

Serving Those Who Served

The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) is a full-service state agency that assists veterans, their family members and survivors.

1-800-562-2308

By partnering with local, state and federal agencies, WDVA offers a complete referral service to provide veterans with accurate and current information on the entire range of veterans' benefits and entitlements.

www.dva.wa.gov

WDVA is committed to meeting the needs of our state's recently deployed veterans and their families serving in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Noble Eagle.

As they return home, our goal is to ensure a successful transition from active duty to civilian life by providing help with jobs, training, counseling and emergency financial assistance.

**Call our Toll-Free Phone Number
1-800-562-2308 to be connected to a
service officer near you.**

**Why Go It Alone?
We're YOUR Department
of Veterans Affairs**

**Call Us Today!
1-800-562-2308**

www.dva.wa.gov



Washington State
Department of Veterans Affairs
Service Center
PO Box 41155
Olympia, WA 98504-1155

Washington State Guide for Families of Veterans

“Serving Those Who Served”



**1-800-562-2308
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The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs stands ready to provide guidance to the families of Veterans.

1-800-562-2308

Important documents to have available when applying for benefits from the Federal VA and the Social Security Administration:

- Discharge from the Armed Forces or DD Form 214
- Marriage License
- Divorce Decree
- Birth Certificates of Children
- Death Certificates
- Adoption Papers

Important information to pre-record:

- Veteran's, Spouse's and Dependent Children's Social Security Number
- Veteran's Service Number
- Veteran's VA Claim Number
- Veteran's Insurance Number
- Location of VA Claim File
- Location of G.I. Insurance File
- Pastor's Telephone Number
- Funeral Home Telephone Number

Medical Benefits for Dependents and Survivors

CHAMPVA provides reimbursement for most medical expenses. To qualify, you must be:

- 1) the spouse or child of a veteran who has been rated permanently and totally disabled by the VA for service-connected disabilities; or
- 2) the surviving spouse or child of a veteran who died of a service-related disability or who was rated permanently and totally disabled at the time of death.

Burial Benefits - Public Law 106-65 provides burial benefits for veterans buried in a private cemetery. These include at no cost, a Government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate. Ask the Funeral Home Administrator about Military Honors. Qualifying veterans, service members, spouses and dependents may be eligible for burial in a VA National Cemetery.

Death Pension - Pension benefits are available for surviving spouses of deceased veterans who have not remarried, and unmarried dependents of deceased veterans if:

- 1) the veteran served more than 90 days of active duty military service; and
- 2) served at least one day during a period of wartime; and
- 3) received any discharge other than dishonorable.

This benefit is based on certain income and asset limitations. There may also be additional benefits for those needing aid and attendance or for those who are permanently housebound.

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

DIC benefits may be available for surviving spouses who have not remarried, unmarried dependent children, and low-income parents of deceased service members or veterans. Eligibility requirements include:

- 1) veteran must have died from an illness or injury related to his/her active duty service; or
- 2) the veteran was rated totally disabled for 10 years or more directly preceding death; or
- 3) the veteran was rated totally disabled for at least 5 years from date of discharge; or
- 4) the veteran was a former prisoner of war (POW).

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Counseling

WDVA provides an outreach/counseling program to honorably discharged veterans with war-era and PTSD-related problems and their family members.

Home Loan Guarantees - Eligibility requirements for a home loan guaranty for family members include:

- 1) an unremarried spouse of a veteran who died while in service or from a service connected disability, or
- 2) a spouse of a serviceperson missing in action or a prisoner of war for more than 90 days.

Educational Assistance - Benefits may be available to dependents and spouses who have not remarried, based on the veteran's length and degree of service-related disability, or other qualifying factors for service members.

Employment Preference - Preference for public employment is given to surviving spouses of honorably discharged wartime veterans, and spouses of honorably discharged veterans with a permanent and total service-connected disability.

Veterans Assistance Fund - County aid for indigent families of deceased veterans who have resided in Washington State for at least one year may be available.

Why Go It Alone?

WDVA provides services and outreach across the state through Veterans Service Offices and by training local post and chapter service officers to assist veterans in obtaining benefits.

WDVA Contracted Veteran Service Offices

African-American PTSD Group	253-589-0766
American Legion	206-341-8262
American Veterans	253-472-2822
Military Order of Purple Heart	206-341-8296
Nat'l Assoc. for Black Veterans	253-582-0895
Veterans of Foreign Wars	206-341-8284
Vietnam Veterans of America	206-341-8294