

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to eliminating homelessness among Veterans. This challenge is being addressed through a range of services and benefits.



Housing and Supportive Services

Partnering with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, VA helps Veterans find safe and affordable housing. To foster lasting success in transitioning homeless Veterans into homes, VA also works with community-based agencies to provide case management and supportive services. Other VA-supported efforts tackle the challenge in innovative ways such as turning unused buildings into new housing for Veterans, and helping low-income Veterans and their families with minor expenses and grants.

Home Loan Guaranty Service

VA urges all Veterans encountering problems making their mortgage payments to speak with their servicers to explore options to avoid foreclosure. Depending on a Veteran's specific situation, servicers may offer options to try and help avoid foreclosure. In cases where the servicer is unable to help the Veteran borrower, VA Loan Guaranty has Loan Technicians in eight Regional Loan Centers and two special servicing centers who take an active role in interceding with the servicer to explore all options to avoid foreclosure.

Prevention Services

VA helps Veterans and their families who are at risk of homelessness stay in their homes or find permanent housing. VA continues its

support by providing funding to community-based, non-profit groups that offer services such as limited rental assistance, childcare, employment training and referrals. VA also reaches out to Veterans in the justice system to link them with needed health care and other services.

Job Training, Employment and Income Benefits

VA offers a variety of job training programs to help homeless Veterans and Veterans at risk of homelessness gain skills that are valued in today's job market. Through VA's compensated work therapy program, homeless Veterans can receive temporary residence in community-based, supervised group homes with paying jobs. Additional benefits that may be available through VA include compensation or pension, vocational rehabilitation and employment services for Veterans who have injuries, illnesses, or diseases related to their active military service.

Education Benefits

Through the GI Bill, VA provides Veterans the opportunity to resume their education or technical training after discharge from the military and provides those who qualify with a monthly living allowance while they pursue their studies.

Medical and Health Treatment Services

VA's medical and mental health clinicians provide eligible homeless Veterans with quality health care, including mental health care, dental care, substance use treatment and other services.

Make The Call

Learn more about VA's services and outreach programs to eliminate Veteran homelessness today. Call our National Call Center for Homeless Veterans toll-free at **1-877-424-3838 (1-877-4AID-VET)**, chat live with supportive and knowledgeable VA staff at www.va.gov/homeless, or explore the website on your own.

Are You or a Veteran You Know At Risk of Homelessness?

- Are you currently living with someone because you can't afford to rent or own a home of your own?
- Have you had trouble finding or holding a job?
- Do you have a physical or mental health condition that makes it difficult to keep a steady job?
- Do employers say you don't have the skills or education they are looking for?
- Are you struggling with an alcohol or substance use problem?
- Have service-related injuries made returning to civilian life difficult?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, or are feeling worried about your housing situation or that of a Veteran you know, VA can help.

We're Here for You.

Whether you are in need of immediate assistance or just looking for more information — VA is here for you. Our trained professionals, many of whom are Veterans themselves, are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

TOLL-FREE
1-877-424-3838
(1-877-4AID-VET)

Live 24/7 Chat on VA's Homeless Veterans website,
www.va.gov/homeless



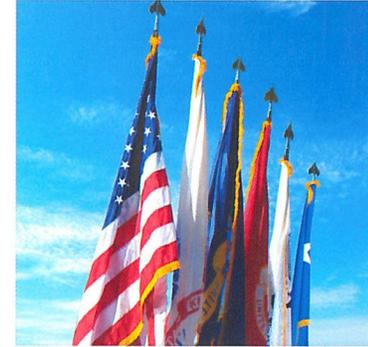
VA
Home Front



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

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You answered our country's call.



We'll answer yours.



- Military service?
- Homeless or at risk of being homeless?

Make the Call!

Call VA's toll-free hotline:

1-877-424-3838
(1-877-4AID-VET)

or visit www.va.gov/homeless for help with housing, jobs, health care, education and other Veteran benefits.

Online chat now available!

VA
Home Front



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



Weld County Veterans Service Office

1008 9th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 400-3444

MISSION STATEMENT

"To assist Veterans, their dependents, and their survivors, in obtaining the benefits for which they are entitled"

The Weld County Veterans Service Office assists Weld County residents who served in the U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents to obtain any and all VA benefits for which they may be eligible.

The Weld County Veterans Service Office serves as the liaison between the Veterans Administration and the veteran.

Our accredited Veteran Service Officer will serve as your advocate to assist you with the preparation, presentation and possible appeal of your VA benefits. There is no fee for our services.

We assist veterans and their dependents with filing for all VA benefits to include:

- Service Connected Disability Compensation
- Non-Service Connected Pension
- VA Healthcare Enrollment
- Burial & Survivor Benefits
- Education Benefits

SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY

The Weld County Veterans Service Office can assist Weld County veterans with filing for Service Connected Disability Compensation. There is no fee for this service. You "may" be eligible for Service Connected Compensation if you were:

- Discharged other than dishonorable conditions, and
- Injury or illness incurred or a pre-existing injury that was aggravated

while on active duty which is chronic today,

- Illness diagnosed within one year of discharge from active duty,
- Illness or injury of chronic condition while on active duty,
- Disability caused by treatment at a VA Medical Center,
- Illness or injury was not result of willful misconduct on the part of the veteran

Service connected disability claims are for injuries or illnesses that were caused by service or pre-existing conditions that were aggravated by service. This can be for physical and/or emotional trauma. There must be a chronic problem that exists today in order to file a claim for service connection.

A veteran can also file a claim for service connected disability under 'presumption.' There are currently five major categories of veterans under presumption:

- Atomic Veterans (exposed to ionizing radiation)
- Former Prisoners of War
- Gulf War Veterans (undiagnosed illness)
- Persian Gulf Service
- Vietnam Veterans (exposed to Agent Orange)

NON-SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY

The Non-Service Connected Pension (also called an "Improved Pension") is a **low income net worth-based program**. The Veteran must

have a net worth that is at/below poverty level for this program.

Net worth is the combination of income and assets. A pension applicant can also use their monthly reoccurring out-of-pocket medical expenses when calculating eligibility for this pension. A VA Pension is not an entitlement. It is a benefit for which a veteran might be eligible if the criteria are met.

1. Must have served **90 days of active duty** with at least one day during a recognized period of war.

- WWII (07DEC1941-25JUL1947)
- Korea (27JUN1950-31JAN1955)
- Vietnam (05AUG1964-07MAY1975)
- Gulf War (02AUG1990 – PRESENT)

2. Must be "**permanently and totally disabled**" from non-service connected disabilities, or if the disabled veteran is over the age 65, this requirement is assumed by the VA.

3. Meet the net worth and annual income requirements determining the veteran is **below poverty level**. The income limits take into consideration whether the veteran has dependents and his/her health situation.

Aid & Attendance

If a veteran is granted a non-service connected pension, then the veteran may be eligible to receive aid and attendance benefit to assist with offsetting the costs of being homebound.

BURIAL & SURVIVOR BENEFITS

The Weld County Veterans Service Office can assist county residents with obtaining burial benefits for a veteran through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. There are four burial benefits:

- Burial Allowance
- Flag
- Headstone / Marker
- Presidential Memorial Certificate

Burial Allowance

VA burial allowances are partial reimbursement of an eligible veteran's burial and funeral costs. When the cause of death is not service related, the reimbursements are generally described as two payments: a burial and funeral expense allowance, and a plot or interment allowance.

You may be eligible for a VA burial allowance if:

- You paid for a veteran's burial or funeral
- You have not been reimbursed by another government agency or some other source, such as the deceased veteran's employer
- The veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable

In addition, at least one of the following conditions must be met:

- The veteran died because of a service-related disability
- The veteran was receiving VA pension or compensation at the time of death

- The veteran was entitled to receive VA pension or compensation, but decided not to reduce his/her military retirement or disability pay
- The veteran died while hospitalized by VA, or while receiving care under VA contract at a non-VA facility
- The veteran died while traveling under proper authorization and at VA expense to or from a specified place for the purpose of examination, treatment, or care
- The veteran had an original or reopened claim pending at the time of death and has been found entitled to compensation or pension from a date prior to the date of death
- The veteran died on or after October 9, 1996, while a patient at a VA-approved state nursing home

Exception: Spouses and dependents are not eligible for a government-furnished headstone or marker unless they are buried in a national cemetery, state veteran's cemetery or military post / base cemetery.

Burial Flag

A United States flag is provided, at no cost, to drape the casket or accompany the urn of deceased Veteran who served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Typically the burial flag is filed for by the funeral director so it is there for the service. It is furnished to honor the memory of a Veteran's military service to his or her country.

Headstones & Markers

For eligible veterans, the VA furnishes upon request, at no charge to the applicant, a Government headstone or marker for the unmarked grave of any deceased eligible Veteran in any cemetery around the world.

For eligible veterans that died on or after Nov. 1, 1990 and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone, the VA may also furnish a headstone or marker to supplement the graves or a Medallion to be affixed to the privately purchased headstone.

Note: There is no charge for the headstone or marker itself; however, arrangements for placing it in a private cemetery are the applicant's responsibility and all setting fees are at private expense.

Presidential Memorial Certificates

A Presidential Memorial Certificate is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans.

VA HEALTH CARE ENROLLMENT

The Weld County Veterans Service Office can assist Weld County veterans with enrolling in VA health care program.

During enrollment, each veteran is assigned to a priority group.

The VA uses priority groups to determine co-payment responsibilities.

Eligibility requirements for this program are:

- Veterans who are service connected disabled
- Veterans who are not service connected disabled must meet Financial Income Thresholds
- Veterans awarded the Purple Heart, POWs and OIF / OEF Veterans
- Veterans receiving aid and attendance or housebound benefits and/or veterans determined by VA to be catastrophically disabled

EDUCATION BENEFITS

Education benefits vary greatly and are based on one's time in service, age of beneficiary, level of service connection of the veteran, cause of death of the veteran, etc.

The County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) can assist with questions you have regarding using this benefit.