



BENEFITS RESOURCE GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services

Web site: www.dvs.ohio.gov

E-mail: ohiovet@dvs.ohio.gov

Telephone: 614-644-0898

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

Full document updated and dispersed June 2009

Bonuses

State

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

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

Note: Legislation on a bonus for the Persian Gulf War and OIF/OEF has passed the Ohio House and Ohio Senate. It is scheduled to be on the ballot in November, 2009. (Because the bonus will be paid through bonds, the voters of Ohio must approve the bonus)

Education

Federal

GI BILL

There are currently two programs available under the GI Bill:

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

Contact-

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

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

http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/benefits.htm#General

Troops To Teachers

Description:

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

Location in the United States Code –

20 USC 6672

Contact:

(614) 466-4283 or 800-852-6064 or e-mail @

Veronica.Hampton@ode.state.oh.us

State

Ohio War Orphans Scholarship

Description –

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

Eligibility:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 5910.01

Contact:

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

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

wo_admin@regents.state.oh.us

http://regents.ohio.gov/sgs/war_orphans/

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

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

Eligibility:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 3333.26

Contact:

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

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

614-752-9535

Ohio Safety Officers College Memorial Fund

Ohio GI Promise**Description:**

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

Eligibility:

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

Location in Ohio Law:

Governor Strickland's Executive Order 2008-17

Contact:

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

<http://uso.edu/opportunities/ohioGIpromise/index.php>

<http://universitysystem.ohio.gov>

Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program**Description:**

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

Eligibility:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 5919.34

Contact:

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

<http://www.ongsp.org>

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

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

Eligibility:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 3313.616

Contact:

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

Employment

Federal

Hire Vets First

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

Location in United States Code:

38 USC 41

Contact:

United States Department of Labor – <http://www.dol.gov/vets/>

USERRA – Uniform Services Employment & Re-employment Act

Description:

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

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

Location in United States Code:

Title 38 Chapter 43

Contact:

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

www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra

Troops To Teachers

Description:

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

Location in the United States Code:

20 USC 6672

Contact:

(614) 466-4283 or 800-852-6064 or email @ Veronica.Hampton@ode.state.oh.us

Helmets to Hardhats

Description:

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

Contact:

866-741-6210

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

Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR)

Description:

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

Location in the US Department of Defense Directive:

DoD Directive 1250.1

Contact:

800-336-4590

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

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

Description:

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

Location in the United States Code:

Title 38 Code of Federal Regulations Chapter 31

Contact:

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

Or contact a Vet Rep – list provided at:

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

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

State

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

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

Programs:

Serving Warriors At Transition (SWAT)

Description:

Provides briefings to deploying & returning National Guard & Reserve members on VSU services and how to access them, work with family support groups, and provides special transition program (STP) job search workshop during drill time.

Veteran Disability Program Navigator (VDPN)

Description:

Helps veterans with disabilities access and navigate various programs that provide the services and support needed to obtain and retain employment; provides information on new assistive technology equipment and services for veterans with disabilities.

Ohio Transition Assistance Program (OTAP)

Description:

Comprehensive two or three day workshops including mock interviews with employers. Attendees learn about job searches, career decision making, current occupation and labor market conditions, resume and cover letter preparation, and interviewing techniques.

Contact:

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

Or contact a Vet Rep – list provided at:

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

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

OhioMeansJobs.com

Description:

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

Contact:

Ohio Department of Development – Ohio Means Jobs

888-296-754, Option 2

Website (post resume / job search):

<https://ohiomeansjobs.com/omj/jobseeker/home.do?selectId=0>

Financial Assistance

State

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

Description:

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

Eligibility:

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

Contact:

Ohio Department of Development

800-282-0880 or 614-644-6600

<http://www.odod.state.oh.us/CDD/OCS/heap.htm>

Your Money NOW

Description:

The Ohio Treasurer of State's on-line program is designed to help Ohioans with their money by providing assistance with financial planning. The site also provides helpful updates and sources regarding credit, debt, savings, taxes, home ownership and fraud/scams, among others.

Contact:

Ohio Treasurer of State

www.yourmoneynowonline.org

Local

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

Health Care

Federal

Suicide Prevention Hotline

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Description:

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

Contact:

800-273-8255

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

Medical Centers

Description:

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

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

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

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

Contact:

Appendix III contains a listing of VA Medical Facilities in Ohio

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

State

Ohio Cares

Description:

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

Contact –

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

For information: 800-761-0868

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

Local

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

Home Loans

Federal

VA Home Loan Guaranty

1-800-729-5772

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

Location in United States Code:

38 USC 3702

State

Ohio Heroes Program

Description:

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

Eligibility:

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

Contact:

888-362-6432

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

Legal

Federal

USERRA – Uniform Services Employment & Re-employment Act

Description:

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

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

Location in United States Code:

Title 38

Contact:

<http://www.osc.gov/userra.htm>

Federal Trade Commission

Theft Resource Center - <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>

Free Credit Report –

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

State

Patriot Program

Description:

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

Eligibility:

- Reserve & National Guard personnel and their dependents

Contact:

Ohio Attorney General's Office 866-444-3577 or their website at http://www.ag.state.oh.us/citizen/military_veterans/ag_resources.asp

License Plates

State

Military License Plates

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

Free license plates

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

Eligibility

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

Contact

Any [Deputy Registrar's office](#), online at OPlates.com, by phone at 1-866-675-2837 or by mail.

Deputy Registrar license agency locations:

http://bmv.ohio.gov/county/cnty_lst.htm

Disability plates can be reviewed at:

http://bmv.ohio.gov/vehicle_registration/disability_plates.htm

Specialty plates can be reviewed at:

http://bmv.ohio.gov/vehicle_registration/special_plate_types.htm

Military Injury Relief Fund

State

Description:

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

Eligibility:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 5101.98

Contact:

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

888-296-7541 (option 5)

<http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/veterans/>

Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame

State

Description:

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

Eligibility:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 5904

Contact:

Nomination packets can be printed off of the website at:

http://dvs.ohio.gov/veterans_hall_of_fame.aspx

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

Mail packets to: Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, Karen Kish, 77 S. High Street, 7th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Ohio Veterans Homes

State

Brief Description:

Comprised of two facilities:

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

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

Eligibility –

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 5907

Contact:

1-800-572-7934

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

http://dvs.ohio.gov/ohio_veterans_home/admission_information.aspx

Records

Federal

National Archives – St. Louis, Missouri

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

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

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

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

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

Military Awards & Decorations (issuance or replacement)

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

Contact:

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

State

Ohio National Guard Library

614-336-7038

<http://www.ohionationalguard.com/pao/community/historic.htm>

Ohio Department of Veterans Services – Records Office

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

Contact:

A request form must be completed and sent to: **Ohio Department of Veterans Services**, 77 South High Street, 7th Floor, Columbus, and Ohio 43215 OR it may be faxed to 614-728-9498.

Forms are available on our website at

http://dvs.ohio.gov/home/request_for_records.aspx or you may call our office at 877-644-6838 or 614-466-5453

Recreation Benefits

State

Free Hunting License

Eligibility:

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

Contacts:

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

Free Fishing License

Eligibility:

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

Contacts:

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

Free Registration of Watercraft

Eligibility:

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

Contacts:

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

Free Camping at Ohio State Parks

Eligibility:

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

Contacts –

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

Small Business

Federal

US Small Business Administration

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

Contact:

202-205-6773

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

State

Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC)

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

Other services include:

- Bid Preparation Assistance
- Post Award Assistance
- Subcontracting Assistance

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

Contact:

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

1st Stop Business Connection

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

Contact:

800-248-4040 or 614-466-4232

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

Linked Loan Deposit Program

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

Contact:

614-466-2160

<http://www.tos.ohio.gov/index.php/linked-deposits/veteran-guidelines>

Taxes

State

Mobilized Military Member Tax Exemption

Description:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 5747.01 A(24)

Military Retirement Pay – State Tax Exemption

Description:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 5747.01 A(26)

Surviving Spouse Benefit Plans – State Tax Exemption

Description:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 5747.01 A(26)

Homestead Exemption

Description:

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

Location in Ohio Revised Code:

ORC 4501.064

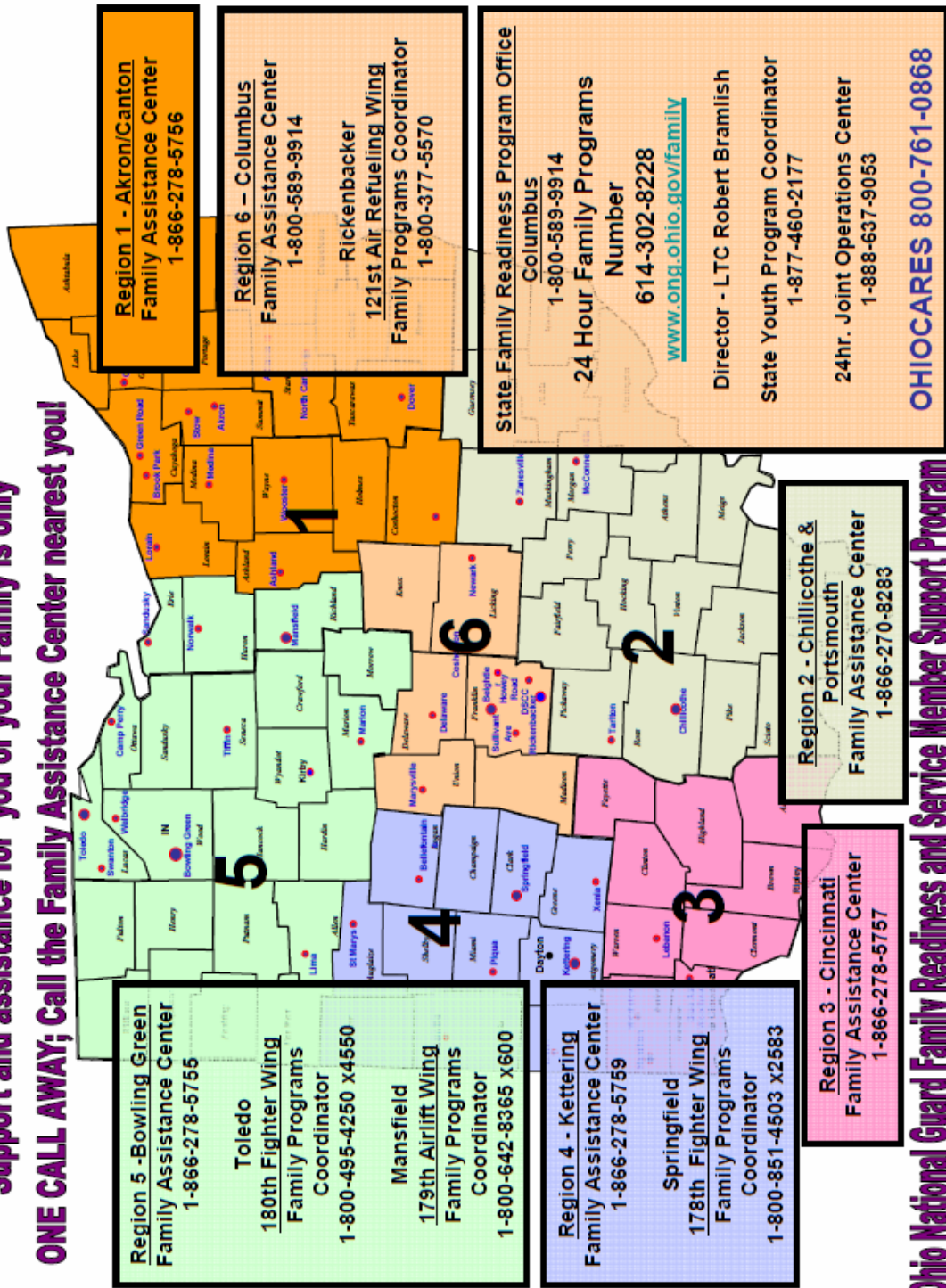
Contact:

Ohio Department of Taxation:

http://tax.ohio.gov/divisions/ohio_individual/individual/military_faqs.stm

(800) 282-1780

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



Ohio National Guard Family Readiness and Service Member Support Program

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICES

<u>Adams County</u> 937/544-5005	<u>Darke County</u> 937/548-5305	<u>Hocking County</u> 740/385-7507	<u>Miami County</u> 937/440-8126	<u>Scioto County</u> 740/353-1477
<u>Allen County</u> 419/223-8522	<u>Defiance County</u> 419/782-6861	<u>Holmes County</u> 330/674-4806	<u>Monroe County</u> 740/472-0743	<u>Seneca County</u> 800/820-0189
<u>Ashland County</u> 419/282-4225	<u>Delaware County</u> 740/833-2010	<u>Huron County</u> 419/668-4150	<u>Montgomery County</u> 937/225-4801	<u>Shelby County</u> 937/498-7282
<u>Ashtabula County</u> 440/964-8324	<u>Erie County</u> 419/627-7650	<u>Jackson County</u> 740/286-3004	<u>Morgan County</u> 740/962-4181	<u>Stark County</u> 330/451-7457
<u>Athens County</u> 740/592-3216	<u>Fairfield County</u> 740/689-6202	<u>Jefferson County</u> 740/283-8571	<u>Morrow County</u> 419/946-1914	<u>Summit County</u> 330/643-2830
<u>Auglaize County</u> 419/739-6750	<u>Fayette County</u> 740/335-1610	<u>Knox County</u> 740/393-6742	<u>Muskingum County</u> 740/455-7149	<u>Trumbull County</u> 330/675-2585
<u>Belmont County</u> 740/695-2121 X1133	<u>Franklin County</u> 614/462-2500	<u>Lake County</u> 440/350-2567	<u>Noble County</u> 740/732-5567	<u>Tuscarawas County</u> 330/339-1163
<u>Brown County</u> 937/378-3155	<u>Fulton County</u> 419/337-9266	<u>Lawrence County</u> 740/533-4327	<u>Ottawa County</u> 419/898-2089	<u>Union County</u> 800/686-2308
<u>Butler County</u> 513/887-3600	<u>Gallia County</u> 740/446-2005	<u>Licking County</u> 740/670-5430	<u>Paulding County</u> 419/399-8285	<u>Van Wert County</u> 419/238-9592
<u>Carroll County</u> 330/627-2590	<u>Geauga County</u> 440/279-1860 x 6406	<u>Logan County</u> 937/599-4221	<u>Perry County</u> 740/342-2536	<u>Vinton County</u> 740/596-4571 X224
<u>Champaign County</u> 937/653-4554	<u>Greene County</u> 937/562-6020	<u>Lorain County</u> 440/284-4625	<u>Pickaway County</u> 888/330-3522	<u>Warren County</u> 513/695-1363
<u>Clark County</u> 937/521-2030	<u>Guernsey County</u> 740/432-9295	<u>Lucas County</u> 419/213-6090/92	<u>Pike County</u> 740/947-2766	<u>Washington County</u> 740/568-9009
<u>Clermont County</u> 513/732-7363	<u>Hamilton County</u> 513/946-3300	<u>Madison County</u> 740/852-0676	<u>Portage County</u> 330/297-3545	<u>Wayne County</u> 800/335-6638
<u>Clinton County</u> 937/382-3233	<u>Hancock County</u> 419/424-7036	<u>Mahoning County</u> 330/740-2451 x8390	<u>Preble County</u> 937/456-6111	<u>Williams County</u> 419/636-8812
<u>Columbiana County</u> 330/424-7214	<u>Hardin County</u> 419/674-2219	<u>Marion County</u> 740/387-0100	<u>Putnam County</u> 419/523-4478	<u>Wood County</u> 419/354-9147
<u>Coshocton County</u> 740/622-2313	<u>Harrison County</u> 740/942-8441	<u>Medina County</u> 330/722-9368	<u>Richland County</u> 419/774-5822	<u>Wyandot County</u> 419/294-2045
<u>Crawford County</u> 419/562-7761	<u>Henry County</u> 419/592-0956	<u>Meigs County</u> 740/992-2820	<u>Ross County</u> 740/772-1600	
<u>Cuyahoga County</u> 216/698-2600	<u>Highland County</u> 937/393-8686	<u>Mercer County</u> 419/586-3542	<u>Sandusky County</u> 419/334-4421	

Veterans Health Administration - VISN 4: VA Healthcare - VISN 4			
Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
562GB	Ashtabula County VA Clinic	1230 Lake Avenue Ashtabula, OH 44004	866-463-0912
646GA	St. Clairsville VA Primary Care Center CBOC	103 Plaza Dr. Suite A St. Clairsville, OH 43950	740-695-9321
Veterans Health Administration - VISN 10: VA Healthcare System of Ohio			
Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
541GG	Akron Community Based Outpatient Clinic	55 W. Waterloo Akron, OH 44319-1116	330-724-7715
538GA	Athens Community Based Outpatient Clinic	510 West Union Street Athens, OH 45701	740-593-7314
541	Brecksville Clinic	10000 Brecksville Rd Brecksville, OH 44141	440-526-3030
538	Cambridge Community Based Outpatient Clinic	2146 Southgate Pkwy Cambridge, OH 43725	740-432-1963
541BY	Canton Outpatient Clinic	733 Market Avenue South Canton, OH 44702-1018	330-489-4600
757	Chalmers P. Wylie Ambulatory Care Center	420 N James Road Columbus, OH 43219	614-257-5200
538	Chillicothe VA Medical Center	17273 State Route 104 Chillicothe, OH 45601	740-773-1141 800-358-8262
539	Cincinnati VA Medical Center	3200 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH 45220	513-861-3100 888-267-7873
0204	Cincinnati Vet Center	801B W. 8th St. Suite 126 Cincinnati, OH 45203	513-763-3500
539GB	Clermont County Community Based Outpatient Clinic	4355 Ferguson Drive, Suite 270 Cincinnati, OH 45245	513-943-3680
0205	Cleveland Heights Vet Center	2022 Lee Road Cleveland, OH 44118	216-932-8471
0221	Columbus Vet Center	30 Spruce Street Columbus, OH 43215	614-257-5550
552	Dayton VA Medical Center	4100 W. 3rd Street Dayton, OH 45428	937-268-6511 800-368-8262

0225	Dayton Vet Center	6th Floor, East Medical Plaza 627 Edwin C. Moses Blvd. Dayton, OH 45408	937-461-9150
541GH	East Liverpool/Calcutta Community Based Outpatient Clinic	15655 St Rt. 170, Suite A Calcutta, OH 43920	330-386-4303
757GB	Grove City Community Based Outpatient Clinic	1955 Ohio Avenue Grove City, OH 43123	614-257-5800
539GE	Hamilton VA Healthcare Associates - Butler County	1755-C South Erie Highway Hamilton, OH 45011	513-870-9444
538GD	Lancaster Community Based Outpatient Clinic	Colonnade Medical Bldg 1550 Sheridan Drive Ste 100 Lancaster, OH 43130	740-653-6145
552GB	Lima Community Based Outpatient Clinic	1303 Bellefontaine Ave Lima, OH 45804	419-222-5788
541GB	Lorain Community Based Outpatient Clinic	205 West 20th Street Lorain, OH 44052	440-244-3833
541	Louis Stokes VA Medical Center	10701 East Boulevard Cleveland, OH 44106	216-791-3800
541GD	Mansfield Community Based Outpatient Clinic	1456 Park Avenue West Mansfield, OH 44906	419-529-4602
538GC	Marietta Community Based Outpatient Clinic	418 Colegate Drive Marietta, OH 45750	740-568-0412
757	Marion Community Based Outpatient Clinic	1203 Delaware Ave, Corporate Ctr #2 Marion, OH 43302-6419	740-223-8089
541GE	McCafferty Community Based Outpatient Clinic	4242 Lorain Avenue Cleveland, OH 44113	216-939-0699
02061	McCafferty Vet Center Outstation	4242 Lorain Avenue Suite 201 Cleveland, OH 44113	216-939-0784
552GA	Middletown Community Based Outpatient Clinic	675 North University Boulevard Middletown, OH 45042	513-423-8387
541	New Philadelphia Clinic	1260 Monroe Ave, Suite 1A New Philadelphia, OH 44663	330-602-5339
757-N	Newark CBOC	1912 Tamarack Rd Newark, OH 43055	740-788-8328

541GF	Painesville Community Based Outpatient Clinic	7 West Jackson Street Painesville, OH 44077	440-357-6740
0206	Parma Vet Center	5700 Pearl Road Suite 102 Parma, OH 44129	440-845-5023
538GB	Portsmouth Community Based Outpatient Clinic	840 Gallia Street Portsmouth, OH 45662	740-353-3236
541	Ravenna Clinic	6751 N Chestnut St Ravenna, OH 44266	330-296-3641
541GC	Sandusky Community Based Outpatient Clinic	3416 Columbus Avenue Sandusky, OH 44870	419-625-7350
552GD	Springfield Community Based Outpatient Clinic	512 South Burnett Road Springfield, OH 45505	937-328-3385
541GI	Warren Community Based Outpatient Clinic	1460 Tod Ave (NW) Warren, OH 44485	330-392-0311
541BZ	Youngstown Outpatient Clinic	2031 Belmont Avenue Youngstown, OH 44505	330-740-9200
757GA	Zanesville Community Based Outpatient Clinic	2800 Maple Avenue Zanesville, OH 43701	740-453-7725
Veterans Health Administration - VISN 11: Veterans In Partnership			
Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
506GA	Toledo VA Outpatient Clinic	3333 Glendale Avenue Toledo, OH 43614	419-259-2000
0234	Toledo Vet Center	1565 S. Byrne Road, Suite 104 Toledo, OH 43614	419-213-7533

Important Phone Numbers & Web Addresses

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