

**Ohio**

**Department of  
Veterans Services**

**BENEFITS  
RESOURCE  
GUIDE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This Benefits Resource Guide is here to assist those of us who help Veterans and their families. This guide is not for distribution to the Veteran. This is a reference for service officers and Veteran representatives to help them provide Veterans with the information they need.

Updates will be sent out periodically. If you did not receive this resource guide directly from the Ohio Department of Veterans Services, please contact us so that we can provide you with updates and other appropriate information to meet your needs.

Thank you for assisting those who are serving and those who have served our country.

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services

Web site: [www.dvs.ohio.gov](http://www.dvs.ohio.gov)

E-mail: [ohiovet@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:ohiovet@dvs.ohio.gov)

Telephone: 614-644-0898

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Bonuses	Section A
Education	Section B
Employment	Section C
Financial Assistance	Section D
Healthcare	Section E
Home Loans	Section F
Legal	Section G
License Plates	Section H
Military Injury Relief Fund (MIRF)	Section I
Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame	Section J
Ohio Veterans Homes	Section K
Records	Section L
Recreation Benefits (outdoor activities)	Section M
Small Business	Section N
Taxes	Section O
Family Support Network	Appendix I
County Veterans Service Offices	Appendix II
VA Medical Facilities within Ohio	Appendix III
VA phone numbers & websites – commonly used	Appendix IV
Veteran Organizations Represented on ODVS Advisory Committee	Appendix V

Full document updated and dispersed June 2009

Table of Contents, A-1, B-1, G-1 and Appendix V updated & dispersed 11/2009

Full document updated and dispersed November 2010

# Bonuses

## *State*

### **Persian Gulf, Iraq & Afghanistan Bonus**

#### **Description:**

Bonus for those that served during/in the Persian Gulf, Iraq and/or Afghanistan conflicts.

#### **Eligibility:**

Veterans (including currently serving service members) can determine if they are eligible by visiting the website and using the eligibility tools.

#### **Contact:**

Applications and Q&A are located at:

[www.veteransbonus.ohio.gov](http://www.veteransbonus.ohio.gov) or at any of Ohio's 88 County Veterans Service Offices

877-OHIOVET (644-6838) option 2

**Previous Wars** – acceptance of applications for the WWII Bonus ended July 1950 – acceptance of applications for the Korean War Bonus ended January 1959 – acceptance of applications for the Vietnam Bonus ended January 1978

Bonus records are kept in the records office at the Ohio Department of Veterans Services

# Education

## ***Federal***

### **GI BILL**

There are currently two programs available under the GI Bill:

- The MGIB program provides up to 36 months of education benefits. This benefit may be used for degree and certificate programs, flight training, apprenticeship/on-the-job training and correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances. *Generally, benefits are payable for 10 years following your release from active duty.* This program is also commonly known as Chapter 30.
- The Post-9/11 GI Bill is for individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. The Post-9/11 GI Bill will become effective for training on or after August 1, 2009.

#### **Contact-**

1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551)

<http://www.gibill.va.gov/>

[http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI\\_Bill\\_Info/benefits.htm#General](http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/benefits.htm#General)

### **Troops To Teachers**

#### **Description:**

Assisting the transition of eligible military personnel to a new career as public school teachers in schools serving students from low-income families

#### **Location in the United States Code –**

20 USC 6672

#### **Contact:**

(614) 728-4801 or 888-387-6446 or via email at [Chris.Picha@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:Chris.Picha@dvs.ohio.gov)

## ***State***

### **Ohio War Orphans Scholarship**

#### **Description –**

- Tuition assistance to children of deceased or severely disabled Ohio veterans who served in the armed forces during a period of declared war or conflict.
- DEADLINE IS JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> OF EACH YEAR

**Eligibility:**

- Veteran parent must be deceased or severely disabled – level of disability and financial situation is considered
- Student must be enrolled for full-time undergraduate study at an eligible Ohio college or university
- Ohio residence is required
- Applicant must be under 25

**Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 5910.01

**Contact:**

Applications are available at CVSOs, High School Guidance Offices and college financial aid offices

Ohio Board of Regents can be contacted at: 888-833-1133 or via e-mail @

[wo\\_admin@regents.state.oh.us](mailto:wo_admin@regents.state.oh.us)

[http://regents.ohio.gov/sgs/war\\_orphans/](http://regents.ohio.gov/sgs/war_orphans/)

**Ohio Safety Officers College Memorial Fund****Description:**

- Tuition waiver for children of a member of the United States Armed Services who was killed in the line of duty during OEF or OIF
- Tuition waiver (for up to four years of undergraduate education) for the spouse or qualified former spouse of a member of the US Armed Services killed in the line of duty while serving in a combat zone after May 7, 1975

**Eligibility:**

- Spouse must be an Ohio resident at the time the member was killed
- Need a 'Report of Casualty' DD Form 1300

**Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 3333.26

**Contact:**

Ohio Board of Regents can be contacted at: Barb Thoma 614-752-9535

<http://regents.ohio.gov/sgs/oso/>

614-752-9535

Ohio Safety Officers College Memorial Fund

**Ohio GI Promise****Description:**

- Created by an executive order issued by Governor Ted Strickland authorizing the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents to deem qualified veterans as Ohio residents for the purpose of qualifying for in-state tuition rates.
- Residency Officer at each public institution has sole authority to request any documentation in order to make the final determination of residency status.

**Eligibility:**

- Qualified veterans must meet the following, three requirements: 1) be eligible for federal GI Bill education benefits, 2) moving and remaining domiciled in Ohio, and 3) participating in an approved community service or co-op/internship program. Their spouse and dependents may qualify for in-state tuition rates for any term of enrollment **started after July 8, 2008.**
- In-state tuition rates may be taken advantage of simultaneously by qualified veterans, their spouses and any qualifying dependents.
- PLEASE CONTACT THE HOTLINE BELOW FOR MORE DETAILS

**Location in Ohio Law:**

Governor Strickland's Executive Order 2008-17

**Contact:**

Hotline: 1-877-VETS-OH-1 (1-877-838-7641)

<http://uso.edu>

**Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program****Description:**

- Subject to available funding, provides 100 percent tuition to Army and Air Guard Members attending a two or four-year public college or university.
- Available up to 12, full-time quarters or eight full-time semesters.

**Eligibility:**

- Must commit to and/or complete a six-year enlistment in the Ohio Guard
- Must maintain good attendance at their unit drills.

**Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 5919.34

**Contact:**

Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program Office @ 614-336-7032 or 888-400-6484

<http://www.ongsp.org>

***Local*****High School Diploma****Description:**

- School district/city board of education may grant a high school diploma to any veteran of WWII, Korean Conflict or Vietnam Conflict.
- School district/city board of education may grant a high school diploma to any woman who left high school during WWII, Korean Conflict or Vietnam Conflict.
- If a person who qualifies for a diploma under this program is deceased the school district/ city board of education may award posthumously.

**Eligibility:**

- Veteran left school prior to graduation to serve in the armed forces or left school prior to graduation due to family circumstances and subsequently entered the armed forces.
- Veteran has not been granted a diploma.
- Veteran received an honorable discharge.
- A woman left school prior to graduation in order to join or subsequently join the workforce to support her family or to join the work effort.

**Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 3313.616

**Contact:**

Applications are available at CVSOs. The CVSO will process the request through the school district or local board of education.



# Employment

## *Federal*

### **Veterans' Employment & Training Service (VETS)**

The mission statement for VETS is to provide veterans and transitioning service members with the resources and services they need to succeed in the 21st century workforce by maximizing their employment opportunities, protecting their employment rights and meeting labor-market demands with qualified veterans today.

#### **Location in United States Code:**

38 USC 41

#### **Contact:**

United States Department of Labor  
877-872-5627  
[www.dol.gov/vets/](http://www.dol.gov/vets/)

### **USERRA – Uniform Services Employment & Re-employment Act**

#### **Description:**

A federal law intended to ensure that persons who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, Reserves, National Guard or other "uniformed services"

- are not disadvantaged in their civilian careers because of their service,
- are promptly reemployed in their civilian jobs upon their return from duty, and,
- are not discriminated against in employment based on past, present, or future military service.

#### **Location in United States Code:**

Title 38 Chapter 43

#### **Contact:**

US Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service Ohio Office  
614-466-2768  
[www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra](http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra)

### **Troops To Teachers**

#### **Description:**

Assisting with the transition of eligible military personnel to a new career as public school teachers in schools serving students from low-income families.

#### **Location in the United States Code:**

20 USC 6672

#### **Contact:**

(614) 728-4801 or 888-387-6446 or email [Chris.Picha@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:Chris.Picha@dvs.ohio.gov)

### **Helmets to Hardhats**

#### **Description:**

The fastest way for Military, Reservists, & Guardsmen to transition from active duty to a career in the construction industry.

#### **Contact:**

866-741-6210

<http://www.helmetstohardhats.org/>

### **Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR)**

#### **Description:**

A Department of Defense organization that seeks to promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees. Established to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law and resolving conflict through mediation.

#### **Location in the US Department of Defense Directive:**

DoD Directive 1250.1

#### **Contact:**

800-336-4590

<http://www.esgr.org/>

### **Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (also known as VR&E or VET90 or Chapter 31 program)**

#### **Description:**

Assist veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs. For veterans with service-connected disabilities so severe that they cannot immediately consider work, the program offers services to improve their ability to live as independently as possible.

#### **Location in the United States Code:**

Title 38 Code of Federal Regulations Chapter 31

#### **Contact:**

1-888-2WORK-411 (1-888-296-7541), Option 5

Or contact a Vet Rep – list provided at:

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/veterans/locate/index.stm>

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/veterans/>

## ***State***

### **Veterans Service Unit (VSU) – Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services**

- SERVE VETERANS
- provides employment and training services to all veterans that Title 38 Chapter 42 indicates are eligible for their services.

#### **Contact:**

1-888-2WORK-411 (1-888-296-7541), Option 5

Or contact a Vet Rep – list provided at:

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/veterans/locate/index.stm>

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/veterans/>

### **OhioMeansJobs.com**

#### **Description:**

This is your Ohio website that allows you to search all electronic job opportunities which include Ohio employers, national commercial job boards and niche industries. It offers the opportunity to post your resume, **free of charge**.

#### **Contact:**

Ohio Department of Development – Ohio Means Jobs

888-296-7541, Option 2

Website (post resume / job search):

<http://ohiomeansjobs.com/omj/>

# Financial Assistance

## *Federal*

### **Department of Defense Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP)**

#### **Description:**

The Department of Defense Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP) assists eligible homeowners who face financial loss when selling their primary residence homes in areas where real estate values have declined because of a base closure or realignment announcement.

#### **Eligibility:**

The following are general eligibility requirements – if unsure if qualify, apply anyway for formal determination:

- There has to be an announcement of a base closing or realignment action which affects your community
- A determination must be made that real estate values have dropped as a direct result of the base closing or realignment announcement
- Applicant must be a military service member or federal civilian employee assigned at or near the installation announced for closure or realignment

#### **Contact:**

<http://hap.usace.army.mil>

## *State*

### **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)**

#### **Description:**

This Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) program to help low-income Ohioans pay their utility bills.

#### **Eligibility:**

HEAP is a federally funded program designed to assist eligible low-income Ohioans with their winter heating bills. Households may be eligible for assistance from HEAP if the household's income is at or less than 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. If you are eligible, the amount of your benefit will depend on federal funding levels, how many people live with you, your total household income and the primary fuel you use to heat your home. In most cases, benefits will be a credit applied to your energy bill by your utility company. Emergency HEAP may also be available.

#### **Contact:**

Ohio Department of Development

800-282-0880 or 614-644-6600

<http://development.ohio.gov/Community/ocs/heap.htm>

## **Restoring Stability – A Save the Dream Ohio Initiative**

### **Description:**

This Ohio Hardest-Hit Fund (HHF) Program helps Ohio homeowners struggling to make their monthly house payments or those that have already fallen behind in their mortgage. Through the program, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) will administer federal foreclosure funding to help families dealing with a permanent or temporary loss of income to avoid foreclosure. Includes Rescue Payment Assistance, Partial Mortgage Payment Assistance, Modification Assistance with Principal Reduction, and Transitional Assistance.

### **Eligibility:**

Homeowners who have experienced a financial hardship and are currently at-risk of mortgage loan default or foreclosure.

### **Contact:**

888-404-4674

[www.savethedream.ohio.gov](http://www.savethedream.ohio.gov)

## **Smart Money Choices**

### **Description:**

The office of the Ohio Treasurer of State offers an educational series that consists of financial education programs, workshops, and conferences. Topics include budgeting, credit and debt management, elder care, entrepreneurship, estate planning, home ownership, identity theft and fraud prevention, insurance, investments, kids and money, stress to success, retirement planning and Social Security.

### **Contact:**

Ohio Treasurer of State

800-228-1102

<http://www.tos.ohio.gov/ForYou/Default.aspx?Section=Smart%20Money%20Choices>

## ***Local***

Emergency financial assistance program for veterans and immediate family members - administered and funded through each of Ohio's 88 counties (see appendix II)

# Health Care

## *Federal*

### **Suicide Prevention Hotline**

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

#### **Description:**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has established a national suicide prevention hotline to ensure that veterans in emotional crisis have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. To operate the Veterans Hotline, the VA partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Veterans can call the Lifeline number, 1-800-273-TALK (8255), and press "1" to be routed to the Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline.

#### **Contact:**

800-273-8255

<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/Veterans/Default.aspx>

### **Medical Centers**

#### **Description:**

The Veterans Health Administration is home to the largest integrated health care system consisting of 153 medical centers, in addition to numerous community based outpatient clinics, community living centers, Vet Centers and Doms. Together, these health care facilities provide comprehensive care to more than 5.5 million\* Veterans each year.

VHA Medical Centers provide a wide range of services including traditional hospital-based services such as surgery, critical care, mental health, orthopedics, pharmacy, radiology and physical therapy.

In addition, most of the medical centers offer additional medical and surgical specialty services including audiology and speech pathology, dermatology, dental, geriatrics, neurology, oncology, podiatry, prosthetics, urology, and vision care. Some medical centers also offer advanced services such as organ transplants and plastic surgery.

*\* As of Fiscal Year 2008, as reported in the Department of Veterans Affairs FY 2010 Budget Submission.*

#### **Contact:**

Appendix III contains a listing of VA Medical Facilities in Ohio

<http://www1.va.gov/health/MedicalCenters.asp>

## ***State***

### **Ohio Cares**

#### **Description:**

Ohio Cares is a collaboration of state & local agencies supporting the behavioral health of returning OIF/OEF veterans and their families. The purpose of this program is to enhance the services available for military personnel and their families and to complement the services available through the VA.

#### **Contact –**

Emergencies: VA Telenurse available 24 hrs/day @ 888-838-6446

For information: 800-761-0868

<http://www.ohiocares.ohio.gov/>

## ***Local***

Transportation to and from VA medical appointments is available through many of Ohio's 88 County Veterans Service Offices (see appendix II)

# Home Loans

## *Federal*

### **VA Home Loan Guaranty**

1-800-729-5772

<http://www.homeloans.va.gov/index.htm>

### **Location in United States Code:**

38 USC 3702

## *State*

### **Ohio Heroes Program**

#### **Description:**

Ohio Housing Finance Agency offers all benefits of their first time home buyer program to Ohio's heroes at a ¼% lower interest rate

#### **Eligibility:**

- Be Active military, Active Reserve, or a Veteran
- Also eligible for this program are: Firefighters, EMTs, Paramedics, Health Care Workers, Police Officers, teachers
- Meet the income and sales price limits
- Be a first time home buyer (have not owned in the last three years)
- Qualify for the loan requested and have a signed Purchase and Sales Agreement

#### **Contact:**

888-362-6432

<http://www.ohiohome.org/homebuyer/faqs.aspx>



# Legal

## *Federal*

### **USERRA – Uniform Services Employment & Re-employment Act**

#### **Description:**

A federal law intended to ensure that persons who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, Reserves, National Guard or other “uniformed services”

- are not disadvantaged in their civilian careers because of their service,
- are promptly reemployed in their civilian jobs upon their return from duty, and,
- are not discriminated against in employment based on past, present, or future military service.

#### **Location in United States Code:**

Title 38 Chapter 43

#### **Contact:**

US Department of Labor, Veterans’ Employment and Training Service Ohio Office  
614-466-2768

[www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra](http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra)

### **Federal Trade Commission**

Fighting Back Against Identity Theft -

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>

Free Credit Report –

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/credit/cre34.shtm>

## ***State***

### **Patriot Program**

#### **Description:**

- A pro bono (free of charge) program that provides volunteer lawyers and special counsel from the Ohio Attorney General's Office to assist military personnel and their families with various legal issues including exercising their rights under the Service Members Civil Relief Act, formerly known as the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act (SSCRA), and the Uniform Services Employment and Re-employment Act of 1994 (USERRA).
- Legal assistance is available for wills, powers of attorney, living wills, and durable powers of attorney for health care.
- Program works in cooperation with the Judge Advocate General offices of the military branches of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) to provide these services.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Reserve & National Guard personnel and their dependents

#### **Contact:**

Ohio Attorney General's Office 866-444-3577 or their website at <http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/ServicesforVeterans#Services%20for%20active-duty%20military>

# License Plates

## *State*

### **Military License Plates**

- More than 90 varieties of military license plates
  - Including active duty, reservists, Ohio National Guard, combat plates & Gold Star Families
  - These plates cost the same as a regular plate

### **Free license plates**

- 100 percent service connected disabled veteran
- Medal of Honor recipient
- Former Prisoner of War (POW)
- Purple Heart recipient

### **Free drivers license**

- 100 percent service connected disabled veteran

### **Eligibility**

- The veterans must have their DD-214 to present to the BMV in order to obtain a special military/veteran plate – the DD-214 must confirm the plate type requested (i.e. if you request a Purple Heart plate, your DD-214 must state you received a Purple Heart)

### **Contact**

1-866-675-2837

[www.Oplates.com](http://www.Oplates.com)

Deputy Registrar license agency locations:

[http://bmv.ohio.gov/county\\_lst.stm](http://bmv.ohio.gov/county_lst.stm)

Disability plates can be reviewed at:

[http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/disability\\_plate.stm](http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/disability_plate.stm)

Specialty plates can be reviewed at:

[http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/special\\_plates.stm](http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/special_plates.stm)

# Military Injury Relief Fund

## ***State***

### **Description:**

- Grants money to individuals injured while in active service as a member of the armed forces of the United States and while serving under Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom.
- MIRF is exempt from federal tax.
- Effective August 21, 2008 MIRF is exempt from state tax.
- May apply EACH state fiscal year (July 1-Jun 30).

### **Eligibility:**

- Must be an Ohio resident at the time of application.
- Proof of injury (injury must have occurred while serving under OIF or OEF).
  - Documentation of the awarding of the Purple Heart -OR-
  - Documentation of any incident which the service member is injured while receiving hazardous duty, combat, or hostile fire pay -OR-
  - Documentation of any incident in which the service member is injured and ODJFS finds documentation acceptable.
    - Service connected disability incurred while serving in OIF or OEF as determined by US Department of VA.

### **Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 5101.98

### **Contact:**

Applications can be completed at each of the 88 County Veterans Service Offices Program falls under the Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services – Veteran Services Unit

888-296-7541 (option 5)

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/veterans/new/mirf.stm>

# Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame

## *State*

### **Description:**

- Created by Governor George Voinovich in 1992.
- The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Committee (consisting of all veterans) selects approximately 20 inductees annually from nominations submitted throughout the year.
- This is NOT a Military Hall of Fame. Those inducted have served honorably in the military and have continued to serve and contribute in their communities, state, and nation in an exemplary manner.
- Nominations are accepted all year but to be considered for the November Induction Ceremony packets must be received by June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

### **Eligibility:**

- Served honorably in the military.
- Contributed to their community in a commendable way.
- Born in Ohio or lived in Ohio for at least 5 years.
- Must have received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces and must provide a copy of discharge papers with the nomination.
- Be of good moral character, no felony convictions.
- Posthumous nominations are accepted.
- NOTE: Restrictions apply to those that are employed by ODVS, state elected officials, members of the executive committee and foundation for the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame and County Veterans Service Commissioners

### **Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 5904

### **Contact:**

Nomination packets can be printed off of the website at:

[http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans\\_hall\\_of\\_fame.aspx](http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans_hall_of_fame.aspx)

Or you can contact Karen Kish, the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Coordinator, directly at 614-752-8941 or [Karen.Kish@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:Karen.Kish@dvs.ohio.gov)

Mail packets to: Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, Karen Kish, 77 S. High Street, 17th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215

# Ohio Veterans Homes

## *State*

### **Brief Description:**

Comprised of two facilities:

- A home located in Sandusky, Ohio (approximately 60 miles west of Cleveland).
  - In addition to offering standard and special care in its licensed nursing home, it also offers Veterans Hall, a domiciliary (DOM) for those who are able to function in an independent living situation, and DOM+ for those requiring very limited assistance (supervised care) but who do not require the level of care provided to nursing home residents
- A home located in Georgetown, Ohio (approximately 45 miles east of Cincinnati).
  - A licensed nursing home providing two levels of nursing care – standard care and special care (Alzheimer/ Dementia)

All residents have the freedom and convenience of a small community as well as the comforts of a home-like setting. The Ohio Veterans Home Agency offers a quality of life, which emphasizes privacy, encourages independence, provides comfort and security, and meets social needs

### **Eligibility –**

- Must have been an Ohio resident for 5 years.
- Served on active duty during a time of war or armed conflict or be the recipient of the Purple Heart, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy/ Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, or Southwest Asia Service Medal.
- Have received their most recent discharge under honorable conditions.
- Be disabled by disease, wounds, or otherwise and, by reason of such disability, incapable of earning a living.
- Individuals who are current drug and alcohol abusers, psychotics, or have active tuberculosis are not eligible for immediate admission.

### **Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 5907

### **Contact:**

1-800-572-7934

Pre-admission form and application can be found on website:

[http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans\\_homes/admission\\_information.aspx](http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans_homes/admission_information.aspx)

# Records

## *Federal*

### **National Archives – St. Louis, Missouri**

866-272-6272 – select Military Personnel Records Option (*fees may apply*)

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/>

### **The National Archives and Records Admin. – College Park, Maryland**

**1-866-272-6272** (*fees may apply*)

<http://www.archives.gov/research/order/>

### **Military Awards & Decorations (issuance or replacement)**

Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the veteran served. However, for Air Force (including Army Air Corps) and Army personnel, the National Personnel Records Center will verify the awards to which a veteran is entitled and forward the request with the verification to the appropriate service department for issuance of the medals.

#### **Contact:**

The eVetRecs (<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/>) is preferred for requesting medals and awards. Provide as much information as possible in the comments field. Should you prefer to submit your request using a SF180, (<http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/standard-form-180.html>) provide as much information as possible and send the form to the appropriate address from the tables located at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/replacement-medals.html?template=print>.

## *State*

### **Ohio National Guard Library**

**614-336-7038**

### **Ohio Department of Veterans Services – Records Office**

Our office has discharge papers from the early to mid-1900's to current for those veterans that enlisted from Ohio and requested a copy to go back to the state. We also record wartime bonus records prior to 1993.

#### **Contact:**

A request form must be completed and sent to: **Ohio Department of Veterans Services**, 77 South High Street, 17th Floor, Columbus, and Ohio 43215 OR it may be faxed to 614-728-9498.

Forms are available on our website at

[http://dvs.ohio.gov/home/request\\_for\\_records.aspx](http://dvs.ohio.gov/home/request_for_records.aspx) or you may call our office at 877-644-6838 or 614-466-5453

# Recreation Benefits

## *State*

### **Free Hunting License**

#### **Eligibility:**

100 percent disabled veterans (most benefits apply if veteran is permanently and totally disabled per the VA) and a former POW

#### **Contact:**

Hunting & Fishing Licenses for qualified veterans  
FOR INFORMATION CALL 1-800-WILDLIFE (945-3543)

### **Free Fishing License**

#### **Eligibility:**

100% disabled veterans (most benefits apply if veteran is permanently and totally disabled per the VA) and former POW

#### **Contact:**

Hunting and Fishing Licenses for qualified veterans  
FOR INFORMATION CALL 1-800-WILDLIFE (945-3543)

### **Free Registration of Watercraft**

#### **Eligibility:**

100 percent disabled veterans (most benefits apply if veteran is permanently and totally disabled per the VA) and former POW & Medal of Honor Recipients

#### **Contact:**

Boating Licenses for qualified veterans  
FOR INFORMATION CALL 877-426-2837

### **Free Camping at Ohio State Parks**

#### **Eligibility:**

100 percent disabled veterans (most benefits apply if veteran is permanently and totally disabled per the VA) and former POW

#### **Contact:**

Camping at Ohio State Parks  
FOR INFORMATION CALL 877-426-2837  
<http://ohiodnr.com/camps/discounts/tabid/205/Default.aspx>



# Small Business

## *Federal*

### **US Small Business Administration**

SBA's Office of Veterans Business Development is responsible for liaison with the Veterans business community, for policy analysis and reporting, for acting as an Ombudsman for Veterans in Small Business Administration programs, for providing business training, counseling and assistance, and for overseeing the Federal procurement programs for Veteran and service-disabled Veteran-owned small businesses.

#### **Contact:**

202-205-6773

<http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/ovbd/index.html>

## *State*

### **Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC)**

The PTA centers help Ohio's businesses sell goods and services to local, state and federal governments. In addition to services like marketing, one-on-one training and help with information resources, the Ohio PTA Centers offer bid-matching services, product and procurement histories, military specifications, and trade events where Ohio firms can meet government buyers. These services are provided at no cost to Ohio businesses.

#### **Other services include:**

- Bid Preparation Assistance
- Post Award Assistance
- Subcontracting Assistance

A broad range of procurement technical assistance services is provided through a network of centers located throughout the state. The program is part of a nationwide network of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC) created and monitored by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). In Ohio, the Ohio Department of Development is hosting the program at the Minority Business Enterprise Division in partnership with the DLA and the Ohio Small Business Development Centers program. In addition, the program is supported by a number of community-based organizations serving local businesses.

#### **Contact:**

Office of the Ohio Procurement Technical Assistance Program, 1-800-848-1300 or 614-466-5700 (Fax: 614-466-4172).

### **1<sup>st</sup> Stop Business Connection**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Stop Business Connection, a program sponsored by the Ohio Department of Development's Small Business Development Centers and the U.S. Small Business Administration, provides FREE state-level information needed to get started or continue on your entrepreneurial journey.

**Contact:**

800-248-4040 or 614-466-4232

<http://development.ohio.gov/edd/1ststop/onestop/index.cfm>

### **GrowNOW**

Veterans receive preference through the Ohio Treasurer's Office which can provide a reduced rate for small business loans.

**Contact:**

614-466-2160

<http://www.tos.ohio.gov/ForBusiness/Default.aspx?Section=GrowNow>

# Taxes

## *State*

### **Mobilized Military Member Tax Exemption**

#### **Description:**

**Effective January 1, 2007, the deduction of military pay received for active duty while stationed outside of the State of Ohio is allowed.**

#### **Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 5747.01 A(24)

### **Military Retirement Pay – State Tax Exemption**

#### **Description:**

Effective January 1, 2008, military retirement pay and SBP benefits are exempt from the State of Ohio tax and local school district income taxes.

#### **Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 5747.01 A(26)

### **Surviving Spouse Benefit Plans – State Tax Exemption**

#### **Description:**

Effective August 21, 2008, surviving spouse benefit plans are exempt from State of Ohio tax.

#### **Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

ORC 5747.01 A(26)

### **Homestead Exemption**

#### **Description:**

Senior citizens (65 and older) and totally disabled veterans, regardless of income, are allowed a flat (no phase-out levels) \$25,000 property tax exemption.

#### **Location in Ohio Revised Code:**

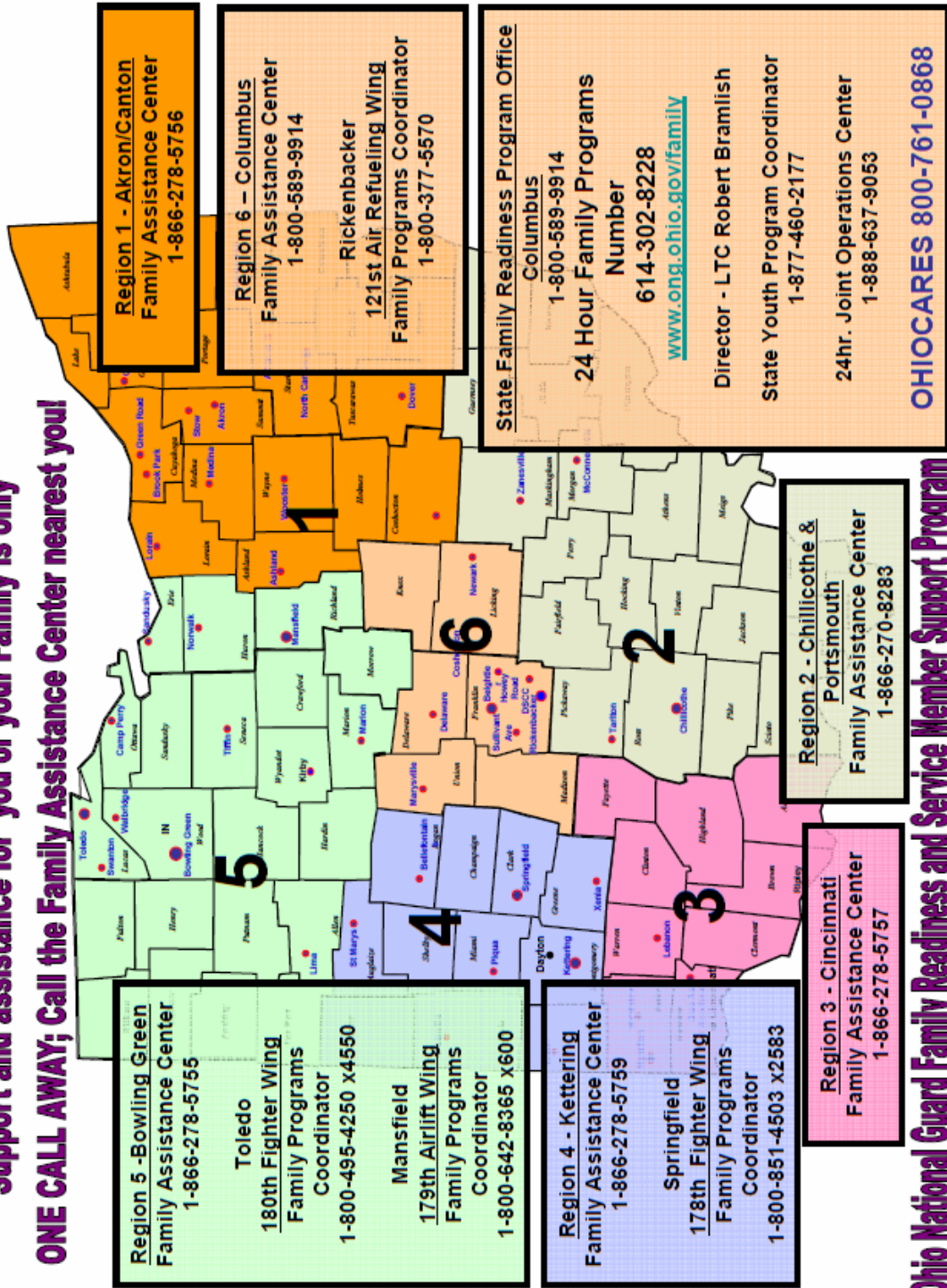
ORC 4501.064

#### **Contact:**

Ohio Department of Taxation:

[http://www.tax.ohio.gov/divisions/ohio\\_individual/individual/military\\_tax\\_provisions.stm](http://www.tax.ohio.gov/divisions/ohio_individual/individual/military_tax_provisions.stm) (800) 282-1780

**Support and assistance for you or your Family is only ONE CALL AWAY; Call the Family Assistance Center nearest you**



**Ohio National Guard Family Readiness and Service Member Support Program**

# **COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICES**

<b><u>Adams County</u></b> 937/544-5005	<b><u>Darke County</u></b> 937/548-5305	<b><u>Hocking County</u></b> 740/385-7507	<b><u>Miami County</u></b> 937/440-8126	<b><u>Scioto County</u></b> 740/353-1477
<b><u>Allen County</u></b> 419/223-8522	<b><u>Defiance County</u></b> 419/782-6861	<b><u>Holmes County</u></b> 330/674-4806	<b><u>Monroe County</u></b> 740/472-0743	<b><u>Seneca County</u></b> 800/820-0189
<b><u>Ashland County</u></b> 419/282-4225 X4200	<b><u>Delaware County</u></b> 740/833-2010	<b><u>Huron County</u></b> 419/668-4150	<b><u>Montgomery County</u></b> 937/225-4801	<b><u>Shelby County</u></b> 937/498-7282
<b><u>Ashtabula County</u></b> 440/964-8324	<b><u>Erie County</u></b> 419/627-7650	<b><u>Jackson County</u></b> 740/286-3004	<b><u>Morgan County</u></b> 740/962-4181	<b><u>Stark County</u></b> 330/451-7457
<b><u>Athens County</u></b> 740/592-3216	<b><u>Fairfield County</u></b> 740/652-7920	<b><u>Jefferson County</u></b> 740/283-8571	<b><u>Morrow County</u></b> 419/946-1914	<b><u>Summit County</u></b> 330/643-2830
<b><u>Auglaize County</u></b> 419/739-6750	<b><u>Fayette County</u></b> 740/335-1610	<b><u>Knox County</u></b> 740/393-6742	<b><u>Muskingum County</u></b> 740/455-7149	<b><u>Trumbull County</u></b> 330/675-2585
<b><u>Belmont County</u></b> 740/325-1042	<b><u>Franklin County**</u></b> 614/525-2500	<b><u>Lake County</u></b> 440/350-2567	<b><u>Noble County</u></b> 740/732-5567	<b><u>Tuscarawas County</u></b> 330/339-1163
<b><u>Brown County</u></b> 937/378-3155	<b><u>Fulton County</u></b> 419/337-9266	<b><u>Lawrence County</u></b> 740/533-4327	<b><u>Ottawa County</u></b> 419/898-2089	<b><u>Union County</u></b> 800/686-2308
<b><u>Butler County</u></b> 513/887-3600	<b><u>Gallia County</u></b> 740/446-2005	<b><u>Licking County</u></b> 740/670-5430	<b><u>Paulding County</u></b> 419/399-8285	<b><u>Van Wert County</u></b> 419/238-9592
<b><u>Carroll County</u></b> 330/627-2590	<b><u>Geauga County</u></b> 440/279-1860 x 6406	<b><u>Logan County</u></b> 937/599-4221	<b><u>Perry County</u></b> 740/342-2536	<b><u>Vinton County</u></b> 740/596-4571 X224
<b><u>Champaign County</u></b> 937/653-4554	<b><u>Greene County</u></b> 937/562-6020	<b><u>Lorain County</u></b> 440/284-4625	<b><u>Pickaway County</u></b> 888/330-3522	<b><u>Warren County</u></b> 513/695-1363
<b><u>Clark County</u></b> 937/521-2030	<b><u>Guernsey County</u></b> 740/432-9295	<b><u>Lucas County</u></b> 419/213-6090/92	<b><u>Pike County</u></b> 740/947-2766	<b><u>Washington County</u></b> 740/568-9009
<b><u>Clermont County</u></b> 513/732-7363	<b><u>Hamilton County</u></b> 513/946-3300	<b><u>Madison County</u></b> 740/852-0676	<b><u>Portage County</u></b> 330/297-3545	<b><u>Wayne County</u></b> 800/335-6638
<b><u>Clinton County</u></b> 937/382-3233	<b><u>Hancock County</u></b> 419/424-7036	<b><u>Mahoning County</u></b> 330/740-2451 x8390	<b><u>Preble County</u></b> 937/456-6111	<b><u>Williams County</u></b> 419/636-8812
<b><u>Columbiana County</u></b> 330/424-7214	<b><u>Hardin County</u></b> 419/674-2219	<b><u>Marion County</u></b> 740/387-0100	<b><u>Putnam County</u></b> 419/523-4478	<b><u>Wood County</u></b> 419/354-9147
<b><u>Coshocton County</u></b> 740/622-2313	<b><u>Harrison County</u></b> 740/942-8441	<b><u>Medina County</u></b> 330/722-9368	<b><u>Richland County</u></b> 419/774-5822	<b><u>Wyandot County</u></b> 419/294-2045
<b><u>Crawford County</u></b> 419/562-7761	<b><u>Henry County</u></b> 419/592-0956	<b><u>Meigs County</u></b> 740/992-2820	<b><u>Ross County</u></b> 740/772-1600	
<b><u>Cuyahoga County</u></b> 216/698-2600	<b><u>Highland County</u></b> 937/393-8686	<b><u>Mercer County</u></b> 419/586-3542	<b><u>Sandusky County</u></b> 419/334-4421	

** listed number valid after 12/13/10
--

# VA Facilities in Ohio

## Veterans Health Administration - VISN Offices

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
10N10	<a href="#">VISN 10: VA Healthcare System of Ohio</a>	11500 Northlake Drive, Suite 200 Cincinnati, OH 45249	513-247-4621

## Veterans Health Administration - VISN 4: VA Healthcare - VISN 4

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
562GB	<a href="#">Ashtabula County VA Clinic</a>	1230 Lake Avenue Ashtabula, OH 44004	866-463-0912
646GA	<a href="#">Belmont VA Primary Care Center CBOC</a>	103 Plaza Dr. Suite A St. Clairsville, OH 43950	740-695-9321

## Veterans Health Administration - VISN 10: VA Healthcare System of Ohio

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
757	<a href="#">Chalmers P. Wylie Ambulatory Care Center</a>	420 N James Road Columbus, OH 43219	614-257-5200 Or 614-257-5200
538	<a href="#">Chillicothe VA Medical Center</a>	17273 State Route 104 Chillicothe, OH 45601	740-773-1141 Or 740-773-1141
539	<a href="#">Cincinnati VA Medical Center</a>	3200 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH 45220	513-861-3100 Or 888-267-7873
552	<a href="#">Dayton VA Medical Center</a>	4100 W. 3rd Street Dayton, OH 45428	937-268-6511 Or 937-268-6511
541	<a href="#">Louis Stokes VA Medical Center</a>	10701 East Boulevard Cleveland, OH 44106	216-791-3800
541BY	<a href="#">Canton Outpatient Clinic</a>	733 Market Avenue South Canton, OH 44702-1018	330-489-4600
541BZ	<a href="#">Youngstown Outpatient Clinic</a>	2031 Belmont Avenue Youngstown, OH 44505	330-740-9200
541GG	<a href="#">Akron Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	55 W. Waterloo Akron, OH 44319-1116	330-724-7715
538GA	<a href="#">Athens Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	510 West Union Street Athens, OH 45701	740-593-7314
541	<a href="#">Brecksville Clinic</a>	10000 Brecksville Rd Brecksville, OH 44141	440-526-3030
538	<a href="#">Cambridge Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	2146 Southgate Pkwy Cambridge, OH 43725	740-432-1963
539GB	<a href="#">Clermont County Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	4600 Beechwood Road Cincinnati, OH 45244	513-943-3680
541GH	<a href="#">East Liverpool/Calcutta Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	15655 St Rt. 170, Suite A Calcutta, OH 43920	330-386-4303
757GB	<a href="#">Grove City Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	1955 Ohio Avenue Grove City, OH 43123	614-257-5800
539GE	<a href="#">Hamilton VA Healthcare Associates - Butler County</a>	1755-C South Erie Highway Hamilton, OH 45011	513-870-9444
538GD	<a href="#">Lancaster Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	Colonnade Medical Building 1550 Sheridan Drive Ste 100 Lancaster, OH 43130	740-653-6145
552GB	<a href="#">Lima Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	1303 Bellefontaine Ave Lima, OH 45804	419-222-5788
541GB	<a href="#">Lorain Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	205 West 20th Street Lorain, OH 44052	440-244-3833
541GD	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	1456 Park Avenue West Mansfield, OH 44906	419-529-4602
538GC	<a href="#">Marietta Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	418 Colegate Drive Marietta, OH 45750	740-568-0412
757	<a href="#">Marion Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	1203 Delaware Avenue, Corporate Center #2 Marion, OH 43302-6419	740-223-8089
541GE	<a href="#">McCafferty Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	4242 Lorain Avenue Cleveland, OH 44113	216-939-0699
552GA	<a href="#">Middletown Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	675 North University Boulevard Middletown, OH 45042	513-423-8387
541	<a href="#">New Philadelphia Clinic</a>	1260 Monroe Ave, Suite 1A New Philadelphia, OH 44663	330-602-5339
757-N	<a href="#">Newark CBOC</a>	1912 Tamarck Rd Newark, OH 43055	740-788-8328

541GF	<a href="#">Painesville Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	7 West Jackson Street	Painesville, OH 44077	440-357-6740
538GB	<a href="#">Portsmouth Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	840 Gallia Street	Portsmouth, OH 45662	740-353-3236
541	<a href="#">Ravenna Clinic</a>	6751 N Chestnut St	Ravenna, OH 44266	330-296-3641
541GC	<a href="#">Sandusky Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	3416 Columbus Avenue	Sandusky, OH 44870	419-625-7350
552GD	<a href="#">Springfield Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	512 South Burnett Road	Springfield, OH 45505	937-328-3385
541GI	<a href="#">Warren Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	1460 Tod Ave (NW)	Warren, OH 44485	330-392-0311
757GA	<a href="#">Zanesville Community Based Outpatient Clinic</a>	2800 Maple Avenue	Zanesville, OH 43701	740-453-7725
0204	<a href="#">Cincinnati Vet Center</a>	801B W. 8th St. Suite 126	Cincinnati, OH 45203	513-763-3500
0205	<a href="#">Cleveland Heights Vet Center</a>	2022 Lee Road	Cleveland, OH 44118	216-932-8471
0221	<a href="#">Columbus Vet Center</a>	30 Spruce Street	Columbus, OH 43215	614-257-5550
0225	<a href="#">Dayton Vet Center</a>	627 Edwin C. Moses Blvd., 6th Floor, East Medical Plaza	Dayton, OH 45408	937-461-9150
02061	<a href="#">McCafferty Vet Center Outstation</a>	4242 Lorain Avenue Suite 203	Cleveland, OH 44113	216-939-0784
0206	<a href="#">Parma Vet Center</a>	5700 Pearl Road Suite 102	Parma, OH 44129	440-845-5023

#### Veterans Health Administration - VISN 11: Veterans In Partnership

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
506GA	<a href="#">Toledo VA Outpatient Clinic</a>	3333 Glendale Avenue	Toledo, OH 43614 419-259-2000
0234	<a href="#">Toledo Vet Center</a>	1565 S. Byrne Road, Suite 104	Toledo, OH 43614 419-213-7533

#### Veterans Benefits Administration - Eastern Area Office

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
325	<a href="#">Cleveland Regional Office</a>	A.J. Celebrezze Federal Building, 1240 East 9th Street	Cleveland, OH 44199 800-827-1000
325	<a href="#">Intake Site At Wright-Patterson Air Force Base</a>	VA/DOD Transition Office 4881 Sugar Maple Dr.	Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433

#### National Cemetery Administration - Indianapolis Memorial Service Network

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
810	<a href="#">Dayton National Cemetery</a>	VA Medical Center, 4100 West Third Street	Dayton, OH 45428 937-262-2115
918	<a href="#">Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery</a>	P.O. Box 8, 10175 Rawiga Road	Rittman, OH 44270 330-335-3069

## Important Phone Numbers & Web Addresses

VA Benefits:	1-800-827-1000
Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits:	1-877-294-6380
Education (GI Bill):	1-888-442-4551
Debt Management:	1-800-827-0648
Health Care Benefits:	1-877-222-8387
CHAMPVA:	1-800-733-8387
Life Insurance:	1-800-669-8477
Mammography Helpline:	1-888-492-7844
Status of Headstones and Markers:	1-800-697-6947
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD):	1-800-829-4833
Special Issues - Gulf War/Agent Orange/Project Shad/Mustard Agents and Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation:	1-800-749-8387
VA Home Page:	<a href="http://www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a>
VA Health Care:	<a href="http://www.va.gov/health">www.va.gov/health</a>
Returning Veterans:	<a href="http://www.seamlesstransition.va.gov">www.seamlesstransition.va.gov</a>
Survivor Benefits:	<a href="http://www.vba.va.gov/survivors/index.htm">www.vba.va.gov/survivors/index.htm</a>
VA Facilities:	<a href="http://www.va.gov/directory/guide/hime.asp">www.va.gov/directory/guide/hime.asp</a>
VA Forms:	<a href="http://www.va.gov/vaforms">www.va.gov/vaforms</a>
VA Benefit Payment Rates:	<a href="http://www.vba.va.gov/bin/21/rates">www.vba.va.gov/bin/21/rates</a>
Education Benefits:	<a href="http://www.gibill.va.gov">www.gibill.va.gov</a>
Home Loan Guaranty:	<a href="http://www.homeloans.va.gov">www.homeloans.va.gov</a>
Life Insurance:	<a href="http://www.insurance.va.gov">www.insurance.va.gov</a>
Vocational Rehabilitation:	<a href="http://www.vba.va.gov/bin/vre/index.htm">www.vba.va.gov/bin/vre/index.htm</a>
Burial & Memorial Benefits:	<a href="http://www.cem.va.gov">www.cem.va.gov</a>
Veterans Employment & Training:	<a href="http://www.dol.gov/vets">www.dol.gov/vets</a>
Federal Jobs:	<a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a>
Veterans Preference:	<a href="http://www.opm.gov/veterans/index.asp">www.opm.gov/veterans/index.asp</a>
Military Records:	<a href="http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel">www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel</a>
Department of Defense:	<a href="http://www.defenselink.mil">www.defenselink.mil</a>



## **Veterans Organizations that are represented on the Ohio Department of Veterans Services Advisory Committee\***

### ***American Legion***

Department of Ohio  
60 Big Run Road  
P.O. Box 8007  
Delaware, OH 43015  
740/362-7478  
Fax: 740/362-1429

### ***AMVETS***

Department of Ohio  
1395 E. Dublin Granville Rd  
Suite 222  
Columbus, OH 43229  
614/431-6990  
Fax: 614/431-6991  
800/OH-AMVET

### ***Army and Navy Union USA, Inc.***

Department of Ohio  
1940 Beaver Trail  
Mineral Ridge, OH 44440  
330/544-4173

### ***Catholic War Veterans***

Department of Ohio  
35 E. Chestnut St., 4<sup>th</sup> Fl., Ste 402  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614/221-7601  
Fax: 614/221-0278

### ***Disabled American Veterans***

Department of Ohio  
35 E. Chestnut St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614/221-3582  
Fax: 614/221-4822

### ***Jewish War Veterans***

5519 Naiche Road  
Columbus, OH 43213

### ***Korean War Veterans Assoc., Inc.***

Department of Ohio  
35 E. Chestnut St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

### ***Marine Corps League***

35 E. Chestnut St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614/469-1775  
Fax: 614/469-5674

### ***Military Order of the Purple Heart***

Department of Ohio  
35 E. Chestnut St., 4<sup>th</sup> Fl., Rm. 408  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614/228-8250  
Fax: 614/228-7290

### ***Veterans of Foreign Wars***

35 E. Chestnut St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614/224-1838  
Fax: 614/224-3861

### ***Vietnam Veterans of America***

Buckeye Council  
35 E. Chestnut St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614/228-0188  
Fax: 614/228-2711

### ***Military Officers Assoc. of America***

Central Ohio  
483 Hunt Valley Drive  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068  
614/771-7516

\*County Veterans Service Offices & Veterans Service Commissioners can be found in Appendix I