

# Indiana State Veteran's Benefits



**2021**

The Indiana military community as of Dec. 31, 2020 per Defense Manpower Data Center consisted of:

- 2,568 active-duty service members
- 1,675 active-duty spouses
- 3,589 active-duty children
- 22,636 National Guard and reserve members
- 10,575 National Guard and reserve spouses
- 17,538 National Guard and reserve children

Additionally, as of 2020 nearly 550,000 of their residents are veterans of the Armed Forces of which 52,000 veterans and survivors collect disability compensation or pension payments. As a veteran you have earned benefits for yourself and potentially for your family, but you must apply to receive these benefits. Indiana is grateful for your service and wants to ensure you receive all the support you deserve. The state provides several veteran benefits in conjunction with or in addition to federal benefits. Following offers a brief description of benefits those in each of the following areas:

- Housing
- Financial Assistance
- Employment
- Education
- Recreation

- Driver and Vehicle Licensing
- Burial
- Taxation
- Women Veterans
- Other

## Housing

### **The Indiana Veterans Home (IVH)**

The Indiana Veterans' Home is located in West Lafayette, Indiana was originally created to care for veterans of the Civil War. The Home welcomed its first resident in 1896. Today, located on 250+ acres in West Lafayette it is a full-service care facility offering a complete array of services for residents.



IVH



Ernie Pyle Hall

They provide nursing care, short-term rehabilitation services and domiciliary care for honorably discharged Hoosier veterans and their spouses. Eligible veterans must have resided in Indiana for at least 12 months prior to admission, although residency waiver requests may be considered. There is no wartime service requirement. Applicants must pass a criminal background check conducted by the Indiana Veterans' Home. The Indiana Veterans' Home provides several levels of care for their residents:

- Independent living
- Short-term rehabilitative care for those recovering from surgery, illness or injury
- Around-the-clock nursing care
- Dedicated memory care unit for those with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias

Residents at the 197-bed facility receive premier nursing care, with board-certified physicians and onsite specialty care, including:

- Physical and occupational therapy

- Speech and hearing therapy
- Respiratory therapy
- Podiatry
- Dentistry
- Optometry

IVH accepts Medicare A and B, Medicaid, private pay, private insurance, long-term care insurance, and participates in the VA Higher Per Diem Program. IVH will assist residents in applying for any services they may qualify for to assist with payment. The VA Higher Per Diem (or "70%") Program is a federal veterans benefit program that covers the complete cost of skilled nursing care for veterans with 70-100% service-connected disability rating who live in a comprehensive care facility. Better still, the veteran keeps all of their income and assets when participating in the program, including disability pensions. Thus a 70% or higher service connected disabled veteran receives free care.

For veterans rated less than 70% the VA pays \$107.16 a day towards a veteran's stay. Then there is Aid and Attendance. However, Aid and Attendance can only be used to the extent below at the Indiana Veterans' Home. Aid and Attendance anywhere else will afford the veteran a flat rate of \$90.00 a month. At the home:

- A single war time eligible veteran would receive up to \$1,830.00 a month towards their stay in a long term facility.
- A married wartime eligible veteran would receive up to \$2,127.00 a month towards their stay.
- A widow of a wartime eligible veteran would receive \$1,176.00 a month towards their stay.
- All medications, diabetic supplies and incontinence supplies (yes, you get to select your preferred continence item) are paid for.

Residents are not allowed to keep personal pets at IVH. However, they do have several "campus kitties" on the grounds and many volunteer therapy dogs that visit our campus on a regular basis. A brochure is available at [https://www.in.gov/ivh/files/General-Info-Brochure-2018\\_print.pdf](https://www.in.gov/ivh/files/General-Info-Brochure-2018_print.pdf) and a mini-book is available at <https://www.in.gov/ivh/files/IVH-IndianaVeteransHome-BOOKLET-6.27.18.pdf>. Veterans and their spouses may apply for admission to the Indiana Veterans' Home by submitting a completed application packet available on their website <http://www.in.gov/ivh/admissions.htm> including all required documentation. For questions call (765) 463-1502 Admissions and (765) 497-8590 Financial questions. Written requests for application packets or additional information should be mailed to: Indiana Veterans' Home, ATTN: Admissions Department, Indiana Veterans' Home, 3851 N. River Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906. The West Lafayette Indiana Veterans' Home campus is the only veterans' home in the state of Indiana.

### **Financial Assistance**

### **Military Family Relief Fund Standard Application**

The MFRF standard emergency grant may be used by the families for needs such as food, housing, utilities, medical services, transportation and other essential family support expenses which have become difficult to afford. A grant up to \$2,500 may be awarded to veterans of wartime service whose current hardship is a result of their military service. The maximum lifetime award is \$2500.

The MFRF COVID-19 emergency grant up to \$2500 may be granted on a case-by-case basis by families for up to two months of household needs such as food, housing, utilities, medical services, childcare and other essential family support which has become difficult to afford due to the coronavirus pandemic. Applicants can be peacetime or wartime veterans. Those previously approved for a MFRF are also eligible. Refer to <https://www.in.gov/dva/2329.htm> and [https://secure.in.gov/dva/files/MFRF\\_COVID\\_19\\_app-outline.pdf](https://secure.in.gov/dva/files/MFRF_COVID_19_app-outline.pdf) for additional info and applications.

### **Property Tax Deduction for Veterans and Spouses of KIA**

\$14,000 deduction for veterans that served during peace time or the surviving spouse of a service member that was killed in action or died during active duty. Veteran must be totally disabled or must be 62 years old with a 10% service-connected disability rating. There is an assessed value limit of \$200,000. Refer to <https://www.in.gov/dva/2383.htm> for details and a Certificate of eligibility.

### **Property Tax Deduction for Wartime Veterans**

\$24,960 deduction for wartime veterans with at least a 10% service-connected disability rating. There is no assessed value limit for this benefit. For details and a Certificate of eligibility refer to <https://www.in.gov/dva/state-of-indiana-benefits-and-services/property-tax-deductions>.

### **Property Tax Combination Deduction for Certain Disabled Wartime Veterans**

A veteran who served during a period of war and is at least 62 years old with a 10% service-connected disability rating OR has a permanent and total service-connected disability rating at any age AND whose home's assessed value is \$200,000 or less, can receive both property tax deductions for a total of \$38,960. If an otherwise eligible veteran owns no real property, then a deduction may be made on the excise tax for up to two vehicles for the lesser of the amount of excise tax liability for the individual's vehicle or \$70 each. For details and a Certificate of eligibility refer to <https://www.in.gov/dva/state-of-indiana-benefits-and-services/property-tax-deductions>.

### **State Income Tax**

- Up to \$5,000 of active duty pay is tax-free.
- Up to \$6,250 or more of retired pay or SBP is tax-free.

## **Employment**

Indiana is committed to providing quality employment services to Veterans at our WorkOne Centers. Veterans go to the front of the line and each office has an onsite Veteran's representative that assists with employment needs.

### **Employment Assistance**

All Veterans are encouraged to find their local Veteran Program Contact for assistance at <https://www.in.gov/dwd/veterans-services/contacts>. Prior to visiting one veterans or their eligible spouse are encouraged to go online to complete and download a **Veteran Self Attestation** form at <file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/56716%20fill-in-1.pdf> to expedite their visit. Also, at [http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov/vcc/mil\\_select.aspx](http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov/vcc/mil_select.aspx) is an interactive tool for veterans which allows them to estimate the preparation time required to transition from their military occupation to another one in Indiana. "Transition time," while measured in weeks of academic, technical or vocational training, is a relative measure to provide an estimate of the relative time moving from one type of job to another. Services that are provided to qualified Veterans include:

- Face-to-face review of [IndianaCareerConnect.com](http://IndianaCareerConnect.com), the largest source of job openings in the state.
- Direct referral to jobs (Both established jobs and job development).
- Assistance looking for a job, developing a resume and preparing for an interview.
- Referral to other federal, state and local agencies.
- Information on Veteran's rights and employment benefits.
- Assistance transitioning into civilian employment.
- Training incentives and grants.
- Guidance finding vocational training.
- Post-employment counseling.
- Occupational skills assessment.

These services provide Veterans with the necessary information they need to find and secure suitable employment and make the transition from the military to the civilian workforce. If you are a Veteran, visit your nearest WorkOne Career Center and speak to a Veteran's representative today. All representatives are honorably discharged service members that specialize in assisting in your employment needs.

### **Veterans.gov**

US DOL Veterans.gov at <https://www.veterans.gov> serves America's Veterans and separating service members by preparing them for meaningful careers, providing employment resources and expertise, and protecting their employment rights.

With funding from the U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development provides services to Hoosier

Veterans. Through the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP), and the Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) Program, Workforce Development Offices throughout the State are equipped to assist Hoosier Veterans with their transition from the service to civilian life. The DVOPs specialize in tailored training and job placement opportunities for veterans with service-connected disabilities. LVERs coordinate services provided veterans including counseling, testing, and identifying training and employment opportunities. Contact the nearest Indiana Workforce Development Office and ask for the location of the closest veteran's representative. You can do this either by going to <https://www.in.gov/dwd/WorkOne/locations.html> and clicking on the County areas map to open their contact info or using the below telephone listing by city

<b>City</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Anderson	(765) 642-4981 ext 241 & 240
Auburn	(260) 925-0124 ext 225 & 227
Bedford	(812) 279-4400 ext 227
Bloomington	(812) 331-6002 ext 242 & 243
Columbus	(812) 314-8576 or 8572
Elkhart	(574) 295-0105 ext 19, 20 & 21
Evansville	(812) 424-4473 ext 238 233, 234 & 239
Fort Wayne	(260) 745-3555 ext 356 351, 357 & 352
Franklin	(317) 736-5531
Gary	(219) 981-1520 ext 325 & 339
Hammond	(219) 933-8332 ext 308 309 & 310
Indy Westside	(317) 246-5400, (317) 246-5415, (317) 246-5416, or (317) 246-5417
Indy East	(317) 358-4501 (317) 358-4523, (317) 358-4522 or (317) 358-4524
Kokomo	(765) 459-0571 ext 3019 & 3036
Lafayette	(765) 474-5411 ext 134, 138 & 136
LaPorte	(219) 362-2175
Lawrenceburg	(812) 537-1117 ext 234
Linton	(812) 847-4479
Madison	(812) 265-3734 ext 218
Marion	(765) 668-8911 ext 224 & 225
Martinsville	(765) 342-3324
Michigan Street	(317) -524-4580
Muncie	(765) 289-1861 ext 152 & 153
New Albany	(812) 948-6102 ext 122 140 & 127
New Castle	(765) 529-3010
Portage	(219) 762-6592
Richmond	(765) 962-8591 ext 211 213, & 214
Shelbyville	(317) 392-3279 ext 308 & 332
South Bend	(574) 233-6175 ext 139 & 142

Terre Haute (812) 234-6602 ext 369 370, & 372  
Vincennes (812) 882-8770

In addition to the above, the State Merit System provides for the addition of points for veterans applying for merit positions or promotions within State Government. Learn more about Employment Assistance at <http://www.in.gov/dva/2390.htm>

### **Military CDL Skills Waiver Program**

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles may waive the required skills test for select veterans or active duty personnel of the U.S. Armed Forces who were/are truck drivers during their military service if the applicant applies within one year of discharge and meets all requirements (<https://www.fastport.com/blog/2017/5/17/what-is-the-military-cdl-skills-test-waiverand-how-can-you-use-it>). All military applicants must pass the required written test(s); prove that he/she is regularly employed (or was regularly employed) in a military position requiring operation of a CMV within one year; and certify that during the two years immediately preceding the application for an Indiana CDL he/she meets the following requirements:

- Has not had more than one license (except for a military license);
- Has not had any license suspended, revoked, or cancelled;
- Has not had any convictions for any type of motor vehicle for the disqualifying offenses contained in § 383.51(b);
- Has not had more than one conviction for any type of motor vehicle for serious traffic violations contained in § 383.51(c); and
- Has not had any conviction for a violation of military, State or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control (other than a parking violation) arising in connection with any traffic accident, and has no record of an accident in which he/she was at fault.
- Was operating a vehicle representative of the CMV the driver applicant operates or expects to operate.

To apply take the following steps:

- Visit a BMV branch, pass required written tests(s) and have Commercial Learner's Permit (CLP) issued.
  - Collect necessary documentation:
  - Complete, save and print the "Application for Military Skills Test Waiver" form; Secure the signature of the applicant's Commanding Officer, or responsible person in his/her military chain of command, attesting to the applicant's military driving experience; and
  - Provide copy of DD214 or proof currently active duty; and
  - Provide letter from commander stating applicant has operated a CMV for at least two years immediately preceding discharge from the military; and
  - A copy of military CDL.
- Use one of the following options to submit the completed application packet and contact phone number.
  - Fax: 317-974-1615;
  - Drop documents off at any BMV branch; or

- Mail to: Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Attn: CDL Programs, 100 North Senate Avenue, IGCN, Room N 481, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Applications will be processed and the applicant will be contacted once the submitted documents are verified.

### **Next Level Veterans Initiative (On Hold)**

The Honor Our Vets Program was created under Indiana's Next Level Veterans initiative. Honor Our Vets is sponsored by the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority ("IHCDA") in partnership with Conexus Indiana through INvets. Honor Our Vets is specifically designed to help Indiana employers recruit qualified veterans to fill positions in Indiana by providing relocation assistance to those qualified military veterans through eligible employers. To qualify for relocation assistance, the veteran must create an INvets profile and must be open to relocating from another state to Indiana to accept permanent employment with an Honor Our Vets Participating Employer who has entered into an agreement with IHCDA. The maximum amount of relocation assistance allowed is \$5,000 per household. The Process for veterans to receive assistance is as follows:

- 1.) Veteran must create a profile with INvets. This will allow Honor Our Vets Participating Employers to review your credentials and contact you regarding available positions.
- 2.) Accept a position with an Honor Our Vets Participating Employer. Click here to see a list of employers that participate in the Honor Our Vets program.
- 3.) Confirm with the Honor Our Vets Participating Employer what expenses are eligible for reimbursement and what documentation is needed to receive the relocation assistance before you move.
- 4.) Submit the required documentation to the Honor Our Vets Participating Employer.

The Honor Our Vets Participating Employer will reimburse the veteran for relocation expenses that are eligible in accordance with its relocation policy or procedure in an amount up to \$5,000 per household. Be advised that it can take several weeks to receive reimbursements from the Honor Our Vets participating employer. Refer to <https://www.in.gov/veterans> or <https://www.in.gov/veterans/1029.htm> for additional information. As of this writing the program is not being offered but may be reinstated in the future.

### **Veteran Affairs Chapter 31 Program**

The Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E), sometimes referred to as the Chapter 31 Program, provides services to eligible Service Members and Veterans with service-connected disabilities to help them prepare for, obtain, and maintain suitable employment or achieve independence in daily living. For more information, visit the VA Chapter 31 Program website [Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment \(VR&E\)](#), view the [VR & E Benefit Overview video](#), or contact your local [WorkOne Career Center](#) Veterans' Representative today.

### **Veterans Resources and Services:**

- [Job Seekers with Military Service / Veterans](#)
- [Hire a Veteran](#)
- [WorkOne Veterans Services](#)

- [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) (Federal)
- [VA Mental Health- Veterans Crisis Line](#)
- [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) (Indiana)
- [U.S Office of Personnel Management - Hire A Vet](#)
- [U.S. Department of Labor - Veterans](#)
- [INVETS](#)
- [DOLVETS-Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act \(USERRA\)](#)
- [Start a Veteran Owned Business](#)

## **Education**

### **High School Diploma Program for WWI and WWII Veterans**

Veterans may apply to the Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs for issuance of a high school diploma who served between:

April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918 (World War I)

December 7, 1941 and December 31, 1946 (World War II)

June 27, 1950 and Jan 31, 1955 (Korea) or

Aug 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975 (Vietnam)

Veterans must have

- Attended public or nonpublic high school in Indiana prior to military service
- Been a student in good standing
- Not graduated or received a diploma because of leaving high school for military service; and
- Been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States

Veterans, or their surviving spouses or eligible family members, may submit to the Department of Veteran Affairs Page 1 of the Application For Delayed High School Diploma which is available by clicking on <file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/50900%20fill-in-1.pdf> .

### **Tuition Exemption Programs**

Tuition and Fee Exemption is an Indiana state aid program administered through the Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. These state aid programs provide eligible students tuition exemption for up to 124 hours at any state supported school listed below. Approved students will have 8 academic years to use the 124 hours after they use the exemption for the first time. Students must also complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, each year they intend to use the exemption.

The Student, whether they be the child of the veteran, a Purple Heart recipient, or the former student of the Morton Memorial High School must apply for this benefit on Scholar Track. Paper applications for this benefit are no longer accepted. Scholar Track can be

accessed at <https://scholartrack.che.in.gov/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f#/>. If the student does not have a Scholar Track Account, one can be requested from the log on page. Once the account is active the student can apply by clicking on the Apply for State Aid link and selecting the appropriate category.

The following changes may impact a student's eligibility to be approved for Tuition and Fee Exemption. Effective July 1, 2019:

- If the veteran parent did not enter the Armed Forces of the United States from an Indiana home of record address as annotated on the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD214), the veteran parent must have resided in Indiana for five years prior to the student first applying for Tuition and Fee Exemption as the child of a disabled veteran or child of a Purple Heart recipient.
- The student can be as old as 32 years of age, but must not have reached their 33rd birthday when *first applying and becomes eligible* for the benefit. Note the 32-year-old age limit DOES NOT apply to a Purple Heart recipient applying for this benefit and only applies to the child of the disabled veteran or the child of a Purple Heart recipient.
- If the student is adopted, the adoption must have taken place prior to their 18th birthday.

All students must use the education cost exemption within eight (8) academic years regardless of the veteran's initial enlistment date. However, to minimize the impact of this, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education is grandfathering students who first used the educational cost exemption before July 1, 2011 until students use the exemption again after June 30, 2017. Once these grandfathered students use the exemption after June 30, 2017, they will have eight academic years to use the remaining exemption.

Beginning July 1, 2020, students must maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by the state educational institution. The list of State Supported Schools for these state aid programs are as follows:

Ball State  
Indiana State University  
Indiana University Bloomington  
Indiana University East  
Indiana University Kokomo  
Indiana University South Bend  
Indiana University North West  
Indiana University Southeast  
Purdue University West Lafayette  
Purdue University Northwest (Hammond)  
Purdue University Northwest (Westville)  
Purdue University Fort Wayne  
Purdue Global  
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Indiana University Purdue University Columbus  
Ivy Tech Community College (all Campuses)  
University of Southern Indiana  
Vincennes University  
Western Governor's University (WGU) INDIANA

There are three State Aid Programs for Tuition and Fee Exemption administered by IDVA through [Scholar Track](#). (Students must be eligible for the resident tuition rate for state supported schools in Indiana to use these state aid programs.)

1. Tuition and Fee Exemption for the Child(ren) of a Disabled Veteran or POW/MIA or Purple Heart Recipients Documents needed for eligibility determination:

- a. Proof of relationship to the veteran (step-children are not eligible for this benefit)
- b. Documentation showing veteran's wartime service OR award of Service, Campaign or Expeditionary Medal if all service was during peacetime and equally hazardous duty was performed. If the student is applying as the child of a Purple Heart recipient or child of a POW, and the veteran is not service-connected disabled, proof of award of the Purple Heart Medal or POW status is required.
- c. United States Department of Veterans' Affairs service-connected disability rating award letter
- d. If the veteran's DD214 does not show and Indiana Home of Record at time of entry or is not uploaded with the application in Scholar Track, please include evidence the veteran parent has resided in Indiana for at least 5 years. We can consider an Indiana Driver's record for this purpose and these can be obtained for free on the BMV web page, [CLICK HERE](#). We can also consider Property records that show transfer history, rental agreements, W2's with indiana addresses.

2. Tuition and Fee Exemption for Indiana Purple Heart Recipients

Documents needed for eligibility determination:

- a. Proof of award of the Purple Heart Medal if not already annotated on the DD214 or DD215
- b. DD214 showing an Indiana Home of Record address at the time of entry

3. Tuition and Fee Exemption for Former Students of the Morton Memorial High School/ Soldier's and Sailor's Home

IDVA will verify the student's attendance at the Morton Memorial High School from the cumulative list IDVA has on file. No documents need be uploaded when applying for this program.

***ALL STUDENTS MUST FILE A FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) BEFORE APPLYING FOR THIS BENEFIT IN SCHOLAR TRACK. FAFSA INFORMATION IS FED INTO SCHOLAR TRACK AND MAKES THE APPLICATION PROCESS EASIER. [CLICK HERE FOR THE FAFSA WEB SITE](#)***

For further information on how to apply through [SCHOLAR TRACK](#) and the children's tuition exemption program refer to <https://www.in.gov/dva/state-of-indiana-benefits-and-services/tuition-and-fee-exemption>

### **National Guard Deployment Protection**

National Guard members from Indiana or an adjoining state who attend an Indiana public university are entitled to a tuition refund or credit and guaranteed re-enrollment if they are called to active duty during an academic term.

### **USS Indiana Crewmembers Free Tuition**

Sailors from any state who serve on the new USS Indiana submarine for at least 180 days are entitled to pay in-state tuition at Indiana's public universities if they enroll within one year of receiving an honorable discharge.

## **Recreation**

### **State Parks**

A Hoosier Golden Passport provides unlimited admission to all Indiana State owned parks, recreation areas, reservoirs, forests, historic sites, museums, memorials and other Department of Natural Resource (DNR) facilities. The pass is good for one calendar year.

Persons eligible for a Disabled American Veteran license plate may purchase the Hoosier Golden Passport at DNR facilities around the State. If you have Disabled American Veteran plates on the vehicle simply drive to the gate and the attendant will sell you the Hoosier Golden Passport. If you do not have the plate but believe you are eligible you will be given a form to request the plate, which you must send to the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs for verification.

### **Hunting and Fishing Licenses for Disabled Veterans**

Any Indiana resident who is service-connected disabled by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs may purchase a license to hunt and fish in the State of Indiana for a reduced fee. In order to receive this benefit the veteran must complete the form and instructions on the Application for the Reduced Fee Hunting and Fishing License for Disabled Veterans at <file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/50833%20fill-in-1.pdf> or go to the following locations:

- County Veteran Service Officers <https://www.in.gov/dva/locate-your-cvso>
- Department of Natural Resource Customer Service Center (402 West Washington Street, Room W160A Indianapolis, IN 46204 and is open 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday through Friday)

- Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs (302 W Washington Street, Suite E120, Indianapolis, IN 46204 and is open 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday through Friday)

This will be used to verify that the person completing the form is a service-connected, disabled veteran and authorizes the reduced fee that is verified by the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs. Ref: IC 14-8-2-228.3. For current information about hunting & fishing regulations, as well as other services (events, things to do, etc.), go to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources state webpage <https://www.in.gov/dnr>.

### **Hunting and Fishing Licenses For Active Duty Residents**

Active duty Indiana residents who are carrying leave orders and a valid Indiana driver's license or voter registration card are exempt from purchasing a hunting or fishing license. Non-resident military personnel on active duty and stationed within Indiana qualify for a resident license.

## **Driver and Vehicle Licensing**

### **Motor Vehicle License Plates**

If you are applying for Disabled Hoosier, Purple Heart, or Ex-POW Veteran License Plates you need to complete a Certification of Eligibility form which can be downloaded at <file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/32584%20fill-in.pdf> and submit it in addition to the appropriate documentation required as indicated on the form. IDVA needs to verify the disability is a mobility issue for the eligibility determination for the Disabled Hoosier Veteran License plate.

A person may apply for, receive, and display a disabled Hoosier veteran license plate on the person's vehicle for private and personal use if the person, as the result of having served in the armed forces of the United States, has:

- (1) Lost sight in both eyes or suffered permanent impairment of vision in both eyes to the extent of being eligible for service-connected compensation for the loss;
- (2) Suffered the loss of one (1) or both feet or the permanent loss of use of one (1) or both feet;
- (3) Suffered the loss of one (1) or both hands or the permanent loss of use of one (1) or both hands;
- (4) A united states department of veterans affairs disability rating for a physical condition that precludes the person from walking without pain or difficulty; or
- (5) Been rated by the United States department of veterans affairs as being at least fifty percent (50%) disabled and is receiving service related compensation from the united states department of veterans affairs. At least sixty percent (60%) of the disability rating under this subdivision must be attributable to a mobility disability.

Per Senate Enrolled Act No. 262 effective July 1, 2018, a person who has been issued or is otherwise eligible for the Disabled Hoosier Veteran License plate can obtain a Permanent Handicap Parking placard from the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles. This parking placard does not afford the same no fee at legal metered spaces parking privileges as the Disabled Hoosier Veteran License Plate.

- **Disabled Veteran Plates:** To purchase a new Disabled Hoosier Veteran license plate you must visit any Indiana branch and are required to provide the following on first issuance a Certificate of Eligibility for Veteran License Plate - State Form 32584. Applications may be obtained from either the BMV or the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs who must verify the veteran's eligibility.



- **Ex-Prisoner of War Plates:** The POW license plate is available to all ex-prisoners of war or to the surviving spouse of a deceased POW. Applications for these plates are available from the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs who must verify the eligibility of the applicant. To purchase a new Ex POW or Purple Heart license plate you must visit any Indiana branch and are required to provide a completed Certification of Eligibility for Veteran License Plate - State Form 32584.



- **Purple Heart Plates:** Any Hoosier Veteran who has received the Purple Heart Medal is authorized to have these special license plates. Applications may be obtained at the BMV or from the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs. The veteran must present official documentation of the award, and the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs must verify the veteran's eligibility.



- **Hoosier Veteran Plates:** Any resident of the State who was honorably separated from the active Armed Forces can purchase a Hoosier Veteran license plate. To purchase a new Hoosier Veteran license plate you must visit any Indiana branch and are required to provide at least one of the following -- A United States Uniformed Services Retiree Identification Card; A DD214 or DD215; United States military discharge papers; A current armed forces identification card; An Indiana credential, such as a driver's license, learner's permit, or identification card containing an indication of veteran status. The

indicator is located in the upper right corner on the back of the Indiana credential. An indicator of Veteran (“V”) or Active Military (“AM”) may be accepted. There is a \$15 charge for the Hoosier Veteran plate.



- **Gold Star Plates:** The Gold Star Family license plate is available to the spouses, parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, siblings and children of anyone who died while serving on duty in the military – active, Reserve or National Guard. To purchase a new Gold Star Family license plate you **must** visit any Indiana branch and are **required** to provide t upon first issuance only a Form DD1300 from the Department of Defense or [Affidavit for Gold Star Family License Plate – State Form 54181](#). You will be able to display this plate on passenger cars, trucks up to 11,000 pounds, and recreational vehicles. For more information go to: <https://www.in.gov/bmv/2620.htm>.



- **National Guard:** To purchase a National Guard license plate you must visit any Indiana branch and are required to provide the following annually with registration renewal:

For active members:

- A current U.S. Armed Forces ID, AND
- A letter signed by the individual's commanding officer identifying the individual as a current active member

For former members:

- National Guard Bureau Form 22 or 22A showing the individual received an honorable discharge or general discharge under honorable conditions, OR
- National Guard Bureau Form 23D or 23E showing the individual as retired



- **Other Veteran Related Plates**



<b>Military License Plates</b>	<b>Renew Online</b>	<b>Group Fees</b>	<b>Admin. Fees</b>
<a href="#"><u>Air Force Veteran</u></a>	Yes	\$15	No
<a href="#"><u>Army Veteran</u></a>	Yes	\$15	No
<a href="#"><u>Coast Guard Veteran</u></a>	Yes	\$15	No
<a href="#"><u>Disabled Hoosier Veteran</u></a>	No	No	No
<a href="#"><u>Ex-Prisoner of War</u></a>	Yes	No	No
<a href="#"><u>Gold Star Family</u></a>	No	No	No
<a href="#"><u>Marine Corps Veteran</u></a>	Yes	\$15	No
<a href="#"><u>Merchant Marine Veteran</u></a>	Yes	\$15	No
<a href="#"><u>National Guard</u></a>	No	No	No
<a href="#"><u>Navy Veteran</u></a>	Yes	\$15	No
<a href="#"><u>Pearl Harbor Survivors Association</u></a>	Yes	No	No
<a href="#"><u>Prisoner Of War - Missing In Action</u></a>	Yes	\$25	\$15
<a href="#"><u>Purple Heart</u></a>	Yes	No	No
<a href="#"><u>Support Our Troops</u></a>	Yes	\$20	No

Before you can receive the Air Force Veteran; Army Veteran; Disabled Hoosier Veteran; Ex-Prisoner of War; Gold Star Family; Marine Corps Veteran; Merchant Marine Veteran; Navy Veteran; Pearl Harbor Survivor; or the Purple Heart Recipient license plate for the first time, you must visit a license branch or BMV partner location. You may renew the license plates online. If an organization sponsoring a license plate requires an authorization form to renew the plate, the plate cannot be renewed online.

All plates may be purchased through the mail or at your local license branch. All plates except the Hoosier Veteran plate must be applied for through the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs. The Hoosier Veteran plate does not require the completion of an application form, as do the other veteran plates. For more information on each plate, see eligibility for veteran license plates.

Learn more about Motor Vehicle License Plates at <http://www.in.gov/dva/2385.htm>.

### **Drivers License**

If an indicator is added during a new issuance or a renewal transaction, there is no charge. If the indicator is added to an unexpired credential outside of a renewal transaction, there will be a fee to amend your credentials.

- If you are on *active duty* in the United States Armed Forces, you may choose to have an “active duty military” indicator placed on your credential. To obtain the indicator, you must provide your current military Common Access Card (CAC) during your new issuance or renewal application.

- If you are a *veteran*, you may choose to have a “veteran” indicator placed on your driver’s license. To obtain the indicator, you must present proof of discharge or separation, other than a dishonorable discharge, from the United States Armed Forces.
- If you are a *surviving spouse* of a deceased veteran, you may choose to have a “veteran spouse” indicator placed on your driver’s license. To obtain the indicator, you must present proof of the veteran’s discharge or separation, a marriage certificate, and a death certificate of the deceased veteran.

Visit <https://www.in.gov/bmv/resources/military-families> for additional information regarding active duty/veteran DMV support.

## Burial

### Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery



The Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery is dedicated to Veterans and their families as a lasting memorial, and final resting place, in appreciation and gratitude for their service and sacrifice to our nation. The Cemetery opened for internments on December 1, 1999. It is located adjacent to the Madison State Hospital and Clifty Falls State Park in Madison, Indiana. Any Hoosier veteran eligible to be buried in a national cemetery will be eligible for burial in the Cemetery. Refer to <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/eligibility> for national cemetery eligibility. The spouse of an eligible veteran will also be eligible to be buried there. There is no charge for the grave site or use of the Chapel for Internment services.

- Any eligible Veteran who is an Indiana resident will be buried at no cost to the family.
- Burial of a spouse will require the payment of an opening and closing fee. The fee will be determined by the type of grave site.
- The cost for internment of eligible veteran who are residents of Kentucky or Ohio will be an out of state charge determined by the type grave site selected.
- For additional information you may contact the Superintendent at 812-273-9220.

The National Cemetery Administration’s Assisting Families with Burial page at <https://www.cem.va.gov/funeraldirector.asp> provides valuable information to families and funeral directors regarding the process before, during and after the burial ceremony. Contact data

for the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery is as follows: Alan J. Burnham, Superintendent, Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road, Madison, IN 47250 Tel: (812) 273-9220/F9221 email: [aburnham@dva.in.gov](mailto:aburnham@dva.in.gov) or [ivmc@dva.in.gov](mailto:ivmc@dva.in.gov), Website <http://www.in.gov/dva/2328.htm>

- For a pre-need application go to <https://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-10007.pdf>.
- For a burial application go to <file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/48554%20fill-in.pdf> or contact the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs.
- For a burial flag go to <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/memorial-items/burial-flags>.
- For government headstone or marker go to <https://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-1330.pdf>.
- For a government medallion go to <https://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-1330M.pdf>
- For floral arrangement regulations go to <https://www.in.gov/dva/files/IVMC-FLORAL-REGULATIONS.pdf>.
- Go to [https://www.vetcenter.va.gov/bereavement\\_counseling.asp](https://www.vetcenter.va.gov/bereavement_counseling.asp) for bereavement counseling

Each county auditor in Indiana is authorized to pay up to an amount not to exceed \$100 for the burial of a veteran or the veteran's spouse, and to pay up to \$100 for the setting of a federal headstone. Veterans must have received an honorable discharge, and an application must be filed with the county auditor in the county of residence.

### **Other Veteran Cemeteries in Indiana**

- Marion National Cemetery Marion IN <https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/marion.asp>
- New Albany National Cemetery New Albany IN – space available for cremated remains only <https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/newalbany.asp>
- Crown Hill National Cemetery Indianapolis IN – no new internments <https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/crownhill.asp>
- Indiana State Soldiers' Home Cemetery West Lafayette -- No space available <http://ingenweb.org/intippecanoe/SHCem.html>

## **Taxation**

### **Sales Tax**

- Statewide: 7.0%
- Counties cannot levy an additional sales tax.
- Current average sales tax (with local taxes included): 7.0%
- Common Exceptions at State Level:
  - Prescription Medicine: Exempt

- Unprepared Foods: Exempt
- Prepared foods: 9%
- Gasoline Tax: 60.56 cents/gallon (Includes all state, local, and federal taxes)
- Diesel Fuel Tax: 76.40 cents/gallon (Includes all state, local, and federal taxes)
- Cigarette Tax: .995 cents/pack of 20

### **Personal Income Tax**

- Personal Income Tax Rate Range: 3.23%
- Standard deduction: None
- Personal Exemption Allowance: \$1,000. Dependent Exemption: \$1,000 (may take an additional \$1,500 if dependents meet certain conditions)
- Itemized Deductions Allowed?: Generally not allowed
- State allows county- and city-level income tax.
- Retirement Income
  - Social Security: Exempt
  - IRAs: Taxable at ordinary income tax rates
  - 401Ks/Defined contribution employer retirement plans: Taxable at ordinary income tax rates
  - Private pensions: Taxable at ordinary income tax rates
  - Public Pensions: Taxable at ordinary income tax rates except federal pensions for taxpayers 62 and older who may deduct \$16,000 from Adjusted Gross Income less Social Security
- Military Pay
  - Active Duty Pay: Up to \$5,000 exempt. Remainder taxable to the extent included in federal AGI
  - Military Retirement Pay: Up to \$6,250 exempt if 60 and over\*; new law will phase in an exemption that will be 100% for taxable years beginning with 2022 tax year.
  - Military Disability Pay: Exempt
  - VA Disability Dependency & Indemnity Compensation Benefits: Exempt\*
  - SBP/SSBP/RCSBP/RSFPP: Up to \$6,250 exempt.\*
  - Military Pay Note (\*): If you receive both military retirement pay or survivor benefits in same year, you can't exclude more than \$6,250 total; new law will phase in an exemption that will be 100% for taxable years beginning with 2022 tax year.

### **Property Tax**

- Local municipalities average .86% of the property's assessed value.
- Calculation of assessed value: 100% of fair market value
- Relief programs for:
  - Owner-occupied: Can exempt the lesser of 60% of assessed value or \$45,000; supplemental deduction available.

- Mortgage:
  - Over 65: Can exempt the lesser of half of assessed value or \$12,480 on house value of less than \$182,430 if income less than \$25,000
  - Over 65 Freeze: Assessed value cannot increase more than 2% if income less than \$30,000
  - Disabled Veterans/Surviving Spouse (not remarried): Can exempt \$12,480 or \$24,960 of assessed value if meet certain requirements (WWI surviving spouse: \$18,720)
  - Disabled: Can exempt \$12,480 of assessed value if income less than \$17,000
  - Personal Property Tax: Yes. Rates and exemptions vary.

**Inheritance & Estate Taxes: None**

**Department of Revenue website:** [www.in.gov/dor](http://www.in.gov/dor)

## **WOMEN VETERANS**

Over 33,000 women veterans reside in Indiana. They served in every war period, including World War II, and 1,087 of them are military retirees. Today, there are 2,335 women on active duty (most current information is as of 30 November 2011), not including those serving in the Indiana National Guard or who are members of a Reserve unit. Women veterans often are unaware of the benefits and services available to them. This section is devoted to providing resources for women veterans and their friends and families. Some resources refer to federal benefits and services available through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Other benefits and facilities are specific to the State of Indiana and require Indiana residency to qualify. Also included are resources in Indiana communities which may be of interest to all women.



**Hoosier Women Veterans Registry**

Ladies, please register yourself as a Hoosier Woman Veteran. The purpose of the registry is to serve as an informational bridge to connect women veterans to the numerous resources and benefits that are available and that you are entitled to. The registry is strictly confidential and used only as a link of information among the Hoosier women veteran population. We currently have over 750 women who are registered. You can register with the VA by completing the form at [https://secure.in.gov/dva/files/Hoosier Woman Veteran general Registry.doc](https://secure.in.gov/dva/files/Hoosier_Woman_Veteran_general_Registry.doc) and emailing it to the State Women Veterans Coordinator at [IDVA@dva.in.gov](mailto:IDVA@dva.in.gov). The information you provide with stay within their office and will only be given to the Service Offers if indicated Yes on the form.

### **Women Veterans Coordinators Directory**

Some women have experienced sexual harassment or sexual assault during their military service. VA refers to these experiences as military sexual trauma, or MST. Like other types of trauma, MST can negatively impact a person's mental and physical health, even many years later. If you need counseling or other medical treatment as a result of MST, contact an MST Coordinator or Vet Center for assistance. You can receive care even if you have not filed a claim for the MST related conditions. If you need assistance with filing a claim for compensation related to MST or other conditions, injuries, or diseases you incurred while on active duty, you can call 1-800-827-1000 or contact one of the following DVA Regional Office Women Veterans Coordinators. Note that in addition to MST Counseling they can also assist you with contact information for Vet Centers in other states:

- *Shalanda Martin*, Indianapolis Regional Office, 575 N. Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-1581 Tel: (317) 916-3462
- *Christina McNeely*, Richard L. Roudebush VAMC, 1481 W. 10th St., Indianapolis, IN 46202 Tel: (317) 988-3469
- *Kimm Little*, VA Northern Indiana Health Care System, 2121 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46805 Tel: (260) 426-5431 ext. 71106
- *Judith Kelly*, Richard L. Roudebush VAMC, 1481 W. 10th St., Indianapolis, IN 46202 Tel: (317) 988-4642
- *Kassandra Johnson*, VA Northern Indiana Health Care System, 2121 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46805 Tel: (260) 426-5431 ext. 72969

### **Crisis Hotlines, directory by county**

Refer to <https://secure.in.gov/dva/women-veterans/women-veterans-crisis-hotlines>

### **The National Women's Health Information Center**

A one-stop gateway for women seeking answers to critical health questions. Refer to:

- American Medical Womens' Association <http://www.amwa-doc.org>
- Healthfinder <https://health.gov/myhealthfinder>
- Indiana Commission for Women <https://www.in.gov/icw>

**National Association of State Women Veteran Coordinators**

Refer to <https://www.naswvc.org>

**Women Veteran Call Center**

Refer to <https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/ProgramOverview/wvcc.asp>

**Women of Indiana Who Are Veterans**

Refer to <https://www.facebook.com/Women.Vets.IN>

**Other State Veteran Benefits**

**County Veterans Service Officers**

Ninety-one counties in the State employ a County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO). These CVSO's are veterans who stand ready to help you with your veteran-related needs. The County Veterans Service Offices have all the forms and other information you may need to obtain service from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The Service Officers will assist you in finding the information and resources you need to solve your service-related problems. They are your liaison for all veteran issues as they work closely with The Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs.



For a complete list of CVSOs which was last updated on 12/04/20 that contains names and telephone/email contact data click on <https://www.in.gov/dva/files/CVSO-Roster-for-webpage.pdf>.

**High School Diploma for WWI, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam War Veterans**

Veterans may apply to the Indiana Department of Veterans' Affairs for issuance of a high school diploma. Veterans must have who served between:

- April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918 (World War I),
- December 7, 1941 and December 31, 1946 (World War II),
- June 27, 1950 and Jan 31, 1955 (Korea), or
- Aug 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975 (Vietnam)

Veterans must have also:

- Have attended public or nonpublic high school in Indiana prior to military service
- Been a student in good standing
- Not graduated or received a diploma because of leaving high school for military service
- And been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States

Veterans, or their surviving spouses or eligible family members, may submit [application](#) to the Department of Veteran Affairs.

### **Peddlers, Vendors, or Hawkers License**

State law provides that any wartime veteran who has an honorable discharge shall be granted these licenses by all cities and counties. The license allows the holder to vend, hawk, and peddle goods, wares, fruits, and merchandise in the county and in all cities and towns in the county. A fee may not be charged to the holder of the license by the auditor, by the authorities of any city or town in the county, or by any other officer. The license shall be full and complete authority to vend, hawk, and peddle without the payment of any sum of money. A person who acquires a license is subject to all county, city, or town regulations and ordinances concerning vendors, hawkers, or peddlers, except for those provisions requiring payment of money for obtaining a license. To obtain you county auditor or your local CVSO on where to contact the auditor at. For authority to hold one refer to IC 25-25-2-1 Veterans; right to license without fee at <http://www.in.gov/dva/2384.htm>

### **Vital Documents for Veterans Benefits**

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs and the Indiana State Archives have copies of DD-214's on file for many Hoosier Veterans who entered the service from Indiana. Copies of these will be provided upon request to the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs. The processing time for such a request is usually one or two weeks. The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs or your County Veterans Service Officer can assist you with the paperwork to obtain other documents from the federal government.

Records may also be requested directly from the appropriate military records custodian or the National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100 by completing a Standard Form 180. The form and Instructions for is completion is available at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>.

National Archives Web Page Learn more about Vital Documents for Veterans Benefits at [National Archives Web Page](#).

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At <http://www.in.gov/dva> visit the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs website for contact information and benefits assistance and if needed the 24 Hour Veterans Crisis Line at 800-273-8255 Press 1. Also check out <https://www.moaa.org/content/state-report-card/statereportcard> for current issues affecting veterans residing in Indiana.

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/indiana-state-veterans-benefits.html> | April 2021 ++]