This project was supported by funding from Community Foundation of South Alabama and Housing First, Inc. Production of directory was provided by Lifelines Counseling Services, United Way 2-1-1 staff.
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SERVICES FOR SENIORS

Information and Referral for Aging Veterans

Apply for VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound Benefits:
https://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/aid_attendance_housebound.asp
https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp

Learn about VA Home and Community Based Services
http://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/Guide/LongTermCare/Home_and_Community_Based_Services.asp

Phone: Dial 1-844-MyVA311 (1-844-698-2311)

Community Sponsored Assistance for the Elderly

AARP FOUNDATION

As an ally in your corner, AARP makes available products and services that have been researched, evaluated and meet high standards of service and quality.

Membership’s for anyone 50 years of age or older. AARP provides discounts on many items including prescriptions, health and auto insurance, travel benefits and much more.

Website: https://states.aarp.org/region/alabama/ | AARP/Customer Service: 1 (888) 687 -2277

Alabama Area Agency on Aging

The Area Agency on Aging provides information and referral services, day care for the elderly, phone reassurance, health screening, senior citizen housing, urban/rural transportation services, continuing education, and consumer and nutrition education. Also, provides home weatherization and energy assistance, disaster relief plan, recreational, employment opportunities and rehabilitation services.
Florida: Northwest Florida Area Agency on Aging Inc.
Helpline: (850)494-7100, toll free: (866)531-8011, (800)963-5337

Mississippi: Area Agency on Aging South Mississippi
Helpline: (228)868-2311
http://www.smpdd.com/departments/area-agency-on-aging.html
http://www.mississippigethelp.com

GOODWILL EASTER SEALS OF THE GULF COAST

Program: SCSEP (Senior Community Service Employment Program)
SCSEP is a program funded by the Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration that provides job training and employment opportunities for eligible individuals age 55 or older.

Eligibility

- Be 55 years of age or older
- Reside in one of the counties that Easter Seals SCSEP serve
- Have a family income that is not more than 125% of the federal poverty income guidelines
- Be currently unemployed
- Be seeking employment

Application Process: Call for more information

Program Fees: No Fee for Service

Contact: Goodwill Easter Seals | Phone: 251-300-6270 | Program Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday

FARMERS MARKET AUTHORITY

Program: Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program

The Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) provides eligible senior with coupons/voucher for Farmers Market produce.

Eligibility: Must be 60 years of age or older the day of issuance, and meet income guidelines

Application Process: Visit Website @ http://fma.alabama.gov/seniornutrition/ or contact your local Area Agency on Aging @ 251-433-6541
BENEFITS

To learn more about the compensations offered by the VA visit www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/index.asp

ACCESSING INFORMATION VIA EBENEFITS PORTAL:

What is “eBenefits”, eBenefits is a joint VA/DoD web portal that provides resources and self-service capabilities to veterans, service members, and their families to research, access and manage their VA and military benefits and personal information. Some of the features within eBenefits allow veterans and service members to access official military personnel documents, view the status of their disability compensation claim, transfer entitlement of Post-9/11 GI Bill to eligible dependents (service members only), and register for and update direct deposit information for certain benefits. For a full list of features, see the reverse side of this fact sheet. New features are being added regularly.

eBenefits is located at www.ebenefits.va.gov. Before Veterans can access and use eBenefits, they must be listed in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) and obtain a DS Logon. Service members can access eBenefits with a DS Logon or Common Access Card (CAC). They can choose from two levels of registration, DS Logon Level 1 (Basic) and DS Logon Level 2 (Premium).

eBenefits Features:

- Apply for Veterans benefits online
- Check on your compensation or pension claims status
- Upload documents to support your compensation claim
- Check Post-9/11 GI Bill enrollment status
- Use the Vet Success employment search
- View DoD TRICARE health insurance
- Sign up for Veterans’ Group Life Insurance (VGLI) (Time limits apply)
- Search for and select an accredited representative or organization
- Check on your appeal status
- Order prescription medications
- Message your physician securely
- Access your medical file via Blue Button
• Utilize the military skills translator and résumé builder
• Order medical equipment such as hearing aid batteries and prosthetic socks
• Generate a VA home loan certificate of eligibility
• Obtain official military personnel documents such as DD Form 214
• Register for and update direct deposit information for certain benefits
• Real-time status and status notifications

HOW TO APPLY FOR AN eBENEFITS ACCOUNT

• To get a “Premium eBenefits Account,” call 1(800)-827-1000, option 1, then 7 to get an eBenefits Representative. They will verify your:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSN or Claim#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branch of Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Account Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of Last Deposit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Rating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone Number</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• The Representative will also ask for information from two forms of Government ID
• Premium accounts are for those currently receiving compensation, pension, or education benefits. (Past benefits don’t qualify). Upgrades to Premium are done via phone, and rather efficiently once connected.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

A person who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and who is unemployed may be entitled to unemployment compensation based on his/her honorable military or naval service. Contact the nearest State Unemployment Compensation Claims Office. Pension or disability payments provided by the United States to the individuals who have completed the period of military service may disqualify such individual from receiving unemployment compensation.
DISABILITY COMPENSATION

Disability compensation is a monthly tax-free benefit paid to veterans who are at least 10% disabled because of injuries or diseases that were incurred in or aggravated during active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training. A disability can apply to physical conditions, such as a chronic knee condition, as well as a mental health condition, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Eligibility includes:

- Service in the Uniformed Services on active duty or,
- Active duty for training, or
- Inactive duty training, and
- You were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, and
- You are at least 10% disabled by an injury or disease that was incurred in or aggravated during active duty or active duty for training, or inactive duty training

How to apply:

- Apply online using eBenefits
  https://www/ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage
- Work with an accredited representative or agent, or
- Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you.

DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is a tax-free monetary benefit paid to eligible survivors of military Service-members who died in the line of duty or eligible survivors of Veterans whose death resulted from a service-related injury or disease.

Eligibility for a surviving spouse includes:

- Married to a service member who died on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training, or
- Validly married the veteran before January 1, 1957, or
- Married the veteran within 15 years of discharge from the period of military service in which the disease or injury that caused the Veteran’s death began or was aggravated, or
- Was married to the veteran for at least one year, or
- Had a child with the veteran, and
- Cohabited with the veteran continuously until the veteran’s death or, if separated, was not at fault for the separation, and
- Is not currently remarried

**Eligibility for a surviving child includes:**

- Not included on the surviving spouse’s DIC, and
- Unmarried, and
- Under age 18, or between the ages of 18 and 23 and attending school

**SPECIAL MONTHLY COMPENSATION (SMC)**

SMC is an additional tax-free benefit that can be paid to Veterans, their spouses, surviving spouses, and parents. For veterans, Special Monthly Compensation is a higher rate of compensation paid due to special circumstances such as the need of aid and attendance by another person or a specific disability, such as loss of use of one hand or leg. For spouses and surviving spouses, this benefit is commonly referred to as aid and attendance and is paid based on the need of aid and attendance by another person.

**Eligibility includes:**

- Disability compensation recipients may be eligible for this additional tax-free benefit due to the special circumstances of your disability, if you are housebound, or need help performing daily living functions.
DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR (POWS)

If you are a former POW with disabilities related to your service and captivity, you may be eligible for compensation. If you are diagnosed with one or more of the conditions listed below, and at any time following active-duty military service your condition becomes at least 10% disabling, VA will presume it is related to your POW experience.

https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/claims-postservice-pow.asp

You are eligible if:

- You have osteoporosis (for claims filed on or after October 10, 2008, and you have a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD).
- You have a neuropsychiatric condition, psychosis, dysthymic disorder (depressive neurosis), or any of the anxiety states (for example, PTSD).
- You still have damaged from frostbite (detained in areas cold enough to cause frostbite).
- You have post-traumatic osteoarthritis
- You have experienced a stroke or have complications from a stroke
- You have hypertensive vascular disease, including hypertensive heart disease, and related complications.

For former POWs who were captive for 30 days or more, the following additional conditions are presumed to be service connected:

- Osteoporosis (for claims filed on or after September 28, 2009; no PTSD diagnosis is required)
- Any nutritional deficiency, including avitaminosis, beriberi (including beriberi heart disease), malnutrition (including optic atrophy connected to malnutrition), and pellagra
- Helminthiasis
- Peripheral neuropathy (except where directly related to infectious disease)
- Peptic ulcer disease
- Chronic dysentery
Irritable bowel syndrome
Cirrhosis of the liver

**How to Apply:**

- Contact your local POW Outreach Coordinator at your nearest VA Regional Office
- Apply using eBenefits, or
- Work with an accredited representative or agent, or
- Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you.

Military Retiree Income Tax Exemption Effective January 1, 1989, and for all successive tax years, all compensation received as retirement benefits by any person retired from the military service of the United States of America and survivor benefits derived there from are hereby exempt from any state, county or municipal income tax or similar tax. (Ala. Code § 40-18-20)

**Life Insurance Benefits**

**Service-members Group Life Insurance (SGLI)**

SGLI is a program that provides low-cost term life insurance coverage to eligible Service-members. If eligible, you are automatically issued the maximum SGLI coverage. If you qualify for SGLI, you are automatically enrolled and do not need to apply for coverage. Service-members can make changes to your SGLI coverage. For example, Service-members can decline SGLI coverage, select a lesser amount than maximum coverage, designate beneficiaries, and/or make other changes.

**You are automatically insured under full-time SGLI if you are one of the following:**

- Active duty member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard
- Commissioned member of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) or the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS)
- Cadet or midshipman of the U.S. military academies
• Member, cadet, or midshipman of the Reserve or National Guard and are scheduled to perform at least 12 periods of inactive training per year.
• Service-member who volunteers for a mobilization category in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR)

For more information visit
http://www/benefits.va.gov/insurance/sgli.asp

VA HOME LOANS

VA helps Service-members, veterans, and eligible surviving spouses become homeowners. As part of our mission to serve you, we provide a home loan guaranty benefit and other housing-related programs to help you buy, build, repair, retain, or adapt a home for your own personal 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 provide you with more favorable terms.

Visit: http://benefits.va.gov/HOMELOANS/purchaseco_certificate.asp

REQUIRED:

• Certificate of Eligibility: After establishing that you are eligible, you will need a Certificate of Eligibility (COE). The COE verified to the lender that you are eligible for a VA-backed loan.
• Evidence Needed: The evidence you need depends on the nature of your eligibility.

VA Loan Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for a VA Loan, veterans, active duty service members, National Guard members, and reservists must meet the basic service requirements set forth by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Spouses of military members who dies while on active duty or as a result of a service-connected disability may also be eligible.

You may be eligible for a VA Home Loan if you meet one or more of the following conditions:
You have serviced 90 consecutive days or active service during wartime,

OR

You have served 181 days of active service during peacetime,

OR

You have more than 6 years of service in the National Guard or Reserves,

OR

You are the spouse of a service member who has died in the line of duty or as a result of a service-related disability

PENSIONS

To learn more about pensions offered by the VA visit http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/index.asp

SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME FOR WARTIME VETERANS

VA helps veterans and their families cope with financial challenges by providing supplemental income through the Veterans Pension Benefit. Veterans Pension is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to low-income wartime veterans.

Eligibility includes:

- Generally, a veteran must be at least 90 days of active duty service, with at least one day during a wartime period to qualify for a VA Pension. If you entered active duty after September 7, 1980, generally you must have served at least 24 months or the full period for which you were called or ordered to active duty (with some exceptions), with at least one day during a wartime period.

In addition to meeting minimum service requirements, the Veteran must be:

- Age 65 or older, or
Totally and permanently disabled, or
A patient in a nursing home receiving skilled nursing care, or
Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance, or
Receiving Supplemental Security Income

SURVIVORS PENSION

The Survivors Pension Benefit, which may also be referred to as Death Pension, is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to a low-income, un-remarried surviving spouse and/or unmarried children of a deceased Veteran with wartime service.

Eligibility includes: The deceased veteran must have met the following service requirements:

- For service on or before September 7, 1980, the veteran must have served at least 90 days of active military service, with at least one day during a wartime period.
- If he or she entered active duty after September 7, 1980, generally he or she must have served at least 24 months or the full period for which called or ordered to active duty with at least one day during a wartime period.
- Was discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions.
- Survivors Pension is also based on your yearly family income, which must be less than the amount set by Congress to qualify.

While an un-remarried spouse is eligible at any age, a child of a deceased wartime Veteran must be:

- Under 18, or
- Under age 23 or attending a VA-approved school, or
- Permanently incapable of self-support due to a disability before age 18
Eligible Wartime Periods:

Under current law, VA recognizes the following wartime periods to determine eligibility for VA Pension benefits:

- Mexican Border Period (May 9, 1916 – April 5, 1917, for Veterans who serviced in Mexico, on its borders, or adjacent waters)
- World War I (April 6, 1917 – November 11, 1918)
- World War II (December 7, 1941 – December 31, 1946)
- Korean conflict (June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955)
- Vietnam era (February 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975, for Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period; otherwise August 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975)
- Gulf War (August 2, 1990 – through a future date to be set by law or Presidential Proclamation)

Department of Veterans Affairs – Veteran’s Health Administration (VHA)

VA Health Benefits Overview:
http://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/Index.asp

How to Apply for Health Care:

- First, fill out the application online at http://va.gov.healthbenefits/apply/
- Then print out a copy and sign it. You may also use a paper application. Add name and phone for your next of kin and emergency contacts.
- Then bring or mail it with a copy of your DD214 to the nearest VA Clinic. (If “Purple Heart” is noted on your DD214, bring a copy of your award letter.)

Biloxi: (228)523-5000, ext. 34352 or 34616 or 34910
Mobile: (251)219-3900, ext. 33903
Pensacola: (850)912-2000, etc. 32076 or 32077
Eglin: (850)609-2600, ext. 32735
Panama City: (850)636-7000, ext. 37007
DOCUMENTATION

How to Obtain Copies of DD214, Service Personnel Records and Medical Records:
Contact National Archives: http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/
For questions about obtaining records, call (314)801-0800

How to Learn about Veterans Choice Program:
http://vaww.va.gov/CHOICE/MATERIALS_FOR_VETERANS_AND_THE_PUBLIC.asp
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOIEEzX9nqU

Department of Veterans Affairs: Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)

How to Learn about VBA Education Benefits
http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/index.asp

311 Vets Smartphone app – download at https://mobile.va.gov/app/311vet
The 311VET app was designed for Veterans to ask general VA benefits questions and receive answers 24/7/365 from any mobile device, allowing answers at any time and from anywhere. 311VET allows veterans to gather information on healthcare benefits, pensions, life insurance, dependents’ and survivors’ benefits, and much more.

Benefits and Eligibility for Veterans – State

Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA): www.va.state.al.us

Mobile office: 1150 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604; (251)574-8578
Baldwin office: 302 Byrne St., Bay Minette, AL 36507; (251)937-0218
Satellite Courthouse: 210 E. Section St., Foley, AL 36535; (251)943-5061
List of County Veteran Service Officers
http://www.va.state.al.us/county_select.aspx

Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA): http://floridavets.org/
FDVA Headquarters and Executive Offices: 11351 Ulmerton Road, Suite 311-K, Largo, FL 33778-1630, (727)518-3202

FDVA Benefits and Assistance Division: 9500 Bay Pines Blvd., Suite 214, Bay Pines, FL 33744, (727)319-7400/7440

FDVA Tallahassee Office: The Capitol, Suite 2105, 400 South Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001, (850)487-1533


Mississippi Veterans Affairs Board (MVA): http://www/vab/ms.gov/

Telephone: (601)576-4580 or 1(877)203-5632
List of County Veteran Service Officers:
http://www.vab.ms/gov/csolist.pdf

Veterans Driver License Designation

Veterans must visit one of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency’s Driver License examining offices, a license commissioner’s office or probate office, and present a DD-214 form from the U.S. Department of Defense that shows an “honorable” or “general under honorable conditions” status.

There is no additional charge for the veteran designation for a first-time driver license applicant or for an individual seeking to renew his or her license. A
veteran, who chooses to add the designation before his or her renewal date, must pay the standard fee for a duplicate license.

**Website:**
http://dps.alabama.gov/Home/wfContent.aspx?ID=30&PLH1=plhDriverLicense-Veterans
EDUCATION RESOURCES

Education and Training

Federal Financial Education Benefits

MONTGOMERY GI BILL ACTIVE DUTY (MGIB-AD)

The MGIB-AD program—sometimes known as Chapter 30—provides education benefits to veterans and Service-members who have at least two years of active duty. Eligible Service members may receive up to 36 months of education benefits. The monthly benefit paid to you is based on the type of training you take, length of your service, your category, any college fund eligibility, and if you contributed to the $600 buy-up program. You usually have 10 years to use your MGIB benefits, but the time limit can be fewer or more years depending on the situation. Some Service-members may contribute up to an additional $600 to the GI Bill to receive increased monthly benefits. For an additional $600 contribution, you may receive up to $5,400 in additional GI Bill benefits. The additional contribution must be made while on active duty. View the increased monthly rates and contact your personnel or payroll office.

Eligibility:

- You may be eligible if you have an honorable discharge, AND you have a high school diploma or GED or in some cases 12 hours of college credit; AND you meet the requirements of one of the categories listed at http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/mgib_ad.asp

MONTGOMERY GI BILL SELECTED RESERVE (MGIB-SR)

For Reservists with a six-year obligation in the Selected Reserve who are actively drilling. MGIB-SR program provides education and training benefits to eligible members of the Selected Reserve, including the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve, and the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. Eligibility for this program is determined by the Selected Reserve components and VA makes the payments. You may be entitled to receive up to 36 months of education benefits.
To qualify, you must meet the following requirements:

- Have a six-year obligation to serve in the Selected Reserve signed after June 30, 1985. If you are an officer, you must have agreed to serve six years in addition to your original obligation.
- Complete your initial active duty for training (IADT).
- Meet the requirement to receive a high school diploma or equivalency certificate before completing IADT.
- Remain in good standing while serving in an active Selected Reserve unit. You will also retain MGIB-SR eligibility if you were discharged from Selected Reserve service.

**EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VEAP)**

VEAP is available if you elected to make contributions from your military pay to participate in this education benefit program. The government matches your contributions on a 2-for-1 basis. Benefit entitlement is for one to 36 months depending on the number of monthly contributions. You have 10 years from your release from active duty to use VEAP benefits. If the entitlement is not used after the 10-year period, your portion remaining in the fund will be automatically refunded.

**You must meet the following requirements to qualify:**

- Entered service for the first time between Jan. 1, 1977, and June 30, 1985
- Open a contribution account before April 1, 1987
- Voluntarily contributed from $25 to $2,700;
- Completed your first-period service and were discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable.
- If you are currently on active duty and wish to receive VEAP benefits, you must have at least three months of contributions available.

**POST-9/11 GI BILL**

For approved programs, the Post-9/11 GI Bill provides up to 36 months of education benefits generally payable for 15 years following your release from active duty. Institutions of higher learning participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program may make additional funds available for your education program without an additional charge of your GI Bill entitlement.
The following payments may also be available:

- Annual books and supplies stipend
- One-time rural benefit payment
- Basic allowance for housing (BAH)

**Resident**: E-5
w/Dependent Rate

**Distance Learner**: $\frac{1}{2}$

National Averages

Break down of benefits available for Veterans who separated from service early.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individuals serving an aggregate Period of active duty after September 1, 2001, of</th>
<th>Percentage of Maximum Benefit Payable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At least 36 months</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 30 continuous days and discharged due days and discharged due to service-connected Disability</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 30 months &lt; 36 months</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 24 months &lt; 30 months</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 18 months &lt; 24 months</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 12 months &lt; 18 months</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 6 months &lt; 12 months</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 90 days &lt; 6 months</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligibility:

- If you have at least 90 days of aggregate active duty service after September 10, 2001, and are still on active duty, or if you are an honorably discharged veteran or were discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days, you may be eligible for this VA-administered program.

**Alabama G.I. Dependents Scholarship**

This nationally renowned program was created by Act 633 and approved October 1947 by the Alabama Legislature. It is administered by the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs and is governed by the Code of Alabama 1975, Section 31-6-1. The veteran must meet the following qualifications to establish the eligibility of his/her dependents. A dependent is defined as a child, stepchild, spouse or the unremarried widow (er) of the veteran.
Military Service: The veteran must have honorably served at least 90 days of continuous active federal military service or honorably discharged by reason of service-connected disability after serving less than 90 days of continuous active federal military service.

Disability Requirements: The veteran must be rated 20% or more due to service-connected disabilities or have held the qualifying rating at the time of death, a former prisoner of war (POW), declared missing in action (MIA), died as the result of a service-connected disability, or died while on active military service in the line of duty.

Residency Requirements: The veteran must have been a permanent civilian resident of the State of Alabama for at least one year immediately prior to (a) the initial entry into active military service or (b) any subsequent period of military service in which a break (1 year or more) in service occurred and the Alabama civilian residency was established. Permanently service-connected veterans rated at 100% who did not enter service from Alabama, may qualify after establishing at least five years of permanent residency in Alabama immediately prior to the filing of an application or immediately prior to death, if deceased.

Student Entitlement: As of fall 2009, children and stepchildren of qualified veterans may receive five standard academic years (10 semesters) at any Alabama state-supported institution of higher learning or a prescribed course of study at any state-supported technical school without payment of any tuition, mandatory textbooks or instructional fees. Additionally, eligible spouses and un-remarried widow(er)s of a qualified veteran rated as 100% permanently and totally disabled may also receive five standard academic years (10 semesters) at any Alabama state-supported institution of higher learning or a prescribed course of study at any state-supported technical school without payment of any tuition, mandatory textbooks or instructional fees.

Exception: As of Fall 2009, a spouse or un-remarried widow (er) of a veteran rated 20% to 90% disabled is entitled to three standard academic years (6 semesters) without payment of tuition, mandatory textbooks, and instructional fees or completion of the duration of one prescribed technical course not to exceed 18 months. Participants in the program prior to Fall 2009 are eligible for four, standard, academic years (8 semesters) or two standard academic years (4 semesters), respectively. Note: Applicants applying for benefits under the scholarship program beginning on or after fall 2014 (August 1, 2014) will be eligible for benefits at the in-state and undergraduate tuition rate. Note: Applicants
who were previously denied benefits based solely on the veteran’s peacetime status may re-apply and receive benefits under the scholarship program to include graduate courses if applicable. Applications for previously denied applicants must be resubmitted and received at ADVA Headquarters prior to August 1, 2015 in order to receive benefits at this capacity.

**Age Deadline:** The child or stepchild must initiate training under our program prior to his/her 26th birthday. In certain situations, a child or stepchild may be eligible for our program up to the age of 30. If the applicant is a stepchild, the veteran and the stepchild’s parent must be legally married prior to the child’s 19th birthday.

**Note:** This deadline may be extended for previously denied applicants who were denied based solely on the veteran’s peacetime status. In order to receive this extension, applications must be resubmitted and received at ADVA Headquarters prior to August 1, 2015.

**Application Assistance:** The Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs maintains offices throughout the state which can furnish information and assist you in filing your application. To find your nearest Veterans Service Office, visit the Veterans Service Office Locator Page for contact options.

For more information visit http://va.alabama.gov/gi_dep_scholarship.aspx

**TUITION WAIVER FOR PURPLE HEART MEDAL RECIPIENTS:** Public institutions of higher learning in the State of Alabama, including two-year and four-year postsecondary technical colleges, community colleges, and junior colleges, may waive tuition and fees for recipients of the Purple Heart Medal for undergraduate studies.

**National Resources:**
Information regarding VA education benefits, including eligibility, payment information, the remaining balance of benefit entitlement, or the address of the nearest regional offices is available at (888)442-4551, http://gibill.va.gov/

**Student Veterans of America:**
SVA is a 501(c) (3) non-profit coalition of student Veterans groups on college campuses across the globe. These member chapters are the “boots on the ground” that help Veterans reintegrate into campus life and succeed academically. Each chapter must be an officially recognized student group by their university or college and provide a peer-to-peer network for Veterans who are attending the...
school. Additionally, chapters often coordinate campus activities, provide pre-
professional networking, and generally provide a touchstone for student Veterans
in higher education. For details and chapter locator see website:
http://studentveterans.org/

**Alabama Schools**

**Alabama Aviation Center at Mobile:**
https://www.escc.edu/index.php/aviation/mobile
1975 Avenue C, Mobile, AL 36615, (251)438-2816

**Bishop State:** http://www.bishop.edu/
351 N. Broad St., Mobile, AL 36603, VA Counselor: (251)405-7015

**Coastal Alabama Community College:** http://www.faulknerstate.edu/
1900 US Hwy. 31, Bay Minette, AL 36507 (Baldwin County)
Faulkner State VA Counselor: (251)580-2292
Student Veterans of America Chapter on campus

**Faulkner University:** http://www.faulkner.edu/admissions/mep.asp
3943 Airport Blvd, Mobile, AL 36608, (251)380-9090

**Fortis College:**
https://www/fortis.edu/campuses/alabama/mobile/7033-airport-blvd-mobile-
al.aspx
7033 Airport Blvd., Mobile, AL 36608, (251)344-1203

**Remington College:**
828 Downtowner Loop W., Mobile, AL 36609, (251)343-8200

**Springhill College:** http://www.sch.edu/veterans/
4000 Dauphin St., Mobile, AL 36608, (251)389-4000

**University of South Alabama:**
http://www/southalabama.edu/registrar/veterans.htm
Veterans Office, 111 Jaguar Drive, Academic Support Center,
Suite 1345, Mobile, AL 36688, (251)460-6230
Student Veterans of America Chapter, on campus, aka “Jag-Vets”
https://www.facebook.com/USA.SVO, and in Veterans Resource Rm #1365
University of Mobile:
http://www.umobile.edu/Admissions/FinancialAid/VeteransAffairs.aspx
5735 College Parkway, Eight Mile, AL 36613, Veterans Affairs Office: (251)442-2222

Virginia College:
http://www.vc.edu/virginia-college-military/military-benefits-options.cfm
3725 Airport Blvd, Suite 165, Mobile, AL 36608, (251)343-7227
2970 Cottage Hill Rd., Suite 141, Mobile, AL 36606, (251)378-3040
5940 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207, (904)520-7400
28110 S. Federal Hwy, Fort Pierce, FL 34982, (772)448-2000
2810 SE Federal Hwy, Stuart, FL 34994, (772)448-2000
312 E 9 Mile Rd Suite 34, Pensacola, FL 32514, (850)436-8444
920 Cedar Lake Rd, Biloxi, MS 39532, (228)546-9100
5841 Ridgewood Rd, Jackson, MS 39211, (601)977-0960

University of West Florida
https://uwf.edu/offices/military-veteran-resource-center/
Military and Veterans Resources Center (MVRC), Building 38, Room 147;
1000 University Parkway, Pensacola, FL 32514, (850)474-2550

For more schools in Alabama see: http://www/ache.alabama.gov/

For more schools in Florida see: http://www.stateofflorida.com

For more schools in Mississippi see: http://www/mississippi.edu/universities
HEALTHCARE

Both the Alabama and U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs provides a wide range of healthcare programs and benefits. For help in choosing or applying for any program, contact the nearest Veteran Service Facility.

For general information, visit: http://www.va.state.al.us/default.aspx, or www.va.gov

Veteran Healthcare Services

General VA Health Services Include:

- Primary care
- Specialty care
- For women: reproductive health care system
- In/outpatient care
- Medication
- Veteran health registries
- Readjustment counseling services
- Prosthetic and sensory aids
- Mental health care treatment
- Suicide prevention
- Reimbursement or travel costs
- Home improvement and structural alterations

Private Insurance Options:

If you are not eligible for VA Healthcare, and you do not receive Health Insurance from your employer, there are other available options. Here are some resources that will help you with your search.

Affordable Healthcare – This third party site allows you to compare health insurance rates and options for you and your family based on where you live.

Visit: www.affordablehealthcare123.com/get-health-insurance-quotes/

Qualified for Tricare-Retired and Medically Retired Veterans (over 30 %)

TRICARE – You can visit to compare plans, enroll, manage your plan and set appointments at www.tricare.mil

TRICARE Separation Coverage- In some cases you may be eligible for temporary healthcare before separating from service or retiring. This resource will
give you an understanding of eligibility and available coverage programs:
https://tricare.mil/LifeEvents/Separating.aspx

**Active Duty Service Members**

There are two programs for temporary coverage. You may qualify for:

- Transitional Assistance Management Program
- Continued Health Care Benefit Program

**National Guard/Reserve Members**

If you separate right after active duty service, you may qualify for:

- Transitional Assistance Management Program
- Continued Health Care Benefit Program

If you aren't activated, called, or ordered to Active Duty service for more than 30 days in a row when you separate, you may qualify for temporary coverage. Check with your Service representative for details.

If you're a member of the Selected Reserve and get TRICARE Reserve Select, you may purchase the Continued Health Care Benefit Program when you separate.

**Transitional Assistance Management Program**

The Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) provides 180 days of premium-free transitional health care benefits after the regular TRICARE benefits end.

**Eligibility:**

- Involuntarily separating from active duty under honorable conditions including:
- Members who receive a voluntary separation incentive (VSI), or
- Members who receive voluntary separation pay (VSP) and aren't entitled to retired or retainer pay upon separation.
- A National Guard or Reserve member separating from a period of more than 30 consecutive days of active duty served in support of a contingency operation
Separating from active duty following involuntary retention (stop-loss) in support of a contingency operation
Separating from active duty following a voluntary agreement to stay on active duty for less than one year in support of a contingency operation
Receiving a sole survivorship discharge
Separating from regular active duty service and agree to become a member of the Selected Reserve of a Reserve Component. The Service member must become a Selected Reservist the day immediately following release from regular active duty service to qualify.

Benefits:

For those who qualify, the 180-day TAMP period begins upon the sponsor's separation. During TAMP sponsors and family members are eligible to use one of the following health plan options in addition to military hospitals and clinics:

- TRICARE Prime (where locally available, enrollment required)
- TRICARE Standard and Extra
- US Family Health Plan (if you live in a designated location; enrollment required)
- TRICARE Prime Overseas (enrollment required)
- TRICARE Standard Overseas

Please visit: https://tricare.mil/Plans/SpecialPrograms/TAMP

Continued Health Care Benefit Program

The Continued Health Care Benefit Program (CHCBP) is a premium-based plan.

Benefits:

- Gives you temporary health coverage for 18-36 months when you lose eligibility for TRICARE
- Acts as a bridge between military health benefits and your new civilian health plan.
- Provides the same coverage as TRICARE Standard, including prescriptions.
- Gives you minimum essential coverage Basic health care coverage that meets the Affordable Care Act requirement. If you don’t have coverage, you
may have to pay a fee for each month you aren’t covered required by the Affordable Care Act, but it is temporary. You should consider your options for when CHCBP ends.

If you were using one of the following plans, it must have been purchased and in place at least one day before you lost eligibility for you to qualify for CHCBP:

- TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS)
- TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR)
- TRICARE Young Adult
- TRICARE Provider locator - A resource sponsored by Humana that allows you to find providers in your area, or in the area you are moving to

Please Visit: https://tricare.mil/Plans/SpecialPrograms/CHCBP

**Medicaid**

Medicaid is a state-administered health insurance provided to certain low-income individuals and families who fit into an eligibility group that is recognized by federal and state law. Usually, veterans who qualify for Medicaid will not pay copays for VA health care.

**Contact:** Toll-Free | General Questions about Medicaid 1-334-242-5000

**Medicare**

Medicare is a federally funded health insurance for people 65 or older, under 65 with certain disabilities and any age with End-Stage Renal Disease.

How to enroll in Medicare if you are turning 65 without Social Security or Railroad Retirement benefits:

*If you are eligible for Medicare but not currently receiving Social Security retirement benefits or Railroad Retirement benefits, there are three different time periods during which you can enroll in Medicare Parts A and B.*

1. **Initial Enrollment Period (IEP).** You can enroll in Medicare at any time during this seven-month period, which includes the three months before, the month of, and the three months following your 65th birthday. The date when your Medicare coverage begins depends on when you sign up.
• If you enroll during the first three months of your IEP, coverage begins the month in which you first become eligible for Medicare.
• If you enroll during the fourth month of your IEP, coverage begins the month following the month of enrollment.
• If you enroll during the fifth month of your IEP, coverage begins the second month following the month of enrollment.
• If you enroll during the sixth month or seventh month of your IEP, coverage begins the third month following the month of enrollment.

For example, let’s say you turn 65 in June. Use the following chart to determine when you can enroll in Medicare and when your coverage would start.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You can enroll anytime in:</th>
<th>Your coverage starts:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>June 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>June 1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>November 1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>December 1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is important to note if your birthday falls on the first of the month, your IEP is the seven months surrounding the month prior to the month of your birth. For example, let’s say you turn 65 on June 1. Your IEP runs from February 1 to August 31.

2. Special Enrollment Period (SEP). SEPs are periods of time outside of normal enrollment periods, triggered by specific circumstances. The Part B SEP lets you delay enrollment in Part B without penalty if you were covered by insurance based on your or your spouse’s current work (job-based insurance) when you first become eligible for Medicare. You can enroll in Medicare without penalty for up to eight months after you lose your group health coverage or you (or your spouse) stop working, whichever comes first. Medicare coverage begins the first month after you enroll. For example, if you retire and sign up for Medicare in February, your coverage will begin March 1. To avoid a gap in coverage, enroll in Medicare the month before your job-based insurance will end.
3. General Enrollment (GEP). If you did not enroll in Medicare when you originally became eligible for it (either during your IEP or a SEP), you can sign up during the GEP. The GEP takes place January 1 through March 31 each year, with coverage starting July 1. You may incur a Part B late enrollment penalty and face gaps in coverage if you sign up during the GEP.

VETERAN CAREGIVER SUPPORT:
Services for Family Caregivers of Post 9/11 Veterans

- Family Caregivers provide crucial support in caring for Veterans. VA recognizes that Family Caregivers in a home environment can enhance the health and well-being of Veterans under VA care.

Under the "Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010," post-9/11 Veterans who sustained or aggravated a serious injury in the line of duty and their family caregivers may qualify for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance to Family Caregivers.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Veterans eligible for this program are those who sustained or aggravated a serious injury – including traumatic brain injury, psychological trauma or other mental disorder – in the line of duty, on or after September 11, 2001.
- Veterans eligible for this program must also be in need of personal care services because of an inability to perform one or more activities of daily living and/or need supervision or protection based on symptoms or residuals of neurological impairment or injury. Additional application assistance is available at 1-877-222-VETS (8387) *If you think you fit the criteria for these services, please follow the link to answer some preliminary questions http://www.caregiver.va.gov/apply

Additional application assistance is available at 1-877-222 VETS (8387).
Alabama State Veterans Homes

**William F. Green State Veterans Home**

The Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVS) owns and governs William F. Green State Veterans Home, located in Bay Minette, AL. This 150-bed facility is one of the Gulf Coast’s finest. From fishing, sporting events, and even boating, this community is perfect for the Veterans of an award-winning facility.

The William F. Green State Veterans Home is managed by HMR of Alabama, Inc. on behalf of the ADVA. HMR Veterans Services, Inc. has proudly provided management services to HMR of Alabama, Inc. since July of 2004.

300 Faulkner Drive, Bay Minette, AL 36507-1461 | **Phone:** 251-937-8049

**Website:** http://www.va.state.al.us/WGHome.aspx

**Bill Nichols State Veterans Home**

1784 Elkahatchee Road, Alexander City, AL 35010 | **Phone:** 256-329-3311

**Website:** http://www.va.state.al.us/bnhome.aspx

**Floyd E. “Tut” Fann State Veterans Home**

2701 Meridian Street, Huntsville, AL 35811 | **Phone:** 256-851-2807

**Website:** http://www.va.state.al.us/FFHome.aspx

**Colonel Robert L. Howard State Veterans Home**

7054 Veterans Parkway, Pell City, AL 35125 | **Phone:** 205-338-6487

**Website:** http://www.va.state.al.us/CRLHHome.aspx
Services Provided

- 24 Hour Nursing Coverage
- Physician on Call 24 Hours
- Physical Therapy on Site
- Occupational Therapy on Site
- Speech Therapy on Site
- Pharmacy Services Available

Medical Foster Home Care

Medical Foster Homes are private homes in which a trained caregiver provides services to a few individuals. Some, but not all, residents are Veterans. VA inspects and approves all Medical Foster Homes.

A Medical Foster Home can serve as an alternative to a nursing home. It may be appropriate for Veterans who require nursing home care but prefer a non-institutional setting with fewer residents.

Medical Foster Homes have a trained caregiver on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This caregiver can help the Veteran carry out activities of daily living, such as bathing and getting dressed. VA ensures that the caregiver is well trained to provide VA planned care. While living in a Medical Foster Home, Veterans receive Home Based Primary Care Services.

To learn more about the Medical Foster Home Program, please contact a Medical Foster Home Coordinator:

**Alabama**
Kelly Estle, LCSW, DCSW | 1504 Springhill Ave, Mobile, AL 36604 | Phone: 251-219-3968 | Email: Kelly.Estie@va.gov

**Mississippi**
Linda Sue Kelley, LCSW | 400 Veterans Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39531 | Phone: 228-523-4664 | Email: Linda.Kelley2@va.gov

**Florida**
Cindy Bradford, LCSW | 790 Veterans Way, Pensacola, FL 32507 | Phone: 850-912-2297 | Email: Cynthia.Bradford2@va.gov
VA Hearing and Vision Benefits

The Department of Veterans Affairs will ensure access to audiology and eye care services including preventive health (care) services and routine vision testing for all enrolled veterans and those veterans exempt from enrollment.

Glasses and Hearing Aids

The VA will provide glasses and hearing aids to veterans who meet the following criteria:

- Veterans with any compensable service-connected disability
- Former Prisoners of War
- Purple Heart recipients
- Veterans getting benefits under Title 38 United States Code
- Veterans who are qualified for an increased pension based on being permanently housebound and in need of regular aid and attendance.
- Veterans with vision or hearing impairment resulting from diseases or the existence of another medical condition for which the veteran is receiving care of services from VHA, or which resulted from treatment of that medical condition, e.g., stroke, polytrauma, traumatic brain injury, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, vascular disease, geriatric chronic illnesses, toxicity from drugs, ocular photosensitivity from drugs, cataract surgery, and/or other surgeries performed on the eye, ear, brain resulting in vision or hearing impairment.
- Veterans with significant functional or cognitive impairment evidenced by deficiencies in the ability to perform activities of daily living.
- Those who have vision and/or hearing impairment severe enough that it interferes with their ability to participate actively in their own medical treatment and to reduce the impact of dual sensory impairment (combined hearing and vision loss). NOTE: the term “severe refers to a vision and/or hearing loss that interferes with or restricts access to, involvement in, or active participation in health care services (e.g., communication or reading medication labels). The term is not to be interpreted to mean that a severe
hearing or vision loss must exist to be eligible for hearing aids or eyeglasses.

- Those veterans who have service-connected vision disabilities rated zero percent or service-connected hearing disabilities rated zero percent if there is organic conductive, mixed, or sensory hearing impairment, and loss of pure tone hearing sensitivity in the low, mid, or high-frequency range or a combination of frequency ranges which contribute to loss of communication ability; however, hearing aids are to be provided only as needed for the service-connected hearing disability.

Veterans meeting the eligibility requirements to receive health care are eligible for diagnostic audiology services and eye & vision care services. Veterans cannot be denied access to audiology services and/or eye & vision care services covered by the Medical Benefits Package even if they do not meet the eligibility criteria for hearing aids and/or eyeglasses.

**Medical Benefits Package**

**Website:** https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/veterans-medical-benefits-package.html

For additional information, veterans can contact the prosthetic representative at the nearest VA health care facility.

**Nearest VA Health Care Facilities**

**Mobile Vet Center**
3221 Springhill Ave Bldg. 2 Suite C, Mobile, AL 36607 | **Phone:** 251-478-5906

**Mobile Outpatient Clinic**
1504 Springhill Ave, Mobile, AL 36604 | **Phone:** 251-219-3900
BURIAL BENEFITS

Veteran and Family Eligibility:

Burial in a national cemetery is open to all members of the armed forces who have met a minimum active duty service requirement and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. A veteran’s spouse, widow or widower, minor dependent children, and under certain conditions, unmarried adult children with disabilities may also be eligible for burial. Eligible spouses and children may be buried even if they predecease the Veteran. Members of the reserve components of the armed forces who die while on active duty or who die while on training duty, or were eligible for retired pay, may also be eligible for burial.

Alabama state residency requirements for burial in the State Veterans Cemetery must meet one of the following:

- Legal resident of Alabama at the time of death; or
- Legal resident of Alabama when he or she entered the Armed Forces of the United States; or
- Legal resident of Alabama for a period of 10 or more years (any cumulative period of 10 or more years, regardless of residency at the time of death).

Gravesite in any of VA's national cemeteries with available space

- Opening and closing of the grave
- Perpetual care of the gravesite
- Headstones, markers, and medallions
- Burial flag
- Presidential Memorial Certificate

The Alabama National Veterans Cemetery

Montevallo: The new 479-acre national cemetery in the Birmingham area will serve veterans' needs for at least the next 50 years. The construction of Phase I consists of approximately 45 acres and includes facilities necessary to maintain, operate, and provide burials for approximately ten years. When this phase of construction is complete the interment areas will provide for 7,395 full-casket gravesites, 999 in-ground cremation sites, and approximately 2,700 columbarium niches.
Burial Benefits for Women

If you served in a branch of the military and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable you may be eligible for burial in a Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery. Female veterans married to a veteran are entitled to their own separate grave, headstone or marker, burial flag and Presidential Memorial Certificate. However, they may choose to be buried in the same gravesite as their spouse.

The Alabama State Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Spanish Fort sits on over 120 acres of land in Baldwin County, Alabama. The cemetery was dedicated in December 2012 and began interments in April 2013. The initial phase of the cemetery is 22.8 acres and has 2,776 burial sites (2,392 in-ground). The lifespan of the entire cemetery is 100 years.

Pre-registration is available and allows a veteran and their spouse to establish, in advance, their eligibility for burial at the Alabama State Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Spanish Fort. For spouses or dependent children, a $375.00 fee will be charged on the day of interment. For veterans the cemetery provides the following at no cost:

- Burial plot or columbarium niche
- Concrete liner for casket burials
- Opening and closing of the grave
- Perpetual care of the gravesite
- Inscribed gravestone
- 30-minute committal service

All other funeral expenses are paid by the veteran’s family or estate.

Veteran Eligibility:

Eligibility for Veteran’s Family:

The surviving spouse of an eligible veteran that has been interred who remarries retains his or her eligibility for burial. Unmarried children who are under 21 years of age, or who are under 23 years of age and are pursuing full-time education at an approved institution; or an unmarried adult child of an eligible veteran of any age if the child became physically or mentally disabled and incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical disability before reaching 21 years of age or before
reaching 23 years of age if pursuing full-time education at an approved institution are eligible.

**Contact**: Alabama State Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Spanish Fort | 34904 Alabama Highway 225 | Spanish Fort, AL 36577 | **Phone**: 251-625-1338

**Barrancas National Cemetery**

Barrancas National Cemetery is located within the boundaries of the U.S. Naval Air Station, eight miles southwest of downtown Pensacola, Fla. The Pensacola Naval Air Station is home to the U.S. Naval Air Training Command and encompasses almost 12,000 acres. It was established in 1914 on the site of the old U.S. Navy Yard at Pensacola.

The cemetery is located exclusively within the boundaries of Naval Air Station Pensacola, which is an active duty military base. Access to Barrancas National Cemetery is entirely dependent on access to the Naval Air Station.

**Contact**: Barrancas National Cemetery | 1 Cemetery Road, Pensacola, FL 32508 | **Phone**: 850-453-4108

**Mobile Memorial Gardens**

It is estimated that there are at least 10,000 or more Veterans buried in Mobile Memorial Gardens. We are honored to be the resting place for each and every one.

**Honoring Veterans**

As a gesture of appreciation for the sacrifice made, all honorably discharged Veterans are provided a burial space at no charge in a section exclusively for Veterans and their families. All that is required is proof of service and payment of the one-time endowed care fee.

**Veterans Program**

To date, four Veterans sections have been created and plans are being made to expand the most recent section, the Garden of Valor. In addition to the space provided for the Veteran, family members may purchase adjacent spaces at a price considerably less than those in all other sections.
Contact: Mobile Memorial Gardens | 6100 Three Notch Road, Mobile, AL 36619 |
Phone: 251 661 1333

Schedule a Burial

Upon the family's request, Public Law 106-65 requires that every eligible Veteran receive a military funeral honors ceremony, to include folding and presenting the United States burial flag and the playing of Taps. The law defines a military funeral honors detail as consisting of two or more uniformed military persons, with at least one being a member of the Veteran's parent service of the armed forces. The DOD program calls for funeral home directors to request military funeral honors on behalf of the Veterans' family.

Fax all discharge documentation to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-866-900-6417 and follow-up with a phone call to 1-800-535-1117.
HOUSING

Military Family Relief Act

This law prohibits a mortgagee from initiating a foreclosure against the surviving spouse or estate of a mortgagor who dies while deployed overseas on active duty military service for 180 days after the death. Civil penalties against a violator are deposited into the Military Family Relief Fund, which the ADVA may use to assist military families (Ala. Code § 35-10-71).

NATIONAL PROGRAMS

Department of Housing and Urban Development / VA Supportive Housing

This program places some eligible homeless Veterans in permanent housing by providing VASH housing vouchers. These vouchers are specifically allocated for Veterans and given out by HUD-VASH case managers. Eligible Veterans include those who are most vulnerable such as veterans with families, female veterans, veterans with disabilities, and recently returning Veterans. However, there are a limited number of vouchers available by geographic region. HUD-VASH programs are usually run as part of the Homeless Program at most VA Medical Centers.

For more information, please visit https://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash.asp

Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans Program: This program of the VA that provides high-quality residential rehabilitation and treatment to veterans with severe medical conditions, mental illness, addiction, and other psychosocial deficits. Contact the VA about this program by calling 1-800-827-1000.

Housing Choice Voucher Program: The Housing Choice Voucher Program is a federal program run by HUD that provides housing vouchers to very low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Eligibility is determined on the basis of a person’s annual income

For more information, please visit https://www.mobilehousing.org/ or call Mobile Housing Board at 251-434-2200.
Homeless Prevention and Assistance

**Veterans Administration Programs**
VA-National Call Center for Homeless Veterans:
(877)4AID VET; (877)424-3838;
ttp://www1.va.gov/HOMELESS/NationalCallCenter.asp

**VA Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF):**
The Department of Veterans Affairs funds the Supportive Services of Veteran Families program to provide case management services that promote self-sufficiency and prevent homelessness. These local agencies receive VA funding for the SSVF Program:

**SSVF at Housing First:** 3929 Airport Blvd, Bldg. 3, Suite 200, Mobile, AL 36609, (251)450-3345, www.hfal.org

**Program Hours:** 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Thursday; 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Friday

**SSVA at 90Works:** Geographic area served: Northwest Florida and Escambia County Alabama. 115 Gregory Square, Pensacola, FL 32502 1(855)909-6757, www.90works.org

**Program Hours:** 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Thursday; 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Friday (Closed on Federal Holidays)

**SSVF at Hancock Resource Center:** 454 Highway 90, Suite B, Waveland, MS 39576 (228)463-8887, www.hancockhrc.org

**Program Hours:** 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Thursday; closed on Friday

**SSVF South Mississippi (Oak Arbor):** Highway 49 South, Hattiesburg, MS 39401 (601)545-2925 or (888)291-0646 http://www.southmsveteransresources.com/

**Program Hours:** 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday

**Soldier On/Voice of Calvary Ministries**
531 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39203 (601)969-3088, www.vocm.org
Community Funded Programs

**National Coalition for Homeless Veterans:** [http://www.nchv.org/](http://www.nchv.org/)

**Alabama**

**Housing First:** (The Homeless Coalition)
**List of Service Providers:** [http://www.hfal.org/service-providers/](http://www.hfal.org/service-providers/)

**McKemie Place:** Women’s shelter for single, unaccompanied women; provides shelter, dinner, and counseling, (251)432-1122

**Salvation Army:** Provides shelter, drug and alcohol treatment, financial assistance and other social services, (251)438-7748

**Volunteers of America Southeast (VOASE):** Provides a variety of services for homeless Veterans, including Eagle’s Landing, a 38 unit, transitional housing community that receives VA funding. Eagle’s Landing is open to Veterans who serviced in the active military, naval or air service and were discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable. Homeless veterans can participate in the program for up to two years while working with staff to develop and implement a plan for achieving stability in their life.

**For more information call** (251)300-3595.

**Waterfront Rescue Mission:** Men’s shelter; faith-based recovery program for homeless people; rehabilitation services, (251)433-1847
[http://www.waterfrontmission.org/men-srecovery-program](http://www.waterfrontmission.org/men-srecovery-program)
HOME REPAIR PROGRAMS

Department of Community & Housing Development | Home Repair Grant Program

To Complete an Application for the Program, You must meet the Following Requirements:

- The property **MUST** be located within the city limits of Mobile
- The applicant **MUST** own and occupy the home as their primary residence (no vacant or rental property is eligible and the applicant’s name **MUST** appear on the deed)
- The applicant **MUST** meet the income requirements (call for more information)
- **MUST** have a will that transfers property prior to work beginning

*NO INSURANCE REQUIRED FOR THIS PROGRAM

REPAIRS: ROOFING, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

*These are the ONLY repairs performed through this program. The program DOES NOT include repairs for Windows, doors or painted surfaces

Contact: Department of Community & Housing Development (Government Plaza) | 205 Government Street, South Tower – 5th Floor, Mobile, AL, 36617 | Phone: 251-208-7596

Website: http://mobilecommunityhousing.com/pdf/Homwne_Rehab_prog_desc.pdf

Program Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Habitat of Humanity is a locally run affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, a non-profit helping families by providing a hand-up, not a handout, through sweat equity partnerships, homeowner workshops, and no interest loans.
Eligibility

• Must meet income guidelines
• Unable to qualify for a conventional bank or mortgage loan
• Have a need for decent housing

• Have the ability to make down payment
• Be able to make low monthly mortgage payments (approx. $375-$500)
• Must be willing to provide 300-400 hours of sweat equity labor in partnership with Habitat for Humanity.

Families with lower income may qualify if there is no or very low debt and they demonstrate an ability to pay.

Application Process: Must attend an orientation meeting.
Program Fees: Please call for specifics

Current living conditions:

• Inadequate shelter
• Lack of electrical, gas, water, sewage
• Structural problems (holes in walls, floors, roof, etc.)
• Does not meet city, county, or HUD standards

• The environment is hazardous to health
• Extreme overcrowding (based on the number of occupants, ages, and sexes of occupants)

Contact: Habitat for Humanity of Southwest Alabama – Mobile County | 3712 Airport Blvd, Mobile, AL | Phone: 251-476-7171

Website: https://www.habitatswalabama.org/ | Program Hours: 8:30 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Contact: Habitat for Humanity of Baldwin County | 19289 State Highway 59 | Summerdale, AL 36580 | Phone: 251-943-7268

Website: http://www.baldwinhabitat.org/ | Program Hours: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday
USDA Rural Development – Alabama Bay Minette Area Office

USDA Rural Development’s housing assistance program provides loans for the purchase or improvement of homes, grants for senior citizens (62 or older) for repairs to remove health hazards to owner-occupied homes, low interest, very low-income homeowners for repairs, 1% interest/20 year term.

Eligibility: There are numerous requirements; most deal with credit history, repayment ability, citizenship and income level.

Application Process: Phone for information/application. | Program Fees: Call for details.

Contact: USDA Rural Development | 207 Faulkner Drive, Suite 102, Bay Minette, AL 36507 | Phone: 251-937-3297

Website: https://www.rd.usda.gov/al | Program Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday

Specially Adaptive Housing Grant
SAH grants help Veterans with certain service-connected disabilities live independently in a barrier-free environment. SAH grants can be used by either constructing a specially adapted home on land to be acquired, building a home on land already owned if it is suitable for specially adapted housing, or by applying the rant against the unpaid principal mortgage balance of an adapted home already acquired without the assistance of a VA grant.

For more information please visit http://benefits.va.gov/HOMELOANS/adaptedhousing.asp or call Phone: (877) 827-3702, or email sahinfo.vbaco@va.gov apply: www.ebenefits.va.gov

Wounded Warrior Project
Provides unique and direct programs to meet the needs of injured service members, raises awareness for the needs of injured veterans, and creates opportunities for injured veterans to help and assist each other

Local Office: 3343 Peachtree Road, NE #M20, Atlanta, GA 30326 | Phone: (404) 974.9234 | https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/contact-us
COUNSELING, TREATMENT & REHABILITATION

Veterans Crisis Line

If you are experiencing a crisis, please call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room. The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis, their families and friends with qualified Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online, chat, or text. Veterans and their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online, or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Support for deaf and hard of hearing individuals is available.

If you are experiencing an IMMEDIATE CRISIS, please dial 9-1-1

The Veterans Crisis Line is available to all veterans. Feel free to call if you are experiencing depression, PTSD, Substance Abuse, Suicidal thoughts, or any other mental health issue. Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and press “1” for Veterans, or you can chat with a VA crisis counselor online at https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/help-yourself/veterans/

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States

VA Services for Mental Health

For information about VA Mental Health visit http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/VAMentalHealthGroup.asp
- To get help now visit http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/gethelp.asp
- To locate programs visit http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/gethelp.asp
- For treatment, info visit http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/gethelp.asp
- For screening test visit http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/gethelp.asp

To see a list of VA benefits and claims visit http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/gethelp.asp
For self-help resources visit http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/self_help.asp
Coaching into Care

Coaching into Care provides a “coaching” service for family and friends of Veterans who see that a Veteran in their life needs help. Coaching involves helping the caller figure out how to motivate the veteran to seek services. The service is free and provided by licensed clinical social workers and psychologists. The goal of the service is to help the veteran and family members find the appropriate services in their community.

For more information visit http://www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching/index.asp or call (888) 823-7458

Make the Connection

Make the Connection is a website that offers hundreds of stories from veterans who overcame mental health issues. http://maketheconnection.net/

Military Sexual Trauma

Both women and men can experience sexual harassment or sexual assault during their military service. VA refers to these experiences as military sexual trauma or MST. Like other types of trauma, MST can negatively impact a person’s mental and physical health, even many years later.

Some problems associated with MST include:

- Disturbing memories or nightmares
- Difficulty feeling safe
- Feelings of depression or numbness
- Problems with alcohol or other drugs
- Feeling isolated from other people
- Problems with anger or irritability
- Problems with sleep
- Physical health problems

Safe Helpline

Managed by the Department of Defense, the Safe Helpline is a crisis support service for members of the Department of Defense who have been affected by sexual assault. Service is live, one-on-one, confidential, anonymous, secure, and available 24/7 worldwide.
SOUTHWEST ALABAMA VETERANS RESOURCE GUIDE

Toll Free: 877-995-5247 | Website: https://safehelpline.org/

For general information: http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/msthome.asp
For women: http://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/trauma.asp
For the National Center for PTSD:

COMMUNITY COUNSELING SERVICES

Lifelines Counseling Services

Family Counseling Center

Family Counseling encompasses a variety of programs to help veterans and family members of veterans through a number of problems. Program for divorcing parents provide techniques for successfully moving families through the transition of separation and divorce. Counseling helps individuals overcome marital discord, divorce, parent-child conflicts, the death of a loved one, a family member suffering from chronic illness, family violence or drug and alcohol abuse.

Consumer Credit Counseling

Consumer Credit Counseling Service (CCCS): Consumer Credit Counseling Service provides consumers in Southwest Alabama with assistance in managing personal finances, both preventive - for those wanting to avoid serious financial problems and rehabilitative - for those who are experiencing financial problems:

Information and Referral
Budget Counseling
Credit/Debt Management Counseling and Education

Community Education
Bankruptcy Counseling and Education

Housing Counseling and Education:

- Pre-purchase
- Post-purchase
- Delinquent Rent
- Foreclosure Prevention
- Loss Mitigation
- Reverse Mortgage
- Down Payment Assistance/Home Buyer Education
Contact: Lifelines Counseling Services | 705 Oak Circle Drive East | Mobile, AL 36609 | Phone: (251) 602-0909

Website: www.lifelinesmobile.org | Programs Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Rape Crisis Center

Rape Crisis provides confidential services at no cost to survivors of sexual violence and their significant others. Services are provided on a 24-hour basis, including hospital accompaniment, individual counseling, support group, law enforcement and criminal justice accompaniment.

Website: www.lifelinesmobile.org | 24 hour crisis line 1-800-718-7273 or 251-473-7273

Coverage Area(s): Mobile, Clarke, Washington counties

Penelope House

The mission of Penelope House is to provide safety, protection, and support to the victims of Domestic Violence and their children through the provision of shelter, advocacy, and individual and community education.

Website: www.penelopehouse.org | 24-hour crisis line 251-342-8994

Coverage Area(s): Choctaw, Clarke, Washington and Mobile Counties

The Lighthouse of Baldwin County

The Lighthouse of Baldwin County provides a confidential safe shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children who are in immediate danger. Offers legal advocacy, case management, counseling, victims support groups, and prevention education.

Website: www.abeacon.org | Phone: 251-947-6008 | 24 Hours, Mon - Sun

Coverage Area(s): Baldwin and Escambia County
**Catholic Social Services - Counseling**

The counseling services at Catholic Social Services are open to anyone regardless of religious affiliation. The agency offers services to adults, children, and families who are encountering problems in their daily lives that go beyond their own ability to resolve. Catholic Social Services diverse counseling staff of licensed professional counselors is able to address most counseling needs including:

- Marital problems
- Grief and bereavement issues
- Stress, anxiety, and depression
- Substance abuse
- Relationship conflicts
- Behavioral problems with children/adolescents
- Family crisis

**Contact:** Catholic Social Services of Mobile | 188 South Florida Street | Mobile, AL 36606 | **Phone:** (251) 434-1549

**Website:** www.catholicsocialservicesmobile.com | **Programs Hours:** 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday

**The Salvation Army Alcohol & Drug Abuse**

The Salvation Army of Coastal Alabama offers residential substance abuse treatment for men (28 days or 3 to 6-month program). Clients have access to a variety of treatment programs that address the physical, mental, emotional and social needs of each client. Two programs are available: Residential Rehabilitation and Intensive Outpatient.

**Contact:** The Salvation Army of Coastal Alabama Area Command | 1009 Dauphin Street | Mobile, AL 36604 | **Phone:** (251) 438-1625

**Website:** http://salvationarmyalm.org/coastalalabama/programs-and-services/dauphin-way-lodge/ | **Programs Hours:** 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday
**VET Center**

The Vet Center offers confidential and no-cost counseling, including the following services:

- Individual Readjustment Counseling
- Group meetings & Counseling
- Military Sexual Trauma Counseling
- Bereavement Counseling
- Marital & Family Counseling
- Employment Counseling & Guidance
- Benefits referral source
- Substance abuse information & referral
- Community resource education
- Liaison with community agencies

**Contact:** U.S. Veterans Affairs Department Mobile Vet Center | 1504 Springhill Ave | Mobile, AL 36604 | **Phone:** (251) 219-3900

Parent Facility: Biloxi VAMC  
Phone: (228)523-5000

**Website:** https://www.vetcenter.va.gov/ | **Programs Hours:** Mon, Thurs, and Fri 7:30 am – 5:00 pm; Tues, Wed 7:30 am – 6:30 pm; 1st & 3rd Saturday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

**U.S. Department of Labor**  
Employee Benefits Security Administration EBSA provides guidance and counseling to employees and prospective job candidates with regards to fair labor laws, accommodations, benefits, and pensions. They have counselors available to answer questions as well as investigate matters which qualify for their services.  
Phone: (404) 302-3900 | Website: https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa

**Automobiles and Adaptive Equipment for Disabled Veterans and Service Members**

Program offered through the VA where disabled veterans can receive a one-time payment for the purchase of a vehicle with adaptive equipment. Contact: Phone: (800) 827-1000 | TTY: (800) 829-4833 | **Website:** http://www.benefits.gov/benefits/benefit-details/278
**Building for America’s Bravest**
Raises and provides funds to build custom designed or adapted homes for service members impaired by catastrophic injuries.
**Main Office**: 2361 Hylan Blvd, Staten Island, New York 10306 | Email: help@ourbravest.org | Website: www.ourbravest.org

**Combat Wounded Coalition**
A national organization with a vision to help wounded warriors find a purpose-driven life and peace of mind after the impact of war through programs and networking
Contact: PO Box 64724, Virginia Beach, VA 23467 | Phone: (757) 773-8079 | Website: https://combatwoundedcoalition.org

**Disability.gov**
Online resource managed by the US Department of Labor to profile comprehensive information about disability-related programs, services, policies, and regulations.
Website: www.disability.gov

**American Corporate Partners (ACP)**
ACP is a non-profit that offers tools for long-term career development through mentoring, career counseling and networking opportunities. You can sign up as a Protégé to get connected with a Mentor nationally in your desired career field.
Contact: Email: info@acp-usa.org | Phone: (212) 752-0700 | 2 Grand Central Tower, 140 E. 45th St. Suite 19A, New York, NY 10017 | Website: http://www.acp-usa.org/

**Help Our Military Heroes**
National non-profit dedicated to raising the funds to purchase and provide minivans for veterans with disabilities.
Contact: Laurie Hollander, President | Email: laurie.hollander@helpourmilitaryheroes.org Main Office: 15 Pheasant Lane, Easton, CT 06612 | Website: http://www.helpourmilitaryheroes.org/

**Sew Much Comfort**
Since 2004, Sew Much Comfort has been providing custom-made adaptive clothing for all wounded service members from current conflicts free of charge.
Contact: Michele Cuppy, President/Founder | Phone: (952) 431-6233 | Email: michele@sewmuchcomfort.org Main Office: 13805 Frontier Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337 | Phone: (952) 431-6233 | Fax: (952) 236-7300 | Website: http://www.sewmuchcomfort.org/
No Barriers USA
Support group that seeks to empower veterans and transitioning service members with disabilities to break through their barriers and find their inner purpose. 
Main Office: 224 Canyon Avenue, Suite 207, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | Phone: (970) 484-3633 | Email: info@nobarriersusa.org | Website: http://www.nobarrierswarriors.org/

Paralyzed Veterans of America
For more than 60 years, Paralyzed Veterans of America has created a powerful network to change lives and build brighter futures for disabled veterans. 
Main Office: 801 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006-3517 | Phone: (800)-424-8200 | TTY: (800) 795-4327 | Healthcare Hotline: 800-232-1782 | Benefits Hotline: 866-734- 0857 | Email: info@pva.org | Website: www.pva.org

Gadget Therapy
VA list of Smart Phone Apps: http://mobilehealth.va.gov/appstore/all


Breath to Relax: http://t2health.dcoe.mil/apps/breathe2relax

Concussion Coach: http://mobile.va.gov/app/concussion-coach

- The Concussion Coach App provides you with resources to help you manage symptoms of a concussion or mild to moderate traumatic brain injury. Concussion Coach can be used alone but may be more helpful when used along with treatment from a provider. It provides Education about concussion symptoms and treatment options and Tools for screening and tracking your symptoms. Also gives Relaxation exercises and tools for managing problems related to concussion.

Virtual Hope Box: http://t2health.dcoe.mil/apps/virtual-hope-box
**Interactive Websites**

Suicide Prevention: http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/ForVeterans.aspx

PTSD-About Face: http://www.ptsd.va.gov/apps/AboutFace/

Vet Training Website: http://www.veterantraining.va.gov/

My Health E. Vet: https://www.myhealth.va.gov/


Veterans Health Library: https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/

VA YouTube Play List: https://www.youtube.com/user/DeptVetAffairs/playlists
BASIS NEEDS ASSISTANCE – UTILITIES, FOOD, & CLOTHING

Most of the following agencies serve specific zip codes regions due to their funding criteria. Please check with the agencies to see if they serve your area.

Mobile County

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

Program: Direct Aid Services

Program provides limited financial and material assistance to individuals and families in time of crisis. Assistance can be provided for food, clothing, household articles, personal hygiene items, and financial assistance for medicine, utilities, rent, and transportation.

Eligibility: Provides assistance once a year

You will need to provide:
Driver’s License or State issued ID, Social Security Card Birthdates for everyone in the household, proof of income, proof of residence, rent/mortgage receipt. Other documents may be required.

Coverage Area(s): Mobile & Washington County

Contact: Catholic Social Services of Mobile | 188 South Florida Street | Mobile, AL 36607 | Phone: (251)434-1500

Website: http://www.catholicsocialservicesmobile.com/ | Program hours: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday | Must call for an appointment, no walk-ins

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST

Program: Life Gate Ministry

The Lifegate Ministry’s purpose is to aid church members and non-members in crisis situations; helping with utilities (with priority given to the elderly and/or disabled), food, and children’s clothing.

Eligibility: Must be a senior citizen and/or disabled (Serve the first 15 people who qualify for assistance)
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

Program: LIHEAP

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Provides payment of a fixed-benefit based upon household monthly income and size.

Eligibility is determined based on household income and poverty guidelines. Who can apply for assistance: The head of the household; or the spouse of the head of the household.

Application Process: Call the Community Services Center in your area to speak with one of our trained community services professionals to schedule an appointment.

You will need to provide:
A current utility bill (the bill must be in the name of the head of the household or the spouse of the head of the household); current picture identification for the applicant; Social Security card(s) for all members living in the household; and income verification (for the previous month) for all members of the household, who are 18 years of age or older.

Coverage Area(s): Mobile & Washington County

Contact: Community Action Agency - Mobile | 461 Donald Street | Mobile, AL 36617 | Phone: (251) 457-5700 Administrative | 251-206-6117 Service/Intake Call Center

Website: http://www.mcamobile.org/ | Programs Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday
DUMAS WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Program: Food Pantry

The Joseph Project of Ashland Place United Methodist Church, a community partner of Dumas Wesley offers free non-perishable food to the first 100 patrons weekly (first come first serve).

Eligibility: Participants are eligible to receive supplemental food based on household and income guidelines certified by the Alabama USDA Emergency Food Assistance program.

Application Process: Upon entry, patron will receive a ticket. Only 100 tickets will be handed out. Patrons will wait for their number to be called. Information will then be verified and the patron will receive a box of non-perishable goods (only one box per household once a month).

Coverage Area(s): Mobile County (Mobile)

Contact: Dumas Wesley Community Center | 126 Mobile Street, Mobile, AL 36607 | Phone: 251-479-0689 | Program Hours: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, every Thursday (line up begins around 8:00 am; doors open around 9:45 am)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TILLMANS CORNER

Program: Community Mission

Financial assistance with utilities, food pantry, diapers, ESL classes, school supplies to those in need.

Eligibility: Call for eligibility requirements.

You will need to provide: Call for more information.

Contact: First Baptist Church of Tillmans Corner | 5660 Three Notch Road | Mobile, AL 36619 | Phone: (251)661-1299

Coverage Area(s): Mobile, Bayou La Batre, Coden, Grand Bay, Irvington & Theodore
Website: http://www.fbtc.org/ | Program hours: Financial Assistance: call on Friday for an appointment on Tuesday; Food Pantry: available on Tuesday and Friday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

THE SALVATION ARMY OF COASTAL ALABAMA

Program: Project Share

A program in partnership with the Salvation Army, Project Share helps pay the wintertime energy bills of low-income Alabamians who are age 60 or older and/or disabled. During the summer, individuals with medical emergencies also may be assisted, if funds are available.

Eligibility: Call for an appointment (no walk-ins)

You will need to provide: Call for Details

Coverage Area(s): Mobile, Baldwin & Washington County

Contact: The Salvation Army of Coastal Alabama | 1009 Dauphin St, Mobile, AL 36604 | Phone: 251-438-1625 | Program Hours: 8:30 am – 11:00 am, Tuesday

Program: Food Assistance

Requirements: Bring identification, proof of income (if applicable), food stamp letter, and proof of address (no appointment necessary)

Contact: Salvation Army Mobile Corps Community Center | 3200 Pleasant Valley Road, Mobile, AL 36606 | Phone: 251-479-2389 | Program Hours: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Tuesdays

UNITED METHODIST INNER CITY MISSION

Program: Direct Aid Services

Emergency food pantry, rent and utility assistance for the Oakdale and Maysville areas of zip code 36605 in Mobile, AL

Eligibility: Call for eligibility requirements

You will need to provide: Call for more information.
Contact: United Methodist Inner City Mission | 913 South Board Street | Mobile, AL 36603 | Phone: (251)432-1122

Program hours: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday | Appointments are required for all services. No Walk-ins. No Fee for Service

Baldwin County

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

Emergency assistance for food, clothing, rent, utilities and more. Distributes FEMA Funds and Project SHARE Funds. Helps with utilities, offers some medical assistance. Provides casework and case management services. Provides information, referral services along with case advocacy.

Eligibility: Generally, eligibility is situational and determined by case manager interview.

Application Process: Call for Appointment

Coverage Area(s): Baldwin and Escambia County

Contact: Catholic Social Services | 23010 Highway 59 North, Robertsdale, AL 36567 | Phone: 251-947-4058

Website: http://cssbaldwin.org/ | Program Hours: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday

COMMUNITY ACTION OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Direct Aid Services: financial assistance for housing, utilities, and medical bills.

Eligibility: Call for Details

Application Process: Sign in and provide eligibility documentation in order to complete the application process.

Coverage Area(s): Baldwin, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, and Monroe County

Contact: Community Action of South Alabama | 26640 Pollard Road, Daphne, Alabama 36526 | Phone: 251-626-2646
ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES, INC

Ecumenical Ministries is a non-denominational, comprehensive social service agency providing aid to low-income families and individuals in Baldwin County, Alabama for more than 45 years. Ecumenical Ministries address the urgent financial and material needs of clients and provide a hopeful path to self-sufficiency and long-term economic stability.

Eligibility: Emergency in the household, low income or a disruption in income, medical situation. Households are eligible for financial assistance once in a 12 month period of time. Food assistance is by determination of need and is not ongoing.


Eastern Shore Office serving the communities of Fairhope, Spanish Fort, Daphne, Malbis, Point Clear, Barnwell, Montrose Belforest.

Contact: Ecumenical Ministries | 564 Fairhope Ave, Fairhope, AL | Phone: 251-928-3430 | Program Hours: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday

South Baldwin Office serving communities of Foley, Elberta, Lillian, Magnolia Springs, Bon Secour

Contact: Ecumenical Ministries | 102 West Spruce, Foley, AL | Phone: 251-943-3445 | Program Hours: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday

TRI-COASTAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Program: Tri-Coastal Food Pantry

Food Pantry Program available to the public for emergency assistance.

Eligibility: Open to all

Contact: Tri-Coastal Community Outreach | 10520 Hwy 188, Grand Bay, AL | Phone: 251-865-9731 | Program Hours: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Mondays, and Wednesdays | Coverage Area(s): Baldwin, Conecuh, Escambia and Mobile County
Clarke County

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

Financial Help Provided: Financial assistance for housing, utilities, and medical bills

Contact: Community Action Agency | 120 Court St, Grove Hill, AL 36451 | Phone: 251-275-8498 | Program Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 PM, Monday – Friday

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

Program: Helping Hands

Emergency aid is available to those who qualify. Assistance is available for utilities, food, medications, and gas cards. You MUST be able to prove the emergency. Examples include (fire report, the bill for a major expense, such as a car repair or large appliance).

Contact: Catholic Social Services | 3309 College Avenue, Jackson, AL 36545 | Phone: 251-246-0131

Escambia County

TRI-COASTAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Program: Tri-Coastal Food Pantry

Food Pantry Program available to the public for emergency assistance.

Eligibility: Open to all

Contact: Tri-Coastal Community Outreach | 10520 Hwy 188, Grand Bay, AL | Phone: 251-865-9731 | Program Hours: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Mondays, and Wednesdays

Coverage Area(s): Baldwin, Conecuh, Escambia and Mobile County
FOOD ASSISTANCE

Feeding the Gulf Coast (Bay Area Foodbank): https://feedingthegulfcoast.org/

Nonprofit organization partners with community groups to provide food assistance at numerous locations from the Mississippi/Louisiana border to Panama City, Fla., and as far north as Choctaw County in Alabama. For help in Alabama call (251)653-1617; in NW Florida call (850)626-1332; and for the Mississippi Gulf Coast call (888)704-Food.
LEGAL HELP

Legal Services Alabama

Are you a Veteran in need of free legal help?

Legal Services Alabama Can Help!

Contact: Toll-Free Intake: 1-866-456-4995 | Local: 251-433-6560 | 104 St. Francis Street, Suite 700 | Program Hours: 1st Thursday of every Month

Services Offered Include:

- Driver’s License Reinstatements
- Domestic Violence Divorces
- Protection from Abuse Orders
- Wage Garnishments
- Bankruptcy
- Payday loans / Predatory Lending
- Foreclosure Prevention
- Tenant Evictions
- Ejectments
- Section 8 / Public Housing Issues
- Wills / Living Wills / Power-of-Attorney
- LITC: Past Debt with IRS
- LITC: Alabama State tax issues with IRS

Veteran’s Court

In 2014, the Mobile County Veterans Court (“MCVC”) program was created within the 13th Judicial Circuit of the State of Alabama to divert select members of the veteran population, charged with a non-excluded misdemeanor and felony crimes, away from jail and into appropriate rehabilitative programs. The MCVC is a collaborative effort of the Mobile County Circuit Court, the Mobile County District Attorney, the Mobile Community Correction Center, the Mobile County Sheriff’s Office, the City of Mobile Police Department, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System, and Mobile VA Community Outpatient Clinic. This collective group’s purpose is to establish the rights and responsibilities of each stakeholder involved in the MCVC program and to maximize the ability to provide qualified Veteran offenders an opportunity to realize better outcomes in their contact with the criminal justice system through utilization of community and VA-sponsored rehabilitative programs.
Legal Help for Veterans

Some VA facilities host non-VA legal service providers that can assist Veterans free of charge. If a Veteran needs legal assistance, you may contact one of the listed legal service clinics, visit www.statesidelegal.org, http://vetlex.org or Pro Bono Resources for Veterans


You may also contact your local VJO Specialist who may know of community resources for legal assistance

Free Legal Clinics in VA Facilities

https://www.va.gov/ogc/docs/LegalServices.pdf

Please note: VA assumes no responsibility for the professional ability or integrity of the legal service providers which appears on this list. VA does not endorse or recommend any of these organizations.


US VETERANS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT – MOBILE VET CENTER

Phone: 251-478-5909 | 3221 Springhill Ave, Bldg. 2 Suite C | Mobile, AL 36607 | Business Hours: 7:30 am – 5:00 pm, Monday, Thursday, & Friday; 7:30 am – 6:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday; 8:00 am – 12:00 pm (1st and 3rd Saturday of every month)
SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR VETERANS

GULF COAST VETERANS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES | VA OUTPATIENT CLINIC

- **Biloxi Behavioral Health Clinic**: 400 Veterans Ave, Biloxi, MS, 39531
  Bldg. 25, 1st Floor (228)523-6038

- **Mobile Behavioral Health Clinic**: 1504 Springhill Ave, Mobile, AL 36604,
  6TH Floor (251)219-3981

**Behavioral Health Acute Inpatient Unit – Biloxi** (Bldg. 25): Provides short-term treatment and stabilization in a secure environment for Veterans experiencing a severe emotional crisis. Veterans seeking admission to the Behavior Health Acute Inpatient Unit may go directly to the VA Emergency Department, Bldg. 3, 400 Veterans Ave., Biloxi MS. Veterans may also phone the **crisis line 1-800-273-TALK (8255)** or for **more immediate help call 9-1-1**.

**Mental Health Intensive Case Management (MHICM)**: (Bldg. 25 in Biloxi and JACC in Pensacola) Provides clinical community-based case management services to Veterans with Serious Mental Illness. Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery is promoted through: relationships with those severed, home visits, education, support, crisis intervention, crisis stabilization and crisis management, crisis prevention and linkage to community and VA resources. Veterans are met in the community setting and a variety of therapeutic treatment modalities are utilized to promote an independent lifestyle, by assisting the Veterans in taking more responsibility for his/her own health care, behavior, and actions. MHICM’s goals are to prevent psychiatric re-hospitalizations, limit the length of stay if a re-hospitalization is necessary, and improve the overall quality of life of the Veterans served.

**Suicide Prevention**: Provides training, consultation, and outreach to Veterans, Staff, and Community Partners across the Gulf Coast to prevent Veteran Suicide. Coordinates case management of Veterans who are at high risk of self-harm.

**Mental Health Recovery**: Provides training and consultation to staff, Veterans, and community partners across the Gulf Coast to promote Recovery and Community Integration for Veterans and their families. Also, coordinates Voice of the Veteran Program for Behavioral Health.
MOBILE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Phone: 251-574-8578 | 1150 Government Street, Room 107| Mobile, AL 36604 | Business Hours: 7:30 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday

Bayou Clinic

Bayou Clinic offers specialized services for Veterans and their families.

Visit us for:

- Help with anxiety, depression, and PTSD
- Connections to community resources
- Support for family members

Contact: Bayou Clinic | 13833 Tapia Ave, Bayou La Batre 36509 | Phone: 251-824-4985 | Program Hours: 9:30 am – 11:30 am, Tuesdays

These services are provided by Bayou Clinic and AltaPointe, independent of the VA

Equine Therapy Group Foundation

Equine Therapy for Veterans

What is Equine Therapy?

Located in Baldwin County, Alabama (Stapleton), Equine Therapy Group’s approach uses the nature and relationship with the horse to bring out a client’s natural patterns of relating, handling of new situations, and problem-solving skills. The client’s interaction with the horse is used as a metaphor for life. The horse’s innate observational abilities and heightened awareness of body language provide the client with immediate feedback. Because all of the session is based on action clients more quickly recognize their own patterns and implement needed behavior changes. The horse functions as a mirror of the persons own behavior.
What Should I Expect?

You can expect to get hands-on with our horses!

Upon arriving at our farm, you will experience a session that has been tailored specifically to your pre-discussed goals as an individual, family or team. Horse experience is not necessary and there is no riding in our program. All activities take place with your feet firmly planted on the ground.

Sessions revolve around completing various challenges and tasks with our horses that will require you, your family or team to apply a certain skill. All activities have meaning and usefulness that can be applied to your real life. Our sessions are action-oriented and experiential. This is not your average counseling session!

You will have fun while learning important things about your patterns and behaviors that will help you reach more or your goals in real life.

Horses are healing. They are prey animals and directly reach to the emotions of those around them. In order to have a positive experience with a horse, a relationship must be established. Equine Therapy has proven to be very helpful to veterans suffering from PTSD. It develops trust, confidence, and social skills. It reduces anxiety and increases self-awareness.

37252 Cheval Aire Road, Bay Minette, AL 36507 (visits by appointment only) | Phone: 251-237-3384

Website: http://www.equinetherapygroup.com/

Heroes on the Water South Alabama Chapter

Heroes on the Water: Kayak Fishing Programs Help Heal Wounded Veterans in Alabama

Mission

To help warriors relax, rehabilitate and reintegrate through kayak fishing and the outdoors.
How We Help

Since being founded in 2007, Heroes on the Water has been organizing no-expense kayak fishing trips for active-duty military and veterans of the U.S. armed forces and their families. In 2018, we began serving first-responders and their families through the same proven ecotherapy. Heroes can reflect in solitude or connect in groups as they learn kayaking and kayak fishing basics.

Recurring activities give heroes and their families’ camaraderie and a lifelong social network with like-minded people. Plus, no experience or equipment is needed, and kayak fishing is adaptive to those with disabilities.

Contact: Brian Carson @ 251 327-8557 | Bay Minette, AL 36507 | https://www.facebook.com/HOWSouthAlabama/

Service Dogs Alabama

Service Dogs Alabama is dedicated to providing medical and psychiatric assistance dogs to children, adults, and Veterans with disabilities and School Dogs trained to assist educators and counselors with student interventions that create drama-free classrooms.

What disabilities qualify for a Service Dog?

Each Application for a Service Dog must have a Doctor’s confirmation of disability and recommendation for a Service Dog. SDA looks at the impact a dog would make on the person’s life such as increasing independence, productivity, and the ability to function in day-to-day tasks and activities (Depression does not qualify as a disability unless it is a symptom of a broader diagnosis such as PTSD). A child, adult or Veteran must be able to manage a Service Dog by himself in order to qualify. He should be between the ages of 9 and 60 years old to apply. Exceptions are made for young children with Type 1 Diabetes when the parent will be the primary handler.

Contact: S DA | 8365 Mobile Highway, Hope Hull, AL 36043 | Phone: 334-676-3733

Website: http://www.servicedogsalabama.com/index.html
READJUSTMENT COUNSELING

Vet Center Program Services - What is readjustment counseling?

Readjustment counseling is a wide range of psychosocial services offered to eligible Veterans, Service members, and their families in the effort to make a successful transition from military to civilian life. They include:

- Individual and group counseling for Veterans, Service members, and their families
- Family counseling for military related issues
- Bereavement counseling for families who experience an active duty death
- Military sexual trauma counseling and referral
- Outreach and education including PDHRA, community events, etc.
- Substance abuse assessment and referral
- Employment assessment & referral
- VBA benefits explanation and referral
- Screening & referral for medical issues including TBI, depression, etc.

Does VA have readjustment counseling for family members?

Family members of combat Veterans and Servicemembers have been eligible for Vet Center readjustment counseling services for military-related issues since 1979.

Am I eligible for Vet Center readjustment counseling?

If you, or a family member, served in any combat zone and received a military campaign ribbon (Vietnam, Southwest Asia, OEF, OIF, etc.) then both you and your family are eligible for Vet Center Services.

Where is counseling offered?

VA’s readjustment counseling is provided at community-based Vet Centers located in easily accessible neighborhoods near Veterans, Service members, and their families, yet separate from VA organizational sites to ensure confidential counseling and reduce barriers to care. All Vet Center services are prepaid through military service.
The Military Separation Guide for Active Duty Personnel

Website: http://www.vetsfirst.org/military-separation-guide/

Vet Center staff is available toll-free and around the clock at 877-WAR-VETS (927-8387)

Veterans Recovery Resources

Our mission is to accelerate Veteran well-being by removing barriers to mental health care and providing a unique recovery program for Veterans and their families suffering from substance abuse, post-traumatic stress, and other related issues. We are a community-based “by Veteran, for Veteran” non-profit.

To learn more about our programs, please contact us at info@vetsrecover.org

Contact: Veterans Recovery Resources | Phone: 1-866-648-7334 | Website: www.vetsrecover.org

UNITED WAY OF SOUTHWEST ALABAMA 2-1-1 | VETERAN RESOURCES

For additional referrals/resources, dial 2-1-1.

What is 2-1-1?

2-1-1 Can Help Callers Access the Following Types of Services:

- Basic Human Needs Resources: food banks, clothing, shelters, rent assistance, utility assistance
- Government information: City, County, State services and programs. Many people are not sure what government office to contact and so 2-1-1 helps point them in the right direction.
- Health and Mental Health Resources: health insurance programs, maternal health, medical information lines, crisis intervention, and rehabilitation.
- Employment Support: financial assistance, job training, transportation assistance, education programs
- Support for Children, Youth, and Families: child care, after-school programs, Head Start, family resource centers, summer camps and recreation programs, mentoring, tutoring, protective services
- Volunteer Opportunities and Donations: community involvement, volunteer centers, disaster relief
- Military and Family Support programs that serve veterans and their families, community resources, mental health resources, counseling

2-1-1 also provides incident-specific information in coordination with local emergency services during times of disaster, including road closures and shelters.

For more information about 2-1-1 services, please check out the 2-1-1 FAQ page: http://www.211connectsalabama.org/frequently-asked-questions/

United Way 2-1-1 connects you with a trained referral specialist who will direct you to an agency that can help you in almost any situation.

**Phone:** 2-1-1 | **Program Hours:** 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday - Friday

**White House VA Hotline**

Hotline agents answer inquiries, provide directory assistance, document concerns about VA care, benefits, and services, and expedite the referral and resolution of those concerns. Agents undergo regular updates and training on VA services based on hotline trends and are assisted by newly implemented tracking software to help VA capture and improve its response, referral, and resolution to best support Veterans.

The hotline can be accessed at **855-948-2311** and is VA’s first non-clinical, non-emergency around the *clock call center. It provides Veterans with a supplemental option to report issues if they are not being addressed through VA’s normal customer service channels.

*Staffed with live agents working to serve Veterans 24-hours a day, 365 days a year.*
### MILITARY DISCOUNTS

#### Automotive Discounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Automotive Discounts</th>
<th>Advance Auto Parts</th>
<th>Audi of America</th>
<th>CARiD</th>
<th>Chrysler</th>
<th>Ford</th>
<th>General Motors</th>
<th>Harley-Davidson</th>
<th>Hyundai</th>
<th>Infiniti</th>
<th>Jiffy Lube</th>
<th>Lincoln Motor</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Meineke</th>
<th>Nissan</th>
<th>O’Reilly Auto Parts</th>
<th>Pep Boys Military</th>
<th>Discount</th>
<th>Scion</th>
<th>TBC Retail Group</th>
<th>Toyota</th>
<th>Victory Motors</th>
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#### Car Rental Discounts

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<th>Avis Car Rental</th>
<th>Budget Car Rental</th>
<th>Budget Truck Rental</th>
<th>Dollar.com</th>
<th>Hertz Rental Cars</th>
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#### Clothing & Shoe Discounts

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<th>America Giant</th>
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<th>Carters.com</th>
<th>Champs Sports</th>
<th>Cole Haan</th>
<th>Dickies</th>
<th>Foot Locker</th>
<th>Hanes.com</th>
<th>Jockey</th>
<th>Kohl’s</th>
<th>Lady Foot Locker</th>
<th>New York &amp; Company</th>
<th>Nike</th>
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<th>Best Buy</th>
<th>Dell</th>
<th>Hewlett Packard</th>
<th>Microsoft 365</th>
<th>Lenovo</th>
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### Education Discounts

| Berklee School of Music | Elite IT Computer Training and Certifications | Regent University |
| California Southern University | Kaplan University | Regent University |
| | Keystone School | Trident University |
| | | Tutor.com Free |
| | | Tutoring for Military Families |

### Entertainment Discounts

| Cinemark Movie Theaters | Showcase Cinemas |
| Fandango | Vettix |

### Eyewear Discounts

| AC Lens | Oakley |
| Armed Forces Eyewear | SOS Eyewear |
| Lasik Plus | Sunglass Hut |
| Ray-Ban | |

### Fitness Discounts

| Atkins | Gold’s Gym |
| BPI Sports | YMCA |
| BodyBuilding.com | |

### Flowers & Gifts

| 1-800 Flowers | Man Crates Care Packages |
| 1st in Flowers | Pro Flowers |
| The Bro Basket | Stationery Xpress |

### Food & Wine

| Costco Wholesale | Omaha Steaks | Superior Nut |
| Hickory Farms | Sam’s Club | Thrive Market |
Health & Beauty Discounts

Group Health Eye Care  Sally Beauty Supply
Men’s Health Box  The Original Food Alignment Socks

Home and Garden Discounts

Frigidaire  Lowes  Sherwin-Williams
Home Depot  Michaels  Williams-Sonoma
Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores  Overstock.com  Yankee Candle
Croft Stores  Pottery Barn  YETI
John Deere  Sears

Insurance Discounts

American Family Insurance  USAA
Geico

Miscellaneous Discounts

Dirt Cheap Stores  Navy Federal Credit  Rosetta Stone
Enfamil Infant & Toddler Nutrition  Union  Sirius XM

Restaurant Discounts

Burger King  Chuck E. Cheese  Hard Rock Café
Boston Market  Dairy Queen  Outback Steakhouse
Buffalo Wild Wings  Lonestar Steakhouse & Saloon  Shoney’s
Chick-fil-A

Sporting Goods & Equipment Discounts

Bass Pro Shops  TacticalGear.com
Coleman  Taylor Made Golf
Smith & Wesson
Shipping & Storage Discounts

Cube Smart  RightSpace Storage  United States Postal Service (USPS)
Penske Truck Rentals  ShipAnyCar.com  PODS  SMARTBOX Portable
RightSpace Storage  Storage & Moving

Travel and Hotel Discounts

Allegiant Air  Extended Stay  Princess Cruises
American Airlines  America  Red Lion Hotels
Cargo  Great Wolf Lodge  Red Roof Inn
AmeriInn  Greyhound  Royal Caribbean
Amtrak  Howard Johnson’s  Sandals Vacations
Armed Forces  Hyatt Hotels  Six Flags Amusement
Vacation Club  Jellystone Parks  Parks
Beaches by Sandals  JetBlue  Southwest Airlines
Best Western  KOA Campgrounds  Starwood Hotels
Carnival Cruise Lines  La Quinta Inns & Suites  Tours4Fun
Castle Resorts  Marriott Hotels  Super 8
Clipper Vacations  Motel 6 Military  The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass
Delta Vacations  Discounts  United Airlines
Disney Cruise Line  Norwegian Cruise Lines  Veterans Advantage
Disney Parks  Park Ride Fly USA
Divi Resorts  Peter Pan  YMCA
Expedia.com

Wireless & Internet Discounts

AT&T Wireless  Verizon Fios
Discount  Verizon Wireless

*Military discounts are subject to change. Please contact the business for more information regarding military discounts.

We Thank You For Your Service!
Notes: