

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES**  
**TRANSITION TOOLKIT**



**HONORABLY SERVING THOSE  
WHO HAVE SERVED US**

# Welcome Home

## **Massachusetts Veterans and Families,**

It is my distinct privilege to present the first edition of the Executive Office of Veterans Services (EOVS) Transition Toolkit.

This guide will serve as a handy reference as you make your transition to civilian life in Massachusetts, helping you understand and navigate the myriad programs, services, and benefits available to you and your family.

To keep this guide concise and navigable, each section highlights some of the top benefits and programs by theme, from housing and education to employment. If you wish to conduct further research on a given topic, links to additional resources can be found at the conclusion of this Toolkit.

I would be remiss if I did not thank those whose previous work had an influence on the creation of this Toolkit. We are grateful for the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, CalVet Veterans Resource Guide, the Department of Labor's VETS Resource Guide, and many others whose efforts contributed to this work.

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you and your family home to Massachusetts. I thank you for your sacrifice to this country and we at EOVS look forward to continuing to honorably serve those who served us.

Sincerely

**Secretary Jon Santiago, MD, MPH**



**Secretary Jon Santiago**  
**MD, MPH**

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**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF  
VETERANS SERVICES**

# VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

Upon your separation from the military, one of the first and most critical relationships to establish is with your local Veterans Service Officer (VSO). Located in cities and towns across Massachusetts, VSOs are dedicated to helping you and your family access your veteran benefits, such as Chapter 115 financial assistance, healthcare, housing, and education.



Your VSO can also help you apply for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs benefits, including service-connected disability claims, job readiness, home loans, and burial benefits.



Locate your Veterans Service Officer today.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

# MASSACHUSETTS WOMEN VETERANS NETWORK

**The Executive Office of Veterans Services (EOVS) is the central resource for Women Veterans in Massachusetts.**

Established in 1997, the Women Veterans Network (WVN)'s mission is to find women who served in the military, some of whom may not be aware that they are veterans and eligible for benefits they have earned through their service.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



## CONTACT INFORMATION:

600 Washington Street, 7th Floor  
Boston, MA 02111

Phone: 781-308-9682  
[susan.mcdonough2@mass.gov](mailto:susan.mcdonough2@mass.gov)





# STATEWIDE ADVOCACY FOR VETERANS EMPOWERMENT (SAVE) PROGRAM

**SAVE is a peer outreach program that connects veterans, helps them access benefits and services, and supports their mental health.**

SAVE acts as a liaison between veterans, their families, and the various federal and state government agencies to advocate for veterans who cannot obtain benefits due to institutional or personal barriers.

The program's primary mission is to prevent suicide and mental health distress.

The SAVE team works closely and in collaboration with the Massachusetts National Guard. Resources offered by the Massachusetts National Guard and their Family Readiness Program are available to all service members and their families, regardless of the branch in which they serve.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



## CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Dan Brennan, Program Coordinator**  
600 Washington St., 7th Floor  
Boston, MA 02111

Phone : 617-210-5743  
[save@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:save@massmail.state.ma.us)

# SUPPORTING & EMPOWERING REINTEGRATION FOR VETERANS EQUALITY (SERVE)

SERVE specialists provide peer support to Veteran Treatment Courts (VTC) and Diversion programs. Each program aims to assist veterans by connecting them with services and supporting them in the pre-court process.

VTC programs are court-supervised, treatment-focused collaboratives for defendants who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

SERVE specialists work with primarily non-VA eligible veterans to complete either program through a coordinated effort among the veteran's services delivery system, community-based providers, and the court.



## CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Dan Brennan, Program Coordinator**  
600 Washington St., 7th Floor  
Boston, MA 02111

Phone: 617-210-5743  
[daniel.brennan@mass.gov](mailto:daniel.brennan@mass.gov)



# MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERIES

Massachusetts has two state veteran cemeteries, one in Agawam and one in Winchendon. Eligible veterans can be buried at no cost, while there is a nominal fee for the burial of spouses and eligible dependents.

The cemeteries welcome eligible veterans and their dependents.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

### Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Winchendon

111 Glenallen Street  
Winchendon, MA 01475

Phone: (978) 297-9501  
Fax: (978) 297-4271

### Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam

1390 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001

Phone: (413) 821-9500  
Fax: (413) 821-9839





# MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS HOME AT CHELSEA

Established in 1882, the Massachusetts Veterans Home at Chelsea, formerly the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea, is a state-funded, fully accredited healthcare complex that offers veterans quality domiciliary care and full-time residential accommodations. The Veterans Home provides the following programs and benefits for eligible Veterans of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: long-term care, residential care, social work services, supportive care services, and pastoral care services.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Robert Engell, Acting Superintendent

91 Crest Avenue  
Chelsea, MA, 02150

Phone: (617) 884-5660

Fax: (617) 884-1162

Email: [Robert.Engell@mass.gov](mailto:Robert.Engell@mass.gov)





# MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS HOME AT HOLYOKE

Established in 1952, the Massachusetts Veterans Home at Holyoke, formerly the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke, is a long-term health care facility available to eligible veterans of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Veterans Home at Holyoke offers the following programs and benefits for eligible Veterans of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: long-term care, residential care, social work services, and supportive care services.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Michael Lazo, Superintendent  
110 Cherry Street  
Holyoke, MA, 01040

Phone: (413) 532-9475

Fax: ((413) 538-7968

Email: Michael.Lazo2@mass.gov



# HOUSING, EQUITY, RESILIENCE, AND OUTREACH SERVICES (HEROES)

HEROS works to address housing insecurity among Massachusetts veterans. HEROS supports a range of comprehensive solutions alongside public and private partners. In addition to programs and services for veterans who are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless, including emergency shelters, food pantries, and counseling services, HEROS works with housing providers to create more veteran-specific supportive housing.



## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Noah Coolidge. Director of Housing, Outreach, and Expansion  
600 Washington St., 7th Floor  
Boston, MA 02111

Phone: (339) 277-1153  
Email: [noah.coolidge@mass.gov](mailto:noah.coolidge@mass.gov)

# MASSVETS

## (INCLUDING ANNUITY BENEFIT)

The Executive Office of Veterans Services offers a financial safety net program called **MASSVETS** to low-income veterans living in the Commonwealth to help pay for daily living expenses, medical costs, housing, and other necessities.

Veterans can contact their local Veterans Service Officer to apply.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

**If you are unable to contact your VSO, Reach out to the Executive Office of Veterans Services Director of Benefits, Evan Makrinikolas, directly at [evan.makrinikolas@mass.gov](mailto:evan.makrinikolas@mass.gov) or by calling (617) 210-5480.**

The Executive Office of Veterans Services also offers an annuity to certain disabled veterans, parents of deceased veterans, and the unmarried spouses of deceased veterans living in Massachusetts. The annuity is \$2,000, payable biannually on August 1st and February 1st in two installments of \$1,000 each.



[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

**If you have any questions or concerns, please email the Executive Office of Veterans Services Annuity Department at [VetsAnnuity@Mass.Gov](mailto:VetsAnnuity@Mass.Gov) or call 617-210-5480.**

# VETERAN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING (VEETS)

VEETs connects veterans to a variety of education, employment, and training services as they transition to civilian life in Massachusetts or are looking to make a career change. Massachusetts veterans and their eligible spouses receive comprehensive assistance as they explore career and educational opportunities, with EOVS helping them navigate the myriad employment and educational resources available to them throughout the Commonwealth.



## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Michael Aldred, Director of Veterans Employment Opportunities  
600 Washington St., 7th Floor  
Boston, MA 02111

Phone: (617) 872-4405  
Email: [michael.aldred2@mass.gov](mailto:michael.aldred2@mass.gov)



# **MASSACHUSETTS**

# **VETERAN BONUSES**

Administered by the Office of the State Treasurer and Receiver General, the Veterans Bonus Division provides bonus payments for veterans, service members, and their families for qualified service in the U.S. military.

## **MASSACHUSETTS WELCOME HOME "GWOT" BONUS**

The Welcome Home "GWOT" Bonus is reserved for active and discharged service members who served after September 11, 2001, with six months of continuous active service within the Continental United States (CONUS), outside the continental U.S (OCONUS), or Service in Iraq, Afghanistan, or other imminent danger locations.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

## **MASSACHUSETTS COVID-19 BONUS FOR MASS NATIONAL GUARD**

The Massachusetts COVID-19 Bonus is available to members of the National Guard who were activated in response to the state of emergency declared by the governor on March 10, 2020. Eligible members may be entitled to a first/one-time \$500 bonus or a \$250 subsequent bonus for any additional activations during the eligibility dates from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

## **PERSIAN GULF WAR VETERANS BONUS**

The Persian Gulf War Veterans Bonus is available to veterans who lived in Massachusetts before entering the military, served honorably, and served within the timeframe of August 2, 1990, to April 10, 1991. This is a one-time bonus of \$300 for active service for at least 30 days in an area other than the Persian Gulf and a \$500 bonus for active service in the Persian Gulf area and awarded the Southwest Asia Service Medal.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

# ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL (AFEM) BONUS (1976 – 2001)

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal Bonus is a one-time \$300 bonus for veterans who lived in Massachusetts immediately before entering the military, served honorably, and were awarded the AFEM for participation in combat operations when no other bonus was available. The main years that this bonus covers are 1976–1989 and 1992–2000.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

# VIETNAM CONFLICT, WORLD WAR II AND KOREAN WAR VETERAN BONUSES

Massachusetts veterans and family members of deceased veterans of the Vietnam Conflict, World War II, and the Korean War are eligible for their bonuses.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)



# EDUCATION

# POST 9/11 GI BILL

The Post-9/11 GI Bill offers financial support for education, housing, and more.

To be eligible for 100% benefits, an individual must have:

- Served on active duty for at least 1,095 days (36 months)
- Received a Purple Heart post-9/11, or
- Served for 30 continuous days with a service-connected disability discharge.

For those who served less than 36 months, eligibility is partially determined by the total time served on active duty, with or without breaks. The percentage of benefits varies based on the duration of service:

- Less than 90 days: Ineligible
- 90 days to 6 months: 50%
- 6 months to 1 year: 60%
- 1 to 18 months: 70%
- 18 to 24 months: 80%
- 24 to 30 months: 90%
- 30 to 36 months: 100%

Days	Months	% of Benefit
<b>910 to 1,094 days</b>	30 to 35 months	90% of the full benefit
<b>730 to 909 days</b>	24 to 29 months	80% of the full benefit
<b>545 to 729 days</b>	18 to 23 months	70% of the full benefit
<b>180 to 544 days</b>	6 to 17 months	60% of the full benefit
<b>90 to 179 days</b>	90 days to 5 months	50% of the full benefit

## **GI Bill full rates for school and training programs: August 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024**

The amounts listed below are the maximum the VA will pay within an academic year for each type of school or training program.

Find out the full rate based on what type of school you're attending:

<b>Institution</b>	<b>GI Bill Benefit</b>
<b>Public institution of higher learning (state university/community college)</b>	All net tuition/fees
<b>Private institution of higher learning</b>	Net tuition/fees up to \$27,120.05
<b>Foreign institution of higher learning</b>	Net tuition/fees up to \$27,120.05 in U.S dollars
<b>Non-college degree programs</b>	Net tuition/fees up to \$27,120.05
<b>Flight Training</b>	Net tuition/fees up to \$15,497.15
<b>Correspondence school</b>	Net tuition/fees up to \$13,172.57

### **Monthly Housing Allowance**

Veterans eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill may also receive financial assistance for housing while studying. The Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) is disbursed at the end of each month and is calculated based on two factors:

- The percentage of post-9/11 GI Bill benefits the veteran is eligible for
- Amount of credits the veteran is taking, or how many clock hours they're scheduled to attend per week.

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE\*\*](#)

## **GI BILL COMPARISON TOOL**

The GI Bill Comparison tool allows you to learn about and compare your GI Bill benefits at approved schools, employers, and VET TEC providers. It highlights the total tuition benefit, housing benefit, accreditation, and number of GI bill students enrolled at the institution.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **YELLOW RIBBON PROGRAM**

The Yellow Ribbon Program can help pay for higher out-of-state, private school, foreign school, or graduate school tuition and fees that the Post-9/11 GI Bill doesn't cover. For veterans who already have Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, this program may help pay for tuition at a college or other institution of higher learning. The amount of money awarded varies by school, degree type, and the academic program one is enrolled in. Find out if a school participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program and see the additional amount they offer.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **MASSACHUSETTS CATEGORICAL TUITION WAIVER**

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education (DHE) Categorical Tuition Waiver provides financial support to active members of the Armed Forces stationed/residing in MA and veterans discharged honorably who served 90 days or more. Assistance continues as long as the student meets all the eligibility criteria. For more info and to apply to this program visit the link below or call the DHE's Office of Student Financial Assistance at (617) 391-6070.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL GUARD TUITION & FEE WAIVER**

The Massachusetts National Guard Education Assistance Program provides a 100% tuition and fee waiver for Massachusetts Army National Guard members attending a state college, university, or community college program. You can continue as long as you are in good academic standing until you have reached 130 semester hours. You must request a Certificate of Eligibility for every 30 credits from the MA National Guard Education Office to apply. To request on call: (508) 968-5889.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM**

The Massachusetts Public Service Grant is a financial benefit for students who have experienced the loss of a parent and spouse in the line of public service duty in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Public Service Grant Program is based on something other than demonstrated financial need; for any questions, call the Office of Student Financial Assistance at (617) 391-6070.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **MASSACHUSETTS SOLDIERS LEGACY FUND**

Since 2004, the Massachusetts Soldiers Legacy Fund (MSLF) has provided funds for current and future college/university students whose parents were killed on deployment during Operations Enduring or Iraqi Freedom. Call 508-630-2382, or

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



## **VETERANS UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM**

The Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) Program is a pre-college program that aims to assist veterans in developing the necessary academic skills for acceptance, success, and completion in a program of post-secondary study. The program provides assessment and enhancement of essential skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring, and academic instruction in the core subject areas.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **MY CAREER ADVANCEMENT ACCOUNT (MYCAA) - SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The My Career Advancement Account Scholarship is a workforce development program that provides up to \$4,000 in financial assistance to eligible military spouses to pursue a license, certification, or associate's degree necessary to gain employment in an occupation or career field.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **GROW WITH GOOGLE**

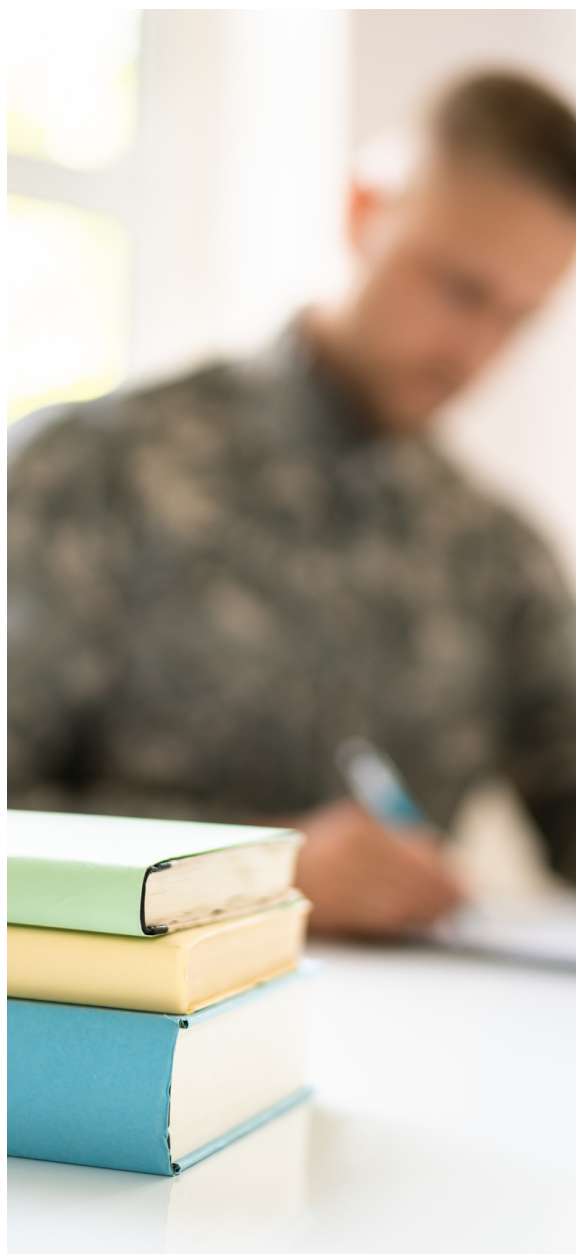
Through Google Career Certificates and its partnership with stakeholders like Hiring Our Heroes and the U.S. Department of Labor, military community members can earn certificates in high-growth fields like data analytics, IT support, and project management.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## VA WORK STUDY ALLOWANCE PROGRAM

The VA Work Study Allowance Program is a program that allows students receiving VA educational benefits to earn money while they are working on their education. This program is funded by the VA, with participating individuals paid directly by the VA.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



# HOUSING AND OUTREACH CENTERS

The Executive Office of Veterans Services supports select non-profit organizations that provide housing services to eligible veterans. Housing services range from emergency homeless shelters and group residences to single occupancy (SRO) quarters.

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>WEBSITE</b>
<b>Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center, Inc.</b>	247 Steven Street, Suite E Hyannis, MA 02610	508-778-1590	<a href="https://capeveterans.com/">https://capeveterans.com/</a>
<b>North Shore Veterans Counseling Service Inc</b>	45 Broadway Beverly MA 01915	978-921-4815	<a href="http://www.northshoreveterans.com/">http://www.northshoreveterans.com/</a>
<b>Pine Street Inn</b>	444 Harrison Ave, Boston, MA 02118	617-892-9100	<a href="https://www.pinestreetinn.org/">https://www.pinestreetinn.org/</a>
<b>Veterans Association of Bristol County</b>	755 Pine Street Fall River, MA 02720	508-679-9277	<a href="https://thevabc.com/">https://thevabc.com/</a>
<b>Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center, Inc.</b>	268 Central Street Gardner, MA 01440	978-632-9601	<a href="https://www.veterans-outreach.org/">https://www.veterans-outreach.org/</a>
<b>Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, Inc</b>	10 Reed Street Haverhill, MA 01832	978-372-3626	<a href="https://vneoc4vets.org/">https://vneoc4vets.org/</a>
<b>Veterans Outreach Center - Metrowest</b>	40 Mechanic Street, Suite 101 Marlborough, MA 01752	508-460-9993	<a href="https://vneoc4vets.org/">https://vneoc4vets.org/</a>
<b>Community Health Center of Cape Cod</b>	107 Commercial Street Mashpee, MA 02649	508-477-7090	<a href="https://chcofcapecod.org/">https://chcofcapecod.org/</a>
<b>Soldier On</b>	425 North Main Street Northampton, MA 01053	413-582-3059	<a href="https://wesoldieron.org/">https://wesoldieron.org/</a>
<b>Bilingual Veterans Outreach Center</b>	281 Franklin Street Springfield, MA 01104	413-731-0194	<a href="http://bilingualvets.org/">http://bilingualvets.org/</a>
<b>Veterans Inc.</b>	69 Grove Street Worcester, MA 01605	508-791-1213	<a href="https://www.veteransinc.org/">https://www.veteransinc.org/</a>
<b>New England Center and Home for Veterans</b>	17 Court Street Boston, MA 02108	617-371-1800	<a href="https://nechv.org/">https://nechv.org/</a>
<b>Veterans Transition House</b>	20 Willis Street New Bedford, MA 02740	508-992-5313	<a href="http://www.vetshouse.org/">http://www.vetshouse.org/</a>
<b>Bedford Veterans Quarters</b>	200 Springs Road Bedford, MA 01730	781-843-1242 x18	<a href="https://caritascommunities.org/our-properties/bedford-200-springs-road/">https://caritascommunities.org/our-properties/bedford-200-springs-road/</a>
<b>Habitat P.L. U.S., Inc.</b>	520 Essex Street Lynn, MA 01902	781-599-8578	<a href="https://www.transitionalhousing.org/li/habitat_p_l_u_s_inc_01902">https://www.transitionalhousing.org/li/habitat_p_l_u_s_inc_01902</a>
<b>Armistice Homestead</b>	116 Pearl Street Leominster, MA 01453	978-466-7778	NA
<b>Pine Street Inn</b>	444 Harrison Avenue Boston, MA 02118	617-892-9100	<a href="https://www.pinestreetinn.org/">https://www.pinestreetinn.org/</a>
<b>Veterans Hospice Homestead</b>	3 Victory Lane Gardner, MA 01440	978-632-1271	<a href="https://volunteer.uwncm.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=72676">https://volunteer.uwncm.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=72676</a>

**CAREER AND  
EMPLOYMENT  
RESOURCES**

## **MASS VETERAN EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Veterans Employment Representatives (VERs) are state employees in the Commonwealth's MassHire Career Centers. VERs assist veterans with organizing their job search, crafting a personal employment plan, writing a resume, and developing job leads.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SKILLBRIDGE**

The Department of Defense SkillBridge program allows service members to gain vital civilian work experience through specific industry training, apprenticeships, or internships during their last 180 days. SkillBridge connects transitioning service members with industry partners in real-world job experiences.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **HIRING OUR HEROES**

Hiring Our Heroes (HOH) connects the military community with businesses nationwide to create economic opportunity and a solid, diversified workforce. This includes professional and individualized guidance for veterans to ensure that they have the support to transition and find a new career.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **OFF-BASE TRANSITION TRAINING (OBTT)**

OBTT is a program for veterans and their spouses that offers robust workshops to help meet their employment goals. OBTT offers ten in-person and virtual workshops at no cost. Veterans can mix and match workshops to meet their employment goals and attend conferences at their own pace.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **USAJOBS**

USAJOBS connects job seekers with federal employment opportunities across the United States and worldwide. Suppose you're a veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and were separated under honorable conditions. In that case, you may be eligible for veteran's preference and other veteran-specific hiring options.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **VETERANS SERVICE BUYBACK (MSRB)**

Massachusetts state veteran employees may be eligible to purchase up to four years of military service if they qualify as veterans, as defined in M.G.L. c. 32, Section 1.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **AMERICAN CORPORATE PARTNERS MENTORING PROGRAM**

ACP matches employees from some of the nation's largest corporations and universities with veterans for mentoring, networking, and career counseling.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **CYBERSECURITY CAREERS FOR VETERANS**

The National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers & Studies (NICCS) aims to create more cybersecurity professionals at all levels, actively recruiting veterans and transitioning military personnel into open cybersecurity jobs nationwide.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **USO PATHFINDER TRANSITION PROGRAM**

Working with USO Transition Specialists, the USO Transition Program connects service members with strategic partners during their transition to assist them with matters such as employment, education, financial readiness, mentorship, and access to veteran's benefits.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (USPS) CAREERS FOR VETERANS**

Currently employing nearly 100,000 veterans, the USPS aims to help veterans secure stable employment at the Postal Service. USPS offers positions and programs tailored for veterans, including its Intern Program for veterans who are students and its Professional Development Program for transitioning veterans.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



**BUSINESS**

## **BUNKER LABS**

Bunker Labs provides educational courses and support to help military veterans and spouses start and grow successful businesses and startups.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **BOOTS TO BUSINESS (B2B) PROGRAM**

Offered by the Small Business Association as part of the Department of Defense's Transition Assistance Program (TAP), Boots to Business (B2B) is an entrepreneurial education and training program that provides veterans with an overview of business ownership. B2B is open to transitioning service members, including National Guard and Reserve components, along with their spouses. Email [boots-to-business@sba.gov](mailto:boots-to-business@sba.gov), call 202-205-8381, or

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS**

SBA offers support for veterans as they enter the world of business ownership. Please look for funding opportunities, training, and federal contracting opportunities.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

**HEALTHCARE**

# VA HEALTHCARE IN MASSACHUSETTS

The VA operates and manages various healthcare facilities across the Commonwealth for veterans to seek multiple treatment options.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

VA Health Care System	Address	Phone Number
<b>Bedford: Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital</b>	200 Springs Road, Bedford, MA 01730	781-687-2000
<b>Jamaica Plain: VA Boston Healthcare System</b>	150 S Huntington Ave, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130	617-232-9500

VA Medical Center	Address	Phone Number
<b>Brockton: VA Boston Healthcare System, Brockton Campus</b>	940 Belmont St, Brockton, MA 02301	508-583-4500
<b>Jamaica Plain: VA Boston Healthcare System, Jamaica Plain Campus</b>	150 S Huntington Ave, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130	617-232-9500
<b>Leeds: VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System</b>	421 North Main Street, Leeds, MA 01053	413-584-4040
<b>West Roxbury: VA Boston Healthcare System, West Roxbury Campus</b>	1400 Vfw Pkwy, West Roxbury, MA 02132	617-323-7700

<b>Outpatient Clinic</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
<b>Boston: Causeway OPC</b>	251 Causeway St, Boston, MA 02114	617-248-1000

<b>Community Service Programs</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
<b>Lowell: Lowell Veterans Community Care Center</b>	130 Marshall Rd, Lowell, MA 01852	800-865-3384

<b>Community Based Outpatient Clinic</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
<b>Fitchburg: Fitchburg Outpatient Clinic</b>	881 Main Street, Philip J. Philbin Federal Building, Fitchburg, MA 01420-	978-342-9781
<b>Framingham: Framingham Outpatient Clinic</b>	61 Lincoln St Ste 112, Framingham, MA 01702	508-628-0205
<b>Gloucester: Gloucester Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)</b>	199 Main St, Gloucester, MA 01930	978-283-0296
<b>Greenfield: Greenfield Outpatient Clinic</b>	143 Munson St, Greenfield, MA 01301	413-773-8428
<b>Haverhill: Haverhill Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)</b>	209 Summer St, Haverhill, MA 01830	978-372-5207
<b>Hyannis: Hyannis Outpatient Clinic</b>	233 Stevens St, Hyannis, MA 02601	508-771-3190
<b>Lowell: Lowell Outpatient Clinic</b>	130 Marshall Rd, Lowell, MA 01852	978-934-8494

Community Based Outpatient Clinic	Address	Phone Number
<b>Lynn: Lynn Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)</b>	225 Boston St Ste 107, Lynn, MA 01904	800-838-6331
<b>New Bedford: New Bedford Outpatient Clinic</b>	175 Elm St, New Bedford, MA 02740	508-994-0217
<b>Pittsfield: Pittsfield Outpatient Clinic</b>	78 Center Street, Silvio Conte Building, 2nd Floor Pittsfield, MA 01201-5692	413-499-2672
<b>Plymouth: Plymouth Outreach Clinic</b>	116 Long Pond Road Plymouth, MA 02360	800-865-3384
<b>Quincy: Quincy Outpatient Clinic</b>	110 W Squantum St, Quincy, MA 02171	800-865-3384
<b>Springfield: Springfield Outpatient Clinic</b>	5 Bond St, Springfield, MA 01104-3401	413-731-6000
<b>Worcester: Worcester Outpatient Clinic</b>	605 Lincoln St, Worcester, MA 01605	508-856-0104

## HOW TO APPLY FOR VA HEALTHCARE

Find out how to apply for VA health care benefits.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## VA DISABILITY CLAIM

VA disability compensation provides tax-free monthly payments to qualifying veterans. Any veteran with a service-connected condition (an illness or injury that was caused by—or worsened because of active military service) may be eligible for compensation.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

# MASSACHUSETTS VET CENTERS

VA-operated Vet Centers offer confidential counseling services to veterans, service members, and their families, addressing war-related issues and transitions. Staffed by experienced counselors, many of whom are veterans, these community-based centers provide support for war-related challenges, loss, grief, and trauma transitions.

Mass Vet Centers	Address	Phone Number
<b>Boston Vet Center</b>	7 Drydock Avenue, Suite 2070 Boston, MA 02210-2303	857-203-6461
<b>Brockton Vet Center</b>	1 Pearl Street, Suite 2300 Brockton, MA 02301-5400	508- 580-2730
<b>Cape Cod Vet Center</b>	474 West Main Street Hyannis, MA 02601-3653	508- 778-0124
<b>Lowell Vet Center</b>	10 George Street Lowell, MA 01852-2241	978- 453-1151
<b>New Bedford Vet Center</b>	73 Huttleston Avenue, Unit 2 Fairhaven, MA 02719-3156	508- 999-6920
<b>Springfield Vet Center</b>	95A Ashley Avenue, Suite A West Springfield, MA 01089-1352	413-737-5167
<b>Worcester Vet Center</b>	255 Park Ave, Suite 900 Worcester, MA 01609	508-753-7902

## PACT ACT

The PACT Act is a recent law that broadens VA health care and benefits for veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances. It introduces additional health conditions presumed to be service-connected due to such exposures, enhancing the VA's ability to offer deserving veterans and their survivors the care and benefits they have earned.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **VA BOSTON HEALTHCARE TRANSPORTATION**

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) provides free van rides to and from VA Boston Healthcare System facilities to veterans who don't have other transportation options. The options include transportation to Brockton VA Medical Center, Jamaica Plain VA Medical Center, and the West Roxbury VA Medical Center. For more info on travel requirements and availability, call 857-364-5234.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **HOME BASE**

Home Base is a national non-profit partnered with the Boston Red Sox and Massachusetts General Hospital. It is dedicated to healing the invisible wounds of war for veterans of all eras through world-class, direct clinical care, wellness, education, and research – all at no cost - regardless of period of service, discharge status, or geographical location.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **CENTER FOR ANXIETY & TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDERS**

The Center for Anxiety & Traumatic Stress Disorders & Complicated Grief at Massachusetts General Hospital conducts cutting-edge research to enhance the care for individuals with anxiety disorders. They offer outpatient evaluation and treatment for adults dealing with persistent worry, anxiety, traumatic stress, and prolonged grief. For more information, contact them at 866-449-6779 or via email at [anxietystudy@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:anxietystudy@mgh.harvard.edu).

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



## **AMERICAN RED CROSS - MILITARY & VETERAN CAREGIVER NETWORK (MVCN)**

The Military & Veteran Caregiver Network (MVCN) by the American Red Cross is a hub for community-based resources, national support organizations, and nationwide programs and services. Support categories encompass food, housing, goods, transit, health, money, care, education, work, and legal, with search filters tailored for veterans, service members, and caregivers. For general inquiries about the MVCN, email [info.mvcn@redcross.org](mailto:info.mvcn@redcross.org).

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **LUNG CANCER & VETERANS - LUNG CANCER GROUP**

The Boston-based Lung Cancer Group is dedicated to supporting those who have been affected by lung cancer, mesothelioma, or other asbestos-related diseases. The Group provides in-depth info on lung cancer, mesothelioma, treatment options, and resources to support veterans and their families. Learn about these conditions and available resources by calling 866-931-5155.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **MASSACHUSETTS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER HELPLINE**

The Mass Substance Use Disorder Helpline is the only statewide public resource for finding substance use treatment, recovery, and problem gambling services. Helpline services are free and confidential, with caring, trained specialists to help you understand the treatment system and your options 24/7. Call: 800-327-5050.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT (WWP)

Through their direct programs in mental health, career counseling, long-term rehabilitative care, and advocacy efforts, the WWP has worked with millions of veterans and their families to foster a well-adjusted generation of wounded service members.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTERS (CBHC)

CBHCs are one-stop shops that offer a range of mental health and substance use disorder services. There are 25 CBHCs throughout Massachusetts.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## VETERANS CRISIS LINE

The Veterans Crisis line is a free, confidential support line available 24/7, 365 days a year that connects you with a real person qualified to support veterans via call, chat, or text. Veterans don't have to be enrolled with VA benefits or health care to call.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



# HOUSING

## VA HOME LOAN

The VA Home Loan helps veterans and eligible surviving spouses become homeowners through a home loan guarantee benefit and other housing-related programs that help them buy, build, repair, retain, or adapt a home for their occupancy. VA Home Loans are provided by private lenders such as banks and mortgage companies. VA guarantees a portion of the loan, enabling the lender to offer more favorable terms. To learn more and begin the application process visit the link here.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## DISABILITY HOUSING GRANTS FOR VETERANS

The VA offers housing grants for veterans with specific service-connected disabilities to buy or adapt a home to meet their needs and live more independently. These changes can include things like installing ramps or widening doorways. To be eligible for a Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) Grant, you must own or will own the home and have a qualifying service-connected disability.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## HOME IMPROVEMENTS & STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS (HISA)

HISA benefits provide medically necessary improvements and structural alterations to a veteran's primary residence for the following purposes: allowing entrance to or exit from their homes, use of essential lavatory and sanitary facilities, allowing accessibility to kitchen or bathroom sinks or counters, improving plumbing/electrical systems, and more. HISA can provide lifetime benefits up to \$6,800.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## HOMES FOR OUR TROOPS (HFOT)

Homes for Our Troops is a publicly funded non-profit organization that builds and donates specially adapted custom homes nationwide for severely injured post-9/11 veterans, enabling them to rebuild their lives.

HFOT builds these homes where the veteran chooses to live and continues its relationship with the veteran after home delivery.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## FISHER HOUSE FOUNDATION

Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military and veteran families can stay free of charge while a loved one is in the hospital. These homes are located at military and VA medical centers around the world. Fisher Houses have up to 21 suites with private bedrooms and baths. Families share a common kitchen, laundry facilities, a warm dining room, and an inviting living room.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## HOUSING NAVIGATOR MASS

Housing Navigator Massachusetts, Inc. is a non-profit promoting equity and ease in finding a home. With its free online tool, veterans can search for affordable rentals statewide by zip code.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



# METROLIST

MetroList is Boston's primary resource for finding income-restricted housing. MetroList has listings across Greater Boston and information to help you find affordable housing.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

# CLEAR PATH FOR VETERANS NEW ENGLAND

Clear Path NE is a New England-based non-profit with a mission to build a safe, supportive, and respectful place for veterans to seek the help and resources they need to integrate into their communities successfully. These services include a Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program for Veterans, pre-separation sponsorships, a service dog program, health and wellbeing programming, and a homeless veterans reintegration program (HVRP). Call 978-384-8800, email [info@clearpathne.org](mailto:info@clearpathne.org) or,

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



# PROPERTY TAX

## EXEMPTIONS

**To qualify, all veterans and applicable spouses must:**

- Be legal residents of Massachusetts;
- Occupy the property as their domicile on July 1 in the year of application;
- Have lived in Massachusetts for at least six months before entering the service (spouses are exempt);
- Have lived in Massachusetts for five consecutive years before filing for a property tax exemption.

Eligibility Criteria	Tax Exemption Amount
<p><b>10% (or more) service-connected disabled veterans; Purple Heart recipients; Gold Star mothers and fathers; Spouses of veterans entitled under Clause 22; Surviving spouses who do not remarry.</b></p>	<p>\$400.00</p>
<p><b>Loss or loss of use of one hand above the wrist, or one foot above the ankle or one eye; Medal of Honor; Distinguished Service Cross; Navy Cross or Air Force Cross.</b></p>	<p>\$750.00</p>
<p><b>Loss or loss of use of both hands or feet; loss of use of one hand and one foot as described above; Loss or loss of use of both eyes (blind).</b></p>	<p>\$1,250.00</p>
<p><b>It is rated by the VA to be permanently disabled and has specially adapted housing.</b></p>	<p>\$1,500.00</p>
<p><b>Surviving spouses (who do not remarry) of soldiers, sailors, or members of the Guard whose death occurred as a proximate result of an injury sustained or disease contracted in a combat zone or who are missing in action with a presumptive finding of death as a result of combat as members of the armed forces of the United States.</b></p>	<p>Total exemption so long as the spouse does not remarry.</p>
<p><b>Veterans that are 100% disabled by the VA.</b></p>	<p>\$1,000.00</p>

Contact your local [Veterans Service Officer \(VSO\)](#) for more information.



# **LEGAL SERVICES**

## **VETERAN LEGAL SERVICES**

Veterans Legal Services' mission is to promote self-sufficiency, stability, and financial security of homeless and low-income veterans through free and accessible legal services.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **THE VETERANS CONSORTIUM**

The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program is a leading national charity that offers free legal representation to veterans, their families, and survivors at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

They provide legal representation for veterans who received an “other than honorable” discharge. They also offer bi-weekly legal advice and referral clinics in DC, Maryland, and Virginia to veterans and their loved ones.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **HARVARD VETERANS LEGAL CLINIC**

The Veterans Law Unit represents veterans and their family members when they cannot afford an attorney, striving to help them attain the maximum stability and financial well-being.

The clinic also provides legal education training to community groups and service providers on topics relevant to veterans.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

**OTHER BENEFITS,  
SERVICES, AND  
RESOURCES**

## MASSACHUSETTS MOTOR VEHICLE BENEFITS

The RMV makes certain exemptions from regular procedures and waives specific fees for military service members, veterans, and their spouses/dependents. At the link below, information can be found to apply for license plates and decals, obtain a Veteran's Indicator on a Massachusetts driver's license or ID card, understand the licensing requirements, and learn about available tax exemptions for disabled veterans.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## VETERAN TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

Veteran Transportation Resources is a compilation of information about transportation services in Massachusetts to help veterans get to medical appointments, jobs, and other destinations. Transportation services targeted to veterans are available in many regions to help veterans access medical care at the VA or travel to other destinations.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR VETS RESOURCES (DOL VETS)

DOL VETS is committed to helping America's veterans, separating service members and military families by preparing them for meaningful careers, providing employment resources and expertise, and protecting their employment rights. VETS includes a list of DOL transition-related resources available to service members.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## MASS VET ADVISOR

A consolidated list of federal and Massachusetts benefits and services available to veterans.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **OUTWARD BOUND VETERANS**

Outward Bound for Veterans helps thousands of returning service members and recent veterans readjust to life at home through powerful wilderness courses that draw on the healing benefit of teamwork and challenge through the use of the natural world.

Courses are open to active-duty servicemen, servicewomen, and veterans of all conflicts who have deployed as a part of their service.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **GARY SINISE FOUNDATION**

The Gary Sinise Foundation is a charity and veterans service organization that offers a variety of programs, services, and events for wounded veterans. Among its programs is constructing specially adapted smart homes for severely wounded veterans that are provided mortgage-free. The Gary Sinise Foundation has built 81 specially adapted smart homes for severely damaged heroes, served more than 950,000 meals across the country, and about 500 support concerts for service members sponsored by the foundation.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## **TEAM RUBICON**

Team Rubicon is a veteran-led humanitarian organization that serves global communities before, during, and after disasters and crises by providing relief.

By pairing the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders, medical professionals, and technology solutions, Team Rubicon aims to provide the greatest service and impact possible.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

# OUR TEAM



## OUR CONTACT



[mass.gov/vets](https://mass.gov/vets)



617-210-5480



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