BRINGING VETERANS HOME

Bringing Veterans Home is a partnership between the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and Department of Veterans Affairs committed to effectively end veteran homelessness by creating rapid access to housing for veterans in need.

How to Refer a Veteran in Need

For persons needing immediate shelter contact:

NJ Vet2Vet (866) 838-7654

OR

NJ SOS Vets (855) 289-8527

OR

NJ State Homeless Hotline 2-1-1

For all other referrals please complete the online form available at:
https://bvh.dca.nj.gov/

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Homeless Veteran Care

If you are a Veteran who is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless due to financial hardship, unemployment, addiction, depression, or transition from jail, VA New Jersey Health Care can help you. Contact a homeless services care coordinator to get help.

Services provided include:

- Immediate food and shelter, including both transitional and permanent housing
- Job training, life skills development, and education
- Support with justice system navigation and community re-entry from jail
- Financial support to prevent homelessness
- Treatment for addiction and depression
- Health and dental care

To connect with a care coordinator, please contact:

Chad Costello LCSW
Homeless Outreach Coordinator
VA New Jersey Health Care
(908) 367-0004
chad.costello@va.gov

Ariadne Devizio LCSW
VA Wilmington Health Care
Atlantic, Cape May, Salem and Cumberland Counties
(302) 438-6627
ariadne.devizio@va.gov

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Homeless Veterans Community Employment Services (HVCES):
This program was established by the VA because finding stable employment is vital to prevent and end homelessness in the veteran community.

Wilmington HVCES
Sherri Mullen
Sherri.Mullen@va.gov

Philadelphia HVCES
Radeem Ellington
Radeem.Ellington@va.gov

East Orange HVCES
Kimberly Johnson
Kimberly.Johnson30@va.gov

Lyons Campus HVCES
Lamont Jones
Lamont.Jones2@va.gov

Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program:

This VA program's central goal is to reduce Veteran homelessness by conducting street and community outreach to those who are the most vulnerable and who are not currently receiving VA services

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Community Resource and Referral Centers (CRRC):

CRRCs are a multi-agency collaborative effort. They connect homeless veterans with health and mental health care resources, employment development programs, housing options, and other VA and non-VA benefits.

Philadelphia CRRC	Harlem CRRC
213 N 4th St, 2nd Floor	423 East 23rd St, 15th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106	New York, NY 10010
(215) 222-7465	(212) 686-7500 x 5088

Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV):

DCHV is part of the VA's Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs (MH RRTPs). DCHV offers a residential level of care for homeless veterans.

Homeless Shelter Program (HSP):

- The HSP falls under the VA's loan guarantee service. It sells properties at discounted rates to organizations, nonprofits, and local governments to shelter homeless veterans or those at risk of homelessness.

Visit **https://www.va.gov/homeless** for more information on these programs

NJ ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Veterans:

- The Veterans Haven program is a New Jersey state-operated program. Eligible veterans who have been medically evaluated by the VA must agree to participate in a long-term program. The program focuses on the social, psychological, and vocational rehabilitation of veterans.

Veteran's Haven North

200 Sanatorium Rd, Suite 101
Glen Gardner, NJ 08826
(908) 537-1999
(877) 648-0091

Veteran's Haven South

301 Spring Garden Rd
Winslow, NJ 08095
(609) 561-4990
(888) 849-7188

Hope for Veterans

151 Knollcroft Rd
Lyons, NJ 07939
(201) 643-7799

Home for the Brave

271 Atlantic Ave
Camden, NJ 08104
(856) 966-0909

VETERAN EDUCATION

FEDERAL EDUCATION BENEFITS

Administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty (MGIB-AD):
Service members who pay $100 per month for 12 months or a lump sum payment of $1,200 are entitled to receive a monthly education benefit once they have completed a minimum service obligation. Additionally, individuals may contribute $600 to the Buy-Up program in order to increase their monthly benefit. New inductees are still eligible and may elect to receive MGIB-AD benefits rather than Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits. However, beneficiary numbers for this GI Bill have been exceeded by those in the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Post 9/11 GI Bill:
The Post 9/11 GI Bill is an education program for those service members who served on active duty after 10 September 2001. Those eligible will receive up to 36 months of coverage over a period of no more than 15 years from the last period of active duty. The Post 9/11 GI Bill will cover all in-state tuition for public schools along with a basic allowance for housing (BAH) equal to no more than that of an E-5 with dependents. The BAH is based on the zip code the school falls in. The monthly housing allowance for attendance at foreign institutions is up to the national average of the E-5 with dependents BAH, reduced according to the length of time served on active duty and the individual's enrollment rate.

FEDERAL EDUCATION BENEFITS

Administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Yellow Ribbon Program:
Since the Post 9/11 GI Bill may not cover the entire out of state and private schools tuition, the Yellow Ribbon Program was created to fill that gap for eligible veterans and transferees at the 100% benefit level. Institutions who participate voluntarily enter into an agreement with the VA, in which the VA will match each dollar of unmet charges that the participating school agrees to contribute.

Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship:

This scholarship provides Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to the surviving children and spouses of servicemen and women who died in the line of duty while on active duty on or after 11 September 2001. The scholarship provides those eligible with 100 percent of the benefits for up to 36 months.

FEDERAL EDUCATION BENEFITS

Administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP):
REAP will provide educational assistance to service members in Reserve components if they are called or ordered to active duty in response to war or national emergency declared by the President or Congress. In general, no educational benefits can be paid after November 25, 2015, although individuals who received REAP benefits for the enrollment period immediately preceding November 25, 2015, may receive benefits through November 25, 2019, or until exhausting their entitlement.

Veteran Educational Assistance Program (VEAP):
VEAP is a voluntary program that is available if the service member elected to contribute to this educational benefit from his/her military pay during the initial tour on or after January 1, 1977, and before July 1, 1985. The government will match the contributions on a 2-for-1 basis and may include an additional DOD contribution. VEAP can be used for degree, certificate, correspondence, apprenticeship/on-the-job training programs, and vocational flight training programs.

FEDERAL EDUCATION BENEFITS

Administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA):

DEA allows for spouses and children of service members to receive the education or training that they would have had or maintain the standard of living that they would have had, if the service member had not become disabled or delayed, or died as a result of military service.

Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR):

MGIB-SR is a program available to individuals serving in the Selected Reserve, including the National Guard, who enlist for a six-year service obligation. Educational benefits are also available to selected reservists who enlist, re-enlist, or extend an enlistment after June 30, 1985, and reserve officers who agree to serve an additional six years above any existing obligation. Most of those who are eligible for MGIB-SR receive a monthly allowance similar to the MGIB-AD. Furthermore, additional payments are available, and the monthly allowance may be increased under certain circumstances.

FEDERAL EDUCATION BENEFITS

Administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Upward Bound Program:
Created by Congress and administered by the Department of Education, the Veterans Upward Bound Program seeks to assist veterans in developing the necessary academic and nonacademic skills needed for acceptance, reentry, and success in post-secondary education.

SkillBridge Initiative:
The SkillBridge initiative is a Department of Defense program that allows service members who meet certain qualifications to participate in civilian job and employment training, which may include both apprenticeships and internships. This training can occur up to six months prior to their separation. Furthermore, the training must offer a high probability of employment and be provided to the service member at little or no cost.

VA Training and Education Office

(888) GIBILL-1 (888-442-4551)
http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/index.asp

NJ EDUCATION BENEFITS

NJ Veterans Benefits Bureau

(609) 530-6949

Prisoner of War and Missing In Action Tuition Benefits:

This educational benefit offers free undergraduate college tuition to any child who was born before, during, or after the period his or her parent was officially declared a Prisoner of War (POW) or was declared missing in action (MIA) after Jan. 1, 1960. This educational benefit is also extended to adopted children who meet the above criteria. The POW/MIA must have been a New Jersey resident at the time he or she entered the service or whose official residence is in New Jersey.

War Orphans Tuition Assistance:

$500 per year for four years of college or equivalent training may be claimed by children of service members who died while in the military or due to service-connected disabilities, or who are listed as MIA. The veteran must have been a resident of New Jersey, and the child must be a resident as well.

NJTeam Act:

Veterans or qualifying dependents living in New Jersey and attending a New Jersey public institution of higher education are eligible for in-state tuition, regardless of their previous state of residence.

NJ EDUCATION BENEFITS

Operation Recognition:

This is a state program that awards a New Jersey-state-endorsed high school diploma to any veteran who left high school to serve in the armed forces during World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War. All branches are eligible for Operation Recognition, including the Coast Guard and the Merchant Marines.

Required paperwork include:
DD-214 or Discharge Papers.
The name and address of the high school the veteran attended.
Name, address and phone number of applicant.

Requests should be sent to:
Operation Recognition
New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs
Eggert Crossing Rd
P.O. Box 340
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Sansone Woodbridge Military Assistance Program:

This program works to provide previously incarcerated veterans, at-risk veterans, and their immediate family members help in obtaining employment as well as access their earned benefits by connecting them with the appropriate agencies. The program also aids in the reintegration process by providing training opportunities, including vocational training in various career fields of the auto industry and employment skills mentoring.

Contact:
Sansone-Woodbridge Veteran & Spouse Employment Assistance Center
Richard Liebler, Sansone Veterans Administrator:
(732) 587-1100 ext 1628
(973) 715-1515

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Additional programs that provide scholarships, grants, or other education assistance include the Army Emergency Relief, the Air Force Aid Society, The Navy Maine Corps Relief Society, The Coast Guard Foundation, and the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance.

Army Emergency Relief:
https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/scholarships

Air Force Aid Society:
http://www.afas.org

Navy Marine Corps Relief Society:
http://www.nmcrs.org/pages/education-loans-and-scholarships

Coast Guard Foundation:
http://www.coastguardfoundation.org/scholarships

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance:
http://www.cgmahq.org

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

LEGAL RESOURCES

A number of organizations provide pro-bono or low cost legal services to members of the military and veteran community. Assistance is available for:

- Discharge Upgrades
- VA Benefits Claims & Appeals
- Eviction and Landlord-Tenant Matters
- Bankruptcy
- Municipal Court Criminal Matters

National Veterans Legal Services Project
info@nvlsp.org
(202) 265-8305

Volunteer Lawyers for Justice - Veterans Legal Program
survey.legal/X5uQ8KTtSKMw
(973) 645-1955

Legal Services of New Jersey
https://lsnjlawhotline.org/intake/1008/language/1
1-888-576-5529

Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program
mail@vetsprobono.org
(202) 733-3324

ABA Home Front
https://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_services/milvets/aba_home_front/directory-programs/new_jersey/

INCARCERATED VETERANS

Compensation & Pension Benefits for Incarcerated Veterans

Federal law requires that the compensation and pension benefits for veterans who are incarcerated for more than 60 days be reduced. If a veteran disability rating is 20 percent service-connected or more, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) reduces the payment to the 10 percent rate. Additionally, if the veteran is at the 10 percent service-connected rating, then the VBA reduces the payment by one-half. The VBA will discontinue pension benefits for veterans who are convicted of a felony or misdemeanor.

It is imperative that veterans notify the VA upon incarceration to avoid overpayment and indebtedness to the U.S. Government. Once the veteran is released, the VBA can restore the veteran's compensation and pension benefits.

Health Care for Re-entry Veterans (HCRV) Program

The Program provides outreach and re-entry planning to eligible veterans who are within six months of release. The program educates veterans about available services and benefits, as well as provides transition planning and case management. Contact a counselor in the DOC Office of Transitional Services to set up an appointment with a VA HCRV Specialist, or, if possible, contact the HCRV Specialist directly.

Ericka Jackson
New Jersey HCRV Specialist
(973) 676-1000 ext. 202383
Ericka.Jackson2@va.gov

INCARCERATED VETERANS

Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) Program
The VJO program assists veterans involved with the justice system, such as those looking to enter or already enrolled in a Veterans Diversion Program (VDP). VJO coordinators can assist in communicating with the courts, VA treatment teams, and connecting veterans with VA and non-VA community services. VJOs cannot give legal advice.

J. Jake Sanders
VJO Coordinator: Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland Counties
(267) 683-6161
jjake.sanders@va.gov

John Walter
VJO Coordinator: Salem County
(302) 379-2085
john.walter@va.gov

Mark Correale
VJO Coordinator: All Other Counties
(908) 647-0180
Mark.Correale1@va.gov

INCARCERATED VETERANS

New Jersey Judiciary Veteran's Assistance Project (VAP):

VAP is a voluntary referral service for veterans who are involved with the justice system and who may be in need of additional services. Available services can include mental health counseling, addiction services, legal services, and housing. VAP may also assist with the assignment of a mentor for the veteran.

Court Matters:

Assistant Director, Criminal Practice Division
New Jersey Courts
(609) 815-2900 x 55300
AOCCrimPrac.mailbox@njcourts.gov

Benefits and Services:

New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs
(888) 865-8387

REENTRY

New Jersey Reentry Corporation Veterans Justice Outreach Initiative (NJRC):

The NJRC provides individualized assessments and treatment plans to address the essential needs of its participants, including housing, mental health care, access to health insurance, addiction recovery, and employment. Access to these services is available to veterans regardless of discharge status.

NJRC Veterans Outreach Center

762A Roosevelt Ave
Carteret, New Jersey 07008
(732) 509-9304

Intake Form:
https://njreentry.org/veterans_justice_outreach_initiative/

MILITARY DOCUMENTS

MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS

Request your military service records (including DD214)

This is provided as a free service by the National Archives and Records Administration. Some records you can request include:

DD 214/ Separation Documents
Official Military Personnel File (OMPF)
Replacement Medals
Medical and Health Records

Generally, there is no charge for basic military personnel and medical record information provided to veterans, next of kin, and authorized representatives from Federal (non-archival) records.

- Request online at: https://archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records
- Mail or fax a request pertaining to Military Records (Standard Form SF 180) to the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC).
- Write a letter to the NPRC. Send it to:
  1 Archives Drive
  St. Louis, Missouri 63138
- Visit the NPRC in person
- Contact your state or county Veterans agency
- Hire an independent researcher
- Contact our Newark or Camden office for further assistance

NEW JERSEY RESOURCES

MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission: (609) 292-6500

License Plates:

Military and veteran personnel may purchase military reserve plates for passenger vehicles. For more information, go to:
https://www.nj.gov/mvc/vehicles/military.htm

License Plates	Price
Congressional Medal of Honor	No Charge
Navy Cross	$15
Silver Star	No Charge
Prisoners of War	No Charge
Combat Infantryman Badge	$15
Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine, Navy, and Reserve units	$25
The National Guard	$15
Gold Star Family	No Charge
Disabled American Veterans	$15
Veterans of Foreign Wars	$30

Drivers License:

A veteran may request a permanent veteran designation on their driver's license. For more information by visiting
https://www.nj.gov/mvc/drivertopics/vetdesignation.htm

No Fee Automobile Registration:

Veterans are entitled to a no fee automobile registration if they are 100 percent disabled, eligible for automobile financial assistance from the VA and have sustained the loss or permanent loss of use of one or both feet, loss or permanent loss of use of one or both hands, or permanent impairment of vision of both eyes to a prescribed degree. Additionally, Medal of Honor recipients are eligible for a no-fee registration.

NEW JERSEY RESOURCES

NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife & NJ Department of the Treasury

Free Beach Tags:
Veterans with a proper military ID are entitled, at the discretion of each New Jersey town, to obtain a free beach tag. Please contact your municipality to inquire about its policies on free beach tags.

Hunting and Fishing Licenses:
Veterans who are New Jersey residents and were discharged with a service-connected disability are entitled to free hunting and fishing licenses, permits, and stamps.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
(609) 292-1473

Property Tax Exemption:
The State of New Jersey allows for an exemption from property tax for certain veterans on their principle residence. This exemption is authorized for certain veterans who are totally and permanently disabled war veterans along with their surviving spouse. The surviving spouse of servicemembers who died during wartime active duty service may also be exempt.

You can access the Property Tax Deduction Claim form here:
http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/pdf/other_forms/lpt/vss.pdf

Veteran Tax Deduction:
A deduction of up to $250 from taxes which are due on the real or personal property is available annually to certain war veterans or their surviving spouse.

NOTES:

Cory Booker

NOTES:

Cory Booker

CONTACT INFO:

Name:
Agency:
Contact Number:
Email Address:

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Cory Booker

2027 New Jersey Veterans Handbook

Prepared by the Office of U.S. Senator Cory A. Booker
To receive a copy of this handbook in the mail, contact my office.
(973) 639-8700





Cory Booker