

Vermont State Veteran's Benefits & Discounts

2018



The state of Vermont provides veteran benefits. This section offers a brief description of each of the following benefits.

- Veteran Housing Benefits
- Financial Assistance Benefits
- Employment and Training Assistance
- Education Benefits
- Veteran Recreation Benefits
- Other State Veteran Benefits

Visit the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs website <http://veterans.vermont.gov> for contact information and benefits assistance.

Veteran Housing Programs

Bennington Vermont Veterans' Home

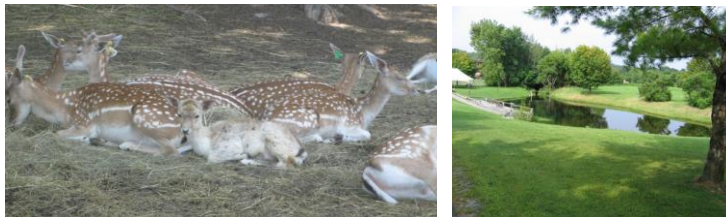
The state of Vermont runs a veterans home in Bennington in which Vermont Vets have priority for admission to the Vermont Veterans Home (VVH). Veterans from other states are welcome to apply. Eligible Veterans are those who served at least ninety days in the Armed Forces of the United States and were discharged under honorable conditions. Gold Star parents and spouses of qualified Veterans also are eligible for admission.

The original estate that houses Vermont Veterans' Home was constructed in 1860. In 1884, recognizing the need to care for veterans disabled in the Civil War, the State General Assembly appointed Trustees of a Soldiers' Home and authorized a \$10,000 appropriation as initial funding. The first of twenty-five

residents was admitted on May 18, 1887. On April 14, 1971, the Soldiers' Home was renamed the Vermont Veterans' Home.

Construction of a cemetery began in 1884 with one acre devoted to the burial of Civil War veterans. Expanded to 17 acres, and containing about 300 gravesites, burial is now restricted to residents of the VVH. Significant capital construction began in the 1960's including renovation of the administration building, residential areas, and dining room, and construction of new nursing care units, a chapel, social hall, gazebo, and bandstand.

The Vermont Veterans' Home property includes a public picnic area and an enclosed area known as the Deer Park. The picnic area has long been a stopping point for residents and visitors alike. This area includes spacious lawns, shade trees, a pond, and picnic tables as well as a close view of the deer yard. The deer yard enclosure is home to approximately 20 Fallow deer. The Veterans' Home staff cares for the deer herd year round. It has been a source of great interest for thousands of visitors annually. The fish pond is a natural marvel. Situated at the north end of the grounds, it was originally a drainage pond. In the early 1990's, it was enlarged, stocked with trout, provided with a dock, dam, and a ramp for wheelchair accessibility. Today it provides part of our water needs for the geothermal installation. It contains literally hundreds of large trout and is the setting for several fishing derbies for the enjoyment of all ages.



In the past several years, other significant additions and renovations occurred, including a geothermal system for heating and cooling, and renovation of four residential units, and development of a memorial area which includes monuments dedicated to Vermont Medal of Honor winners, Gold Star Mothers, and Vermont Veterans. Lighting systems, electronic controls, and information systems have been updated. The home publishes a monthly newsletter "**The Buzz**" accessible at <http://vvh.vermont.gov/about-us/newsletter>. Vermont Veterans Home videos can be accessed at <http://vvh.vermont.gov/content/vermont-veterans-home-videos>.

The VVH has the full support of many military-oriented community organizations. Among these - in Bennington and the surrounding area - are chapters of the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, the Vietnam Veterans of America and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Additionally, other service organizations such as the Elks are significantly involved in activities of the VVH. Among the activities sponsored by these very active organizations are picnics, steak nights, fishing derbies, bingo and movies. Additionally, the local high school encourages residents to attend musical and sporting events, the Bennington Museum provides annual passes, and the Recreation Center offers reduced rates to residents.

The 177 bed nursing home provides a full range of care, including skilled nursing home care, and accepts Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance. Veterans without Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance will have to pay for their care, but the home's staff will help make sure all available insurance programs

are used if the individual is eligible. The VVH accepts private payment, Medicare, and Vermont and New York Medicaid. Other insurers may require special arrangements. If you are a Service Connected Disable Veteran with a rating of 70% or higher the VA will cover your stay with us. (The VVH is not affiliated with the Department of Veterans Affairs.) The Admissions Coordinator will answer your questions by telephone, e-mail, traditional mail, or in a personal meeting. For information email the Admission Department or call 802-447-6539. If you are a Veteran not enrolled in VA healthcare or not sure about VA benefits available to you contact State of Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs: Paul Perreault 802-828-2874.

Goals focus on dignity, independence, and the highest quality of life for each resident. The home is located at 325 North Street, Bennington, VT 05201 Tel: 1-802-447-6523 E-mail: vvh-admissions@state.vt.us. The home offers a complete range of specialized health care services which include:

- A top notch skilled nursing and a certified dementia unit that is innovative and provides care that is tailored to residents with those specific needs. Every staff member that works in the dementia unit goes through extensive training that provides them with the skills they need to help residents that have dementia, Alzheimer's, etc. This allows everyone to provide the best possible care.
- Namaste and Music and Memory Therapy
- Certified Alzheimer's Unit.
- Rehabilitation Therapy
- Medical Social Work
- Respite Care
- Registered Dietician
- Podiatry Care
- Dental Services
- End of Life Care
- Chapel and Pastoral Care on Campus
- Transportation to Medical Appointments
- Guest Room for Family Members

The Vermont Veterans' Home is a community for all Veterans of military service, not just those that have served during war time. You can confirm your eligibility with their admissions team. To apply for residency at the Vermont Veterans' Home, there are a few steps that need to be taken.

1. At http://vvh.vermont.gov/sites/vahome/files/VVH_Admission_Application_.pdf download the application and fill it out to the best of your ability
2. Fill out the supporting documents indicated at <http://vvh.vermont.gov/Admissionsat>
3. Call to set up a tour and meet with an admission representative
4. Submit the applications with all current medical information attached and a copy of discharge paperwork from the armed forces (DD 214 of VA HINK)



Overall Campus

VA Nursing Homes

Veterans who are 70% service-connected disabled or higher can stay at nursing homes operated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs free of charge. The closest VA operated nursing home is in North Hampton, Massachusetts. We recommend veterans discuss this option with their Primary Care Provider at the VA.

Community Nursing Home Care Paid for by VA

Veterans who are 70% service-connected disabled or higher can stay at some community nursing homes free of charge, as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will pay for their care. We recommend veterans discuss this option with their Primary Care Provider at the VA.

Financial Assistance Programs

Income Tax Benefits

Active duty pay earned while out-of-state is not taxed. Up to \$2,000 in guard/reserve pay is not taxed.

Emergency Financial Assistance

The Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs administers the Vermont Veteran Assistance Fund. This program can provide a one-time payment to Vermont veterans or their families who are in a financial crisis and need help paying for a critical need, such as housing and utilities. The amount of assistance provided can be up to \$500. Applications are done over the phone and takes about 10 minutes to complete. Vermont residency is required. Contact:

- Office of Veterans Affairs Toll Free (for in State) - (888) 666-9844
- Office of Veterans Affairs Direct Dial - (802) 828-3379

Many American Legion and VFW posts have an emergency assistance fund for veterans and their families. We recommend veterans get in touch with their local post. In addition, the American Legion service officer in White River Junction operates a financial assistance program, as does the Vietnam Veterans of America.

- American Legion - (802) 296-5166
- Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) - (802) 296 5166
- Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) - (802) 447-0407
- Disabled American Veterans (DAV) - (802) 296 5167
- Military Order of the Purple Heart - (802) 868 4488

Financial Support

Veterans and their families who are having a hard time with basic life necessities such as food, shelter, utilities, etc., should contact Vermont 211. (<http://www.vermont211.org>). This program has an inventory of all the federal, state, and local resources available to Vermonters. This includes local food shelves, state assistance programs, local private organizations, etc. They are available 24 hours a day, every day. Just dial 2-1-1 from any phone in Vermont to get connected. Below are some resources from private organizations that are available to help veterans and their families.

- Friends of Veterans - (802) 296-8368
- EasterSeals of VT - (802) 223-4744
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) - (802) 656-3232 or toll free (844) 820-3232

Property Tax Reduction

The following are eligible for the exemption:

- Veterans receiving Disability Compensation at a rating of 50% or higher
- Veterans receiving Non-Service Connected Pension (also called Improved Pension)
- Veterans collecting military retirement pay for a medical military retirement
- Surviving spouses of veterans who had received the exemption (surviving spouses may also be eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation or Death Pension. Go to <http://veterans.vermont.gov/sites/ova/files/Property%20Tax%20APPLICATION%20fillable.pdf> for the application form.

The exemption level varies from town to town. State law mandates a minimum \$10,000 exemption, although towns are given the option of increasing the exemption to \$40,000. The exemption reduces the appraised value of the home prior to the assessment of taxes. For example: An eligible veteran lives in a home valued at \$200,000. The veteran's town provides a \$20,000 exemption. The veteran's home will be

taxed at \$180,000. Veterans who would like to have their town increase their exemption must go through their town's local procedures for having a measure placed on an election ballot for town voters to consider. The exemption only applies to homes that are owned by the veteran or survivor; and is the primary residence. Veterans or survivors who rent their homes cannot pass this exemption on to their landlord. To receive the exemption, the veteran must provide proof of eligibility to the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs.

Most veterans will have to provide proof of eligibility every year before 1 MAY. Veterans who are determined to be totally and permanently disabled only have to provide proof of eligibility the first year they use the benefit for a home (if they move to a new home in a different town, they will have to provide proof of eligibility again). They also must provide proof of eligibility by 1 MAY. Proof of eligibility is provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Our recommendation is to call the VA no later than April 1st to request this documentation. The proof of eligibility may also be obtained through [ebenefits](#) or by calling the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Benefits at (800) 827-1000.

Veteran Employment Programs

DOL

The Vermont Department of Labor (DOL) has trained staff composed of Veterans and non-veteran staff at their Career Resource Centers to help veterans find work. They can also provide assistance with identifying job training needs and funds for training. If you're a veteran looking for work, call the Career Resource Center closest to you:

- Bennington Resource Center - (802) 442-6376
- Brattleboro Resource Center - (802) 254-4555
- Burlington Resource Center - (802) 863-7676
- Middlebury Resource Center - (802) 388-4921
- Morrisville Resource Center - (802) 888-4545
- Rutland Resource Center - (802) 786-5837
- St. Albans Resource Center - (802) 524-6585
- Springfield Resource Center - (802) 885-2167

Programs Available to Help Disabled Veterans Find Work

The Vermont Department of Labor administers the Jobs for Veterans State Grant which provides staff to assist disabled veterans and veterans with barriers to employment, find suitable employment. The Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Representatives travel throughout the state to work with disabled veterans at any one of the 12 regional offices, including the VA at White River Junction. Drop in or call a Career Resource Center nearest you for assistance.

Government Employment Options

Many veterans decide to continue working in the government sector. Below is information on how to apply for state and federal employment.

- State of Vermont Civil Service -- Search and apply for state jobs entirely online at Department of Human Resources Career Center. Veterans have increased access to state hiring, as they can

apply for positions that are normally only eligible for current state employees. Contact their Human Resources Department at (800) 640-1657 or visit their website for more information.

- U.S. Government Civil Service -- Search and apply for federal jobs entirely online at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), USAJOBS Website. Vermont has numerous opportunities to serve with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Homeland Security. Veterans have strong hiring preferences for federal positions.
- State of Vermont State Police -- The Vermont State Police is the largest police agency in the state. Contact their recruiting office for more information at (802) 483-2606.
- Vermont National Guard -- You can continue your military service in a reserve capacity in Vermont Army or Air National Guard. In addition to defending our nation, Guard members defend our state by responding to disasters such as flooding and ice storms. Guard service provides a wide assortment of benefits for veterans and their families.
- Vermont State Guard -- Vermonters also have the opportunity to serve in a volunteer capacity. Members of the State Guard provide back up to the National Guard during emergency responses. For more information, call (802) 338-3045.

Veteran Education Assistance

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The majority of education programs for veterans are administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, usually just referred to as the VA. This includes the GI Bill. Their website is a must visit for veterans looking to find information about how the VA can help them continue their education. To contact go to [VA Education Benefits](#) or call (888) 442-4551

Vermont National Guard

Members of the Vermont National Guard are eligible for various tuition assistance programs. To learn more about these benefits, contact the VT National Guard Education Office at (802) 338-3346

VSAC

The Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) is a public nonprofit agency that helps Vermonters who want to go to college or other training after high school. They provide grants, loans, scholarships, career and education planning, and general information about how you, or others in your family, can get the education you want. VSAC also administers a small number of private scholarships for veterans and their families. Any Vermonter, not just veterans, considering going back to school should contact them to find out what assistance is available by calling (800) 642-3177.

High School Diplomas for WWII and Korean War Era Veterans

Veterans of the World War II and Korean War Eras who do not have a high school diploma may be eligible to receive one from a Vermont high school. Applications are verified by the Office of Veterans Affairs, and the diplomas are issued by a secondary school picked by the veteran.

Veteran Recreation Benefits

Disabled Veteran Hunting & Fishing License

Veterans with a VA Service Connected Disability rating of at least 60 percent can get a free lifetime hunting and fishing license.

Hunting and Fishing Licenses for Non-Resident Veterans

Non-resident veterans who live in a state that provides reciprocal privilege for Vermont residents and who would qualify for a free license under the disabled veteran provision above if they were a Vermont resident, can get a free one-year fishing, hunting or combination hunting and fishing license.

Active Duty Hunting & Fishing Licenses

Active duty members can get free fishing and hunting licenses by signing paperwork that certifies their active duty status. Non-residents on active duty in Vermont can get hunting & fishing licenses at the resident rate.

Green Mountain Passport

Vermont veterans can get the Green Mountain Passport for \$2. Those with a VA disability of at least 60 percent can get it for free.

Other State Veteran Benefits

Transportation to VA Healthcare

Veterans who need transportation to VA hospitals and clinics can get a ride with the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Transportation Network. Volunteers in this network pick up veterans in their local area and takes them to VA facilities for medical appointments. Call (866) 687-8387 x5394 to get in touch with the transportation coordinator in your area.

Discharge Records

The Office of Veterans Affairs maintains copies of active duty discharge records for most veterans who entered the service from Vermont. We help veterans locate their records, will store copies of their records, and will make certified copies of records...all free of charge. Because of the federal Privacy Act, we need to have your request for your discharge in writing. You can come to our office, mail a request, or fax a request. Although we have a Records Request Form, you don't have to use it. If you don't want to use the form, just send us a letter requesting a copy of the discharge (it doesn't have to be typed) with the veteran's name, Social Security Number, date of birth, and approximate dates of service. Make sure to

sign the letter and include the address you would like the discharge mailed to. We only release the discharge to the veteran, or the veteran's next of kin if the veteran is deceased.

If the requestor is the next of kin, please provide the veteran's date of death and the relationship to the veteran. Requests can be faxed or mailed...sorry, we can't take Email requests for records. If we don't have your discharge, you can request it from the state you entered the military from or from the National Personnel Records Center. If you need a full copy of your records, to include your medical records, you would need to get them from the records center. Requests from them take a minimum of two months.

Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery

The Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery is located at 487 Furnace Rd, Randolph Center, VT 05061 Tel: (802) 828-1211 It provides veterans with a resting-place that honors their service at a cost lower than a commercial cemetery. In addition, certain family members may also be buried with the veteran. Applicants can choose from government markers or custom made commercial markers.



Veterans who wish to be interred at the Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery should contact the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs in Montpelier.

Vermont Veterans License Plates

Veterans can receive a Vermont Veterans License Plate when they register their vehicle. Veterans can have a Vermont Veterans License Plate on each of their cars. The Department of Motor Vehicles will charge \$10 the first time a vehicle is registered with the plate. Of this fee, \$5 goes towards the Office of Veterans Affairs to fund their activities. Military specialty plates available include:

Ex-POW Plate



Additional Fee: None

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Application must be accompanied by written certification of eligibility from U.S. Veteran's Administration

Application: [VT Veteran's Recognition Plate Application](#)

Former prisoners of war, Pearl Harbor veterans and Purple Heart veterans may complete an application for special number plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate. The application must be accompanied by certification of the applicant's status as a former prisoner of war (P.O.W.), Pearl Harbor veteran or Purple Heart veteran. This certification must be completed by the Veterans' Administration or state veterans' affairs office, respectively. The prisoner of war (P.O.W.), Pearl Harbor or Purple Heart plates are not subject to any special plate fees.

Gold Star Family Plate



Additional Fee: None

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Submit a completed application and [DD form 1300](#), Report of Casualty, to the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs for certification as a Gold Star Family member. The Office of Veterans' Affairs will forward the completed application and the copy of the DD form 1300 to the Department of Motor Vehicles for processing.

Application: [Gold Star Family Plate Application](#)

The Gold Star Family License Plate is a special motor vehicle license plate for Gold Star Families, as defined in 10 U.S.C. §1126. The Gold Star Family license plate identifies widows, parents, and next of kin of members of the Armed Forces of the United States who lost their lives during a war, military conflict, international terrorist attack, or military operations.

Family members who may receive these plates are: Widows - Widowers - Mother - Father - Stepmother - Stepfather - Son - Daughter - Stepson - Stepdaughter - Brother - Sister - Half Brother - Half Sister - Mother (through adoption) - Father (through adoption) - Son (by adoption) - Daughter (by adoption) - Foster Father in Loco Parentis - Foster Mother in Loco Parentis

The Gold Star Family plates are not subject to any special plate fees. These license plates may be issued for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate or on trucks registered for less than 26,001 lbs. at the applicable fee. The plates will be reissued only to the original holder of the plates.

Pearl Harbor Survivor Plate



Additional Fee: None

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Application must be accompanied by copy of Discharge Record, DD-214, or other document indicating eligibility which bears the stamp and certification of the State of Vermont

Office of Veterans' Affairs.

Application: [VT Veteran's Recognition Plate Application](#)

Former prisoners of war, Pearl Harbor veterans and Purple Heart veterans may complete an application for special number plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate. The application must be accompanied by certification of the applicant's status as a former prisoner of war (P.O.W.), Pearl Harbor veteran or Purple Heart veteran. This certification must be completed by the Veterans' Administration or state veterans' affairs office, respectively. The prisoner of war (P.O.W.), Pearl Harbor or Purple Heart plates are not subject to any special plate fees.

Purple Heart Plate



Additional Fee: None

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Application must be accompanied by copy of Discharge Record, DD-214, or other document indicating eligibility which bears the stamp and certification of the State of Vermont Office of Veterans' Affairs.

Application: [VT Veteran's Recognition Plate Application](#)

Former prisoners of war, Pearl Harbor veterans and Purple Heart veterans may complete an application for special number plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate. The application must be accompanied by certification of the applicant's status as a former prisoner of war (P.O.W.), Pearl Harbor veteran or Purple Heart veteran. This certification must be completed by the Veterans' Administration or state veterans' affairs office, respectively. The prisoner of war (P.O.W.), Pearl Harbor or Purple Heart plates are not subject to any special plate fees.

U.S. Veteran Plate



Additional Fee: None

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Application must be accompanied by written certification of eligibility from Vermont Office of Veterans' Affairs.

Application: [U.S. Veteran's Plate Application](#)

U.S. Veterans and members of the Armed Forces may complete an application for Veteran number plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate, on trucks registered for less than 26,001 lbs at the applicable fee, or at the motorcycle rate. The application must be accompanied by certification of the applicant's status as a U.S. Veteran or a current member of the U.S. Armed Forces. This certification must

be completed by the Veterans' Administration or state veterans' affairs office, respectively. The U.S. Veteran plates are not subject to any special plate fees.

Vermont National Guard Plate



Additional Fee: [One-time](#)

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Must provide authorization from the Office of the Adjutant General, State of Vermont.

Application: [Safety/Service Organization Plate Application](#)

Groups which provide police and fire protection, rescue squads, national guard, together with those organizations required to respond to public emergencies and amateur radio operators licensed by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission may obtain special (safety organization) plates. At the request of the leader of a safety organization, upon application and payment of an annual fee for each set of plates (in addition to the annual fee for registration), special plates indicating membership in one of the "safety organizations" may be issued to registrants (who are members of these organizations) of:

- pleasure cars
- other vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate
- trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds

The applicant must provide a written statement from the appropriate official of the organization, authorizing the issuance of the plates. At the time that an organization requests the plates, it must deposit a set fee with the department. For each set of plates issued, a portion of this deposit will be applied as the safety organization special plate fee for each authorized applicant. When the initial deposit is depleted, applicants shall be required to pay the annual fee.

When an individual's membership in a qualifying organization ceases or is terminated, the individual must surrender any special registration plates issued to the Department of Motor Vehicles immediately.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Plate



Additional Fee: [One-time](#)

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Copy of valid membership card or an authorization signed by VFW Quartermaster.

Application: [Safety/Service Organization Plate Application](#)

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) can display the VFW insignia on their Vermont license plate. The plate is available to Vermont members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). The design features the official insignia of the VFW on the right side of the plate.

Vietnam Veterans of America Plate



Additional Fee: [One-time](#)

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Copy of a valid VT Membership card or signed authorization.

Application: [Safety/Service Organization Plate Application](#)

Vietnam Veterans can proudly display their colors through their Vermont license plate. The plate is available to Vermont members in good standing of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA). The design features the official insignia of the VVA on the right side of the plate.

Any veteran may apply for a non-specific Veterans' Plate which displays an American flag and "V" designation ([see "VT Veterans' Plates"](#)).

American Legion Plate



Additional Fee: [One-time](#)

Personalized/Vanity Plate Available? No

Required Document(s): Copy of a valid membership ID card or letter of authorization from Post Adjutant.

Application: [Safety/Service Organization Plate Application](#)

Members of the American Legion can display the American Legion logo on their Vermont license plate. The plate is available to Vermont members of the American Legion. The design features the official logo of the American Legion on the left side of the plate.

The following plates are also available.

- US Veteran Afghanistan
- US Veteran Gulf War
- US Veteran Iraq
- US Veteran Korean War
- US Veteran Vietnam War
- US Veteran World War II
- US Veteran, Disabled

Hunting and Fishing Licenses; Green Mountain Pass

Veterans with a Department of Veterans Affairs Service Connected Disability rating of 60% or greater can receive a free lifetime hunting and fishing license. They can also receive a free Green Mountain Pass, which provides free access to state parks. For the hunting and fishing license, you will need to obtain a verification letter from the White River Junction Benefits Office (1-800-827-1000). Submit the verification letter with a standard license application and send it to the Fish and Wildlife Department in Waterbury.

Green Mountain Pass

Veterans may receive a Green Mountain Pass for a \$2 fee. Use the Green Mountain Pass for free admission to Vermont State Parks (overnight camping and other park fees are excluded), Vermont State Historic Sites, and events which are fully State sponsored.

Vermont Medals

Veterans who entered the military when they were a resident of Vermont, regardless of where they live now, and received an honorable discharge may be eligible for a state medal honoring their service.

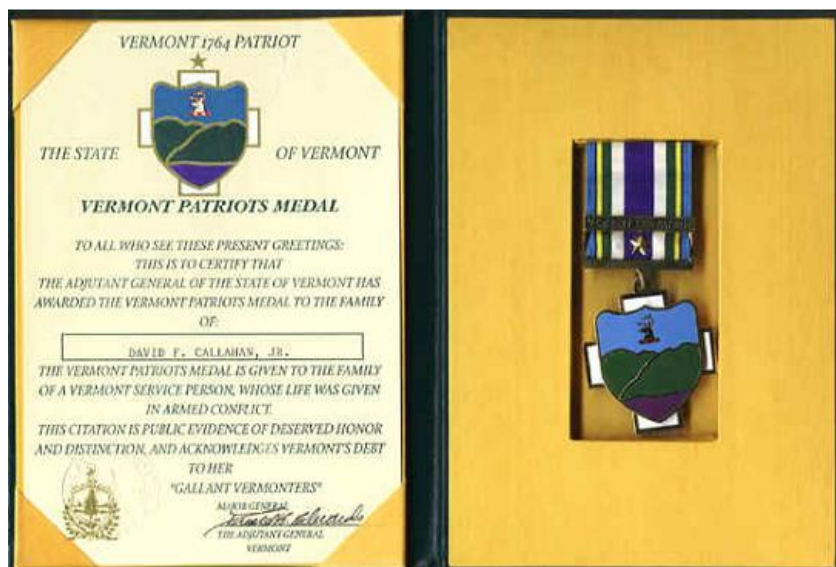
- The Vermont Veterans Medal is awarded to most veterans with an honorable discharge.



- The Vermont Distinguished Service Medal is awarded to veterans who received an honorable discharge and who served in a combat theater.



- The Patriots Medal is presented to the next-of-kin of Vermont soldiers killed in action.



Veterans may choose to have the medals mailed to them or presented in a ceremony. In cases where the veteran is deceased, the medals may be requested by a family member. Medals are usually mailed within 4 weeks of our office receiving an application; those who request a ceremony may have to wait up to a year before there will be a presentations. Distribution of the Veterans Medal and Distinguished Service Medal is not automatic. Veterans must apply for them, or have someone apply on their behalf. Applications are quick and easy... most can be completed over the phone by calling the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs at (888) 666-9844 or (802) 828-3379.

Visit the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs website <http://veterans.vermont.gov/> for contact information and benefits assistance.

Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/content/veteran-state-benefits/vermont-state-veterans-benefits.html> May 2018 ++]

Military Discounts in Vermont

1. MVDC has close to 500 business locations in Vermont that have discounts for military personnel and veterans. In addition to businesses providing discounts, the state also provides discounts for those that have served. To find business discounts, enter your zip code and category in the search box at the top of <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/vermont.html>

2. **Veterans Designation on drivers license:** No

3. **Discounted Fees and Taxes -**

- Eligibility for moose permit special lottery for veterans who served in a combat theater in support of the Global War on Terror
- Exemption from vehicle sales tax, registration fees, and license fees for specific disabled veterans

4. Property tax and Financial Benefits - Minimum \$10,000 property tax exemption for specific disabled veterans or their surviving spouses

5. Education Discounts -

- Tuition assistance programs and scholarships for Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, Veterans and family members through the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
- Tuition assistance for members of the Vermont National Guard from the Guard's Education Office
- Payment of tuition for surviving family members of a National Guard member who dies on active duty

[Source: <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/vermont.html> | May 2018 ++]