

New Hampshire State Veteran's Benefits



2019

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

- Veteran Home
- Financial Assistance
- Employment
- Education
- Recreation
- Other

Veteran Home

For more than a century, the New Hampshire Veterans Home in Tilton has been a home and a health resource for Granite State armed forces veterans. Established in 1890 as the Soldier's Home for Civil War Veterans, it has provided care and comfort for thousands who have served our country and fellow-citizens. It is a state-owned facility for veterans with administrative rules governed by the State of New Hampshire. They are inspected each year by the VA system. Although they are a New Hampshire state agency and most of their operating expenses are paid for by the State of New Hampshire, they do partner with the US Department of Veterans Affairs in certain areas in order to leverage resources and provide veterans with excellent care.

Located in the heart of the Lakes Region and the foothills of the magnificent White Mountains, the scenic beauty surrounding the Home - combined with the warm fellowship

shared by residents, staff, and volunteers - create a unique environment for those who have made personal sacrifices in the military and now need assistance to care for themselves.

The Home is a long-term (custodial) care facility providing a range of nursing services from care for those who need minimal assistance to those who need total and end-of-life care. The mission of the New Home is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State's elderly and disabled veterans with compassion, respect, and dignity. The 250-bed facility at 139 Winter Street is the only Veterans' Home in New Hampshire. It is for honorably-discharged veterans who have served for a period of at least 90 days in the armed forces of the United States in time of war and who have been New Hampshire residents for one year preceding application. Some restrictions on assets and medical treatment exist.

The home integrates the disciplines of nursing, physical therapy, dietary, social work, therapeutic recreation, and spiritual care into what they call the "I" Care Team. This Team focuses on the whole person, not just a person's disease or disability. They are committed to person-centered care. All incoming residents are assessed to ensure placement in the Home that will offer them the best Quality of Care and Quality of Life within a beautiful and safe environment. This includes state-of-the-art neighborhoods designed to meet the unique needs of those with dementia (such as Alzheimer's disease and other forms of cognitive loss or memory impairment).

The facility has their own Medical Director, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, Registered Nurses, LPNs, LMNAs, LNAs, pharmacists, dietitians, therapeutic recreation, and social work staff. A dentist makes scheduled visits to the Home, and services for mental health, as well as occupational and speech therapy, are contracted out. They also have their own bank, store, library, chapel, and recreation areas for residents, as well as the following departments: Resident Care Services, Admissions, Staff Development, Rehabilitation, Human Resources, Building & Grounds, Housekeeping, Laundry, Food Service, Medical Services & Supplies, Information Technology, Payroll, Spiritual Care, Public Affairs, Volunteers, Scheduling, Safety & Security, and Business. The many volunteers contribute enormously to enhancing the quality of life of our residents.



A view from the pond

The FAQ at <http://www.nh.gov/veterans/faq/index.htm#services> will provide answers to most questions. The Admissions office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30

p.m., and after hours upon request. They can be contacted at: Tel (603) 527-4400 or Fax (603) 527-4850 or e-mail admissions@nhvh.nh.gov.

Go to http://www.nh.gov/nhveterans/benefits/v_home.htm to learn more about the New Hampshire Veterans Home.

Financial Assistance

War Bonuses

- World War II bonus. Program expired July 1958.
- Korean Conflict bonus. Program expired December 1960.
- Vietnam. Bonus of \$100 for those with active service of 90 days or more between August 5, 1964, and August 15, 1973, or those who served in Vietnam between July 1, 1958, and August 5, 1964, and earned the Vietnam Service Medal or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. Must have been a bona fide resident of New Hampshire at the time of enlistment and have received an honorable discharge. Claims made after August 22, 1977, must be approved by the Adjutant General and the Governor and Executive Council. (See RSA 115-A:3).
- Persian Gulf War Bonus of \$100. Each person who actively served as a member of the armed forces of the United States between August 2, 1990, and November 30, 1995, and who earned the Southwest Asia Service Medal, and who was discharged, released or has a certificate of service there from, under honorable conditions, and who at the time of entry on such service, and at the time of such service was a bona fide resident of this state shall be entitled to a \$100 bonus. However, no individual who has received a Persian Gulf War Bonus payment from another state shall be qualified to receive the NH bonus. Program expires August 31, 2002, but there are provisions that allow for acceptance of applications after that date. (See RSA 115-A:9).
- Global War on Terrorism Operations Service Bonus of \$100. Each person who actively served in any capacity as a member of the uniformed services of the United States on or after September 11, 2001 and on or before a date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense, and who earned the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal or Afghanistan Campaign, or Iraq Campaign Medal; and who was discharged, released or has a certificate of service there from, with an honorable discharge, or who is missing in action or who was killed in action; and who at the time of entry on such active service, and at the time of such service was a bona fide resident of this state shall be entitled to the benefits provided under this subdivision. Program ends on June 11, 2009, but there are provisions that allow for acceptance of applications after that date. (See RSA 115-A:16).

Tax Exemption

- Property owned and operated by certain veterans' organizations or departments, local chapters or posts shall be exempt from taxation.
- Certain wartime veterans, their wives or widows may be eligible for a property tax credit of \$50 (\$100 if both are eligible veterans). Cities/towns may vote to adopt a higher tax credit of up to \$500.
- The widow of a veteran who was killed while on active duty in the military may be eligible for a tax credit of between \$700 and \$2000 on real estate or personal property.
- There is a \$700 tax credit on real estate occupied as principal place of abode by a permanently and totally disabled service-connected veteran, double amputee or paraplegic or unremarried surviving spouse. Cities and towns may vote to adopt a higher tax credit of up to \$2000.
- A permanently and totally disabled veteran who is blind, paraplegic or a double amputee as a result of service connection and who owns a specially adapted homestead acquired with the assistance of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, or with proceeds from the sale of any previous homestead acquired with the assistance of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, shall be exempt from all taxation on the homestead. The veteran's surviving spouse shall also be exempt from all taxation on the homestead.

Employment

Preference

- Shall be given to honorably discharged veterans in appointing employees of the State Liquor Commission, in selecting members of the State Office of Veterans Services, in appointing the Director of the State Office of Veterans Services, in appointing the Commandant and employees of the New Hampshire Veterans Home, and veterans or their unremarried widows and spouses of disabled veterans in public departments and/or public works of state and local units.
- Reemployment of veterans by towns and other political subdivisions upon application being made within 90 days after the veteran is discharged from active military service.
- Service-connected disabled veterans and their unremarried widows may be exempt from fees for a Peddler's License

Training

Qualified veterans will be granted priority in obtaining training that is funded in whole or part by the federal government or the State of New Hampshire. Refer to <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/NHTOC/NHTOC-VIII-115-B.htm>

Education

Veterans

- Veterans Education Services -- Regulates/approves programs for eligible veterans and beneficiaries utilizing their GI Bill benefits. Includes approvals of:
 - College and University Programs
 - Career School Programs
 - Flight Training Programs
 - High School Diploma Programs
 - Correspondence School Programs
 - Apprenticeships and On-The-Job Training Programs
 - Medical Residency and Fellowship Programs
 - National Tests for College Credit and Admissions
 - Tests required for Licensing and/or Certification
- Contact:
 - RuthAnn Campbell, Program Assistant II at RuthAnn.Campbell@doe.nh.gov or call 603-271-7861, or
 - Jeffrey S. Newman, Administrator, at Jeffrey.Newman@doe.nh.gov or call 603-271-8508

Children

- **Free Tuition at Vocational-Technical College** -- The child of a missing person who was domiciled in this State serving in or with the U.S. armed forces after February 28, 1961, is entitled to free tuition at vocational-technical college so long as said missing person is so reported/listed as missing, captured, etc.
- **Free Tuition for Surviving Children of Military Members** -- Children of military members who die in service during wartime, and children of certain wartime veterans who die from a service-connected disability, may qualify for free tuition at New Hampshire public institutions of higher learning. A scholarship for board, room, rent, books and supplies up to \$2500 per year for a period of no more than 4 years at such educational institutions may be furnished to these children if they are in need of financial assistance.
- Go to <http://www.nh.gov/nhveterans/benefits/education.htm> to learn more about Education Benefits for Children of military Members.

Recreation

Fish and Game Licenses

- Honorably discharged NH resident veterans who are VA permanently and totally disabled can get a free lifetime Fish & Game License. Veterans with a discharge other than dishonorable and is at least 80 percent service connected may apply for a lifetime license at 50 percent of the cost of a lifetime license.
- Patients at the VA Medical Center in Manchester, NH, and residents of the NH Veterans' Home may be issued free fishing permits under certain conditions.
- Disabled veterans may hunt from motor vehicles or boats under certain conditions with a proper permit.

Other State Veteran Benefits

Burial

- All veterans are eligible for interment in the NH State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, you don't need to be a NH resident. There is a fee, spouses are also eligible.
- Indigent veterans may be buried at the expense of the municipality in which the veteran died. (See RSA 165:16, RSA 165:17).
- Visit the [New Hampshire Office of Veterans Services](#) website for more information about any of these programs.

New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery

Veterans are eligible for interment in the State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, NH. The cemetery opened in September 1997. The current cemetery development of 14 acres provides adequate burial sites for years to come. Cemetery Location is north of Concord, NH at 110 Daniel Webster Highway, Boscawen, NH 03303. From I-93 North or South to Exit 17 (the cemetery is 5+ miles from I-93). At the top of the Exit ramp, bear right. Follow Route 3 & 4 West through the town of Boscawen. At the intersection of Route 3 & 4 continue to the right on Route 3 North. The cemetery is one mile north on the right side of Route 3.



State Veterans Cemetery

The cemetery grounds, vestibule of the Administration Building and restrooms are open to the public seven days a week during daylight hours. The vestibule of the Administration Building has a grave locator, cemetery applications and other pertinent information. The Administrative offices are open Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm, except for state holidays. Interments are not scheduled on weekends or state holidays.

A veteran who is discharged under honorable conditions may be eligible for interment at the cemetery. As a general rule, an honorably discharged veteran, having served on active duty prior to September 7, 1980 is eligible. After September 7, 1980, a veteran must have served at least 24 months on active duty to be eligible. However, there are some exceptions. Members of Reserve Components and Reserve Officers' Training Corps may be eligible under many different circumstances.

All veterans should apply and let them determine your eligibility. Spouses and dependents may also be eligible. The veteran is the one entitled to the burial plot; however, if the veteran is pre-deceased by a spouse then the spouse (or eligible dependent) is entitled to an immediate interment. Each veteran is entitled to one plot, which he/she shares with his/her eligible dependents. Columbarium niches are designed to accommodate two receptacles, e.g. for a veteran and eligible spouse. The niche dimensions are approximately 14" high, 10" wide, and 18" deep. It is important that these dimensions are considered when purchasing an urn (receptacle). If a second inurnment is anticipated, both receptacles must fit within these dimensions. If there is a question on urn size, please contact the cemetery and who will be happy to test if an urn will fit.

For now you must make arrangements for the vault with your funeral home. However, the current cemetery expansion, to be completed in July 2019, is adding pre-placed "vaults" which will provide a savings for veterans and families choosing a full casket burial. Gravesites in the veterans cemetery cannot be reserved in advance, however, you are encouraged to submit an application form with the required documents now. The cemetery will then issue an eligibility certificate to the veteran, which can be put with other important documents. The pre-application

makes it easier for the surviving family to schedule the interment. The application process is simple and saves surviving family members the hardship of finding required documents prior to interment. Without an application, they may have to delay the interment until substantial proof is submitted. If you have a specific question, comment or concern please contact the cemetery at 796-2026 or email to info@nhsvc.com. To download an application go to www.nhsvc.org/sites/default/files/public/nhsvc_prequal_application_rev_feb_2019_final.pdf.

Fee Schedule

- Eligible Veterans No Fee (see note below)
- Eligible Spouse and or Dependents \$350.00

Fees include the grave site, opening and closing of the grave, engraving of veteran, spouse and/or dependent information on the headstone or marker, and perpetual care. For casket burials, a grave liner or vault is required and is not provided by the cemetery. The family is responsible for the cost and installation of the grave liner through a funeral home. Your funeral director can provide specific information.

Note: The NHSVC receives a plot allowance from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) determined by the date of death for the veteran and based on Public Law affecting the National Cemetery Administration according to the following dates:

Prior to June 18, 1973 there were no plot allowances

\$150.00 if the Veterans death occurred between June 18, 1973 and November 30, 2001

\$300.00 if death occurred between December 1, 2001 and September 30, 2011

\$700 if the death occurred between October 1, 2011 and September 30, 2012

\$722 if the death occurred after October 1, 2012

\$734 if the death occurred after October 1, 2013

\$745 if the death occurred after October 1, 2014

\$747 if the death occurred after October 1, 2015

\$749 if the death occurred after October 1, 2016

\$762 if the death occurred after October 1, 2017

\$780 if the death occurred after October 1, 2018

\$796 if the death occurred after October 1, 2019

If the VA previously paid this plot allowance, the next of kin or authorized agent is required to make payment of same to the NHSVC. VA rules prohibit seeking plot allowance reimbursement if the veteran is charged a fee by a State.

Memorial Markers - No Fee. Memorial Markers (veteran only) are provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at no cost. A prerequisite for being eligible for a memorial marker is that the veteran cannot be memorialized in any other cemetery (i.e. have a headstone or grave marker of any kind)

Disinterment / Relocation Fees

- Full Casket

- Disinterment and re-interment within cemetery \$700.00
 - Disinterment and removed from NHSVC \$350.00
 - Note: This fee does not include the cost associated with the removal of the vault and/or the replacement of vault (if needed). This must be accomplished by a vault company and coordinated with a funeral director or designee, or the next-of-kin as defined in RSA 290:16, or designated agent under RSA 290:17.
- In Ground Cremains
 - Disinterment and re-interment within cemetery \$400.00
 - Disinterment and removed from NHSVC \$200.00
 - Columbarium Cremains
 - Removal from columbarium to in-ground within cemetery \$300.00
 - Relocate from columbarium to columbarium within cemetery \$200.00
 - Removal from columbarium and removed from NHSVC \$100.00

Indigent Veterans


War veterans and their families who are unable to support themselves shall be supported at public expense in the town or city where they live.

Claims

Copies of public records are provided free when needed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to determine eligibility for benefits. The State Veterans Council and its veterans service officers shall assist veterans and dependents in obtaining benefits to which entitled under state or federal laws or regulations. Go to <http://www.nh.gov/nhveterans/benefits/claims.htm> to learn more about such Claims.

Vehicle Fee Exemptions

- An amputee or paraplegic classified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as permanently and totally disabled from service-connected disability who owns a motor vehicle received from or replaced by the Department of Veterans Affairs may be furnished a special license plate without charge for one motor vehicle. Recipients of the Purple Heart and Survivors of Pearl Harbor may be issued one set of special license plates upon payment of registration fees. (See [RSA 261:86](#)).
- A veteran determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to be totally blind because of a service-connected disability who owns a motor vehicle may be furnished a special license plate without charge for one vehicle. (See [RSA 261:86](#)).
- Special license plates are available without charge to veterans who are former Prisoners of War (POWs). (See [RSA 261:86](#)).
- Special license plates may be issued for motor vehicles owned by individuals with walking disabilities. (See [RSA 261:88](#)).

- No registration fee is payable for a vehicle provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to an amputee, paraplegic or blind veteran classified as being permanently and totally disabled from service connection. (See [RSA 261:141, VIII](#)).
- Any motor vehicle bearing special disabled veteran license plates  shall be allowed free parking time in any city or town if the vehicle is under the direct control of the owner. ([RSA 265:73](#)).
- No fee shall be charged for a permit to register a motor vehicle owned by a veteran who has been classified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as being totally blind as a result of a service connected disability. (See [RSA 261:159](#)).
- No fee shall be charged for a permit to register a motor vehicle owned by a war veteran who is an amputee, paraplegic or who suffered the loss of use of a limb from a service connected cause as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs when the vehicle is received or a cash settlement in lieu thereof is received from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. (See [RSA 261:157](#)).
- No fee shall be charged for a motor vehicle operator's license for a veteran who is an amputee or paraplegic and who received a motor vehicle from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs nor for a veteran who has been classified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as being permanently and totally disabled due to service connected disability. (See [RSA 263-42](#)).

Relief

War veterans and their dependent families who are unable to support themselves shall be supported at public expense in the town or city in which they live.

Go to <http://www.nh.gov/nhveterans/benefits/relief.htm> to learn more about Veteran Relief.

State Park Admission

NH veterans with any VA service-connected disability rating shall not be charged a fee for day-use admission to NH state parks. Disabled veteran license plates issued by the state of NH, or a letter issued by the VA certifying the veteran suffers from a service-connected disability shall be considered proof of entitlement. Any fees for the use of enterprise activities (including ski lifts, food service, campgrounds, etc.) shall be charged.

Any active member of a federally-recognized unit of the NH national guard who is a legal resident of this state and is serving (or who retired) in pay grades E-1 through E-6 shall not be charged a fee for admission to the state park system. Any fees for the use of enterprise activities (including ski lifts, food service, campgrounds, etc.) shall be charged.

Go to <http://www.nh.gov/nhveterans/benefits/parks.htm> to learn more about State Park Admission.

Veterans License Plate

Veterans honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces may be issued a special license plate. The plate will only be issued upon application, submission of proof of honorable discharge.

New Hampshire Military & Veterans License Plates

New Hampshire Military and Veterans License Plate applications generally require some additional certification paperwork such as Form DD-214, medal citations, or letter from Veterans Administration. May be personalized.



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Go to http://www.nh.gov/nhveterans/benefits/l_plates.htm to learn more about Veterans License Plates.

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Visit the New Hampshire Office of Veterans Services website <http://www.nh.gov/nhveterans> for contact information and benefits assistance.

[Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/new-hampshire-state-veterans-benefits.html> | December 2019 ++]