



Summary of State-Specific License, Certification, & Training/Education Initiatives

Alabama

- Business and Occupational License Exemptions for Disabled Veterans: Veterans who conduct their business as a means of livelihood through their personal efforts are entitled to businesses and occupations license exemptions of \$25.00 for each state, county, and municipality. (Code of Alabama 1975, Section 40-12-340 thru 352)
- Business and Occupational License Exemptions for Veterans of WWII: Veterans are entitled to exceptions on a business of occupation license of \$35.00 for each the state, county and municipality. (Code of Alabama 1975, Section 40-12-370 thru 377)

Arizona

- Professional and Occupational Licenses: Every funeral director, embalmer, or apprentice embalmer who serves in the armed forces during a time of war is exempt from paying renewal license fees for the duration of the war and six months thereafter or for a period of six months following discharge from the armed forces.
- Arizona Veterans Employment Preference: Veterans who pass an examination for employment by the state, county or city will have 5 points added to their certification score. To learn more, visit <http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/ars/38/00492.htm&Title=38&DocType=ARS>.





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California

- California provides waiver of municipal, county and state business license fees, taxes and fees, for veterans who hawk, peddle or vend any goods, wares or merchandise owned by the veteran, except spirituous, malt, vinous or other intoxicating liquor, including sales from a fixed location. To learn more, visit <http://www.calvet.ca.gov/vetserVICES/Benefits.aspx>.
- Employment and Unemployment Insurance Assistance: A veteran receives assistance in obtaining training and employment as well as assistance in obtaining unemployment insurance.

Colorado

- Colorado passed Bill Number HB11-1100, an "Act Concerning the Consideration of Military Experience Towards Qualification for Professional Licensure and Certification." This bill directs examining and licensing boards to accept education, training or service completed by an individual as a member of the Armed Forces, Reserves, National Guard of any state, the military reserves of any state, or the naval militia of any state toward the qualifications to receive the license or certification. To learn more, visit <http://www.dora.state.co.us/mental-health/SummaryofSenateBill11-187.pdf>.

Delaware

- Certificate of Appreciation: Delaware governor has announced that the State of Delaware will provide a "Certificate of Appreciation." To learn more, visit <http://veteransaffairs.delaware.gov/pdf/STATE%20VETERANS%20BENEFITS%202010.pdf>.





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- Auctioneer and Book Agent Exemption for Veterans: No license is needed in Delaware for the occupation of “book agent” (including canvassing for the sale of books) or for the occupation of auctioneer. (Title 30, Chapter 21, Section 2116). To learn more, visit <http://delcode.delaware.gov/title30/c021/index.shtml>.

Florida

- Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) introduced a new bill (HB 887) that waives initial licensure fees for many military veterans. The law will apply to more than 20 professions under DBPR's jurisdiction, including construction, real estate, certified public accountants and cosmetologists, as well as businesses under DBPR's Drugs, Devices and Cosmetics Division. The military fee waivers will go into effect October 1, 2012. To learn more, visit <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/dbprmilitary.html>.
- Occupational License Tax Exemption: A disabled wartime Veteran who is unable to perform manual labor and his/her un-remarried spouse shall be exempt for this tax up to \$50.00. To learn more, visit http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0200-0299/0205/Sections/0205.171.html.

Illinois

- Jobs for Vets: The Department of Employment Security/Illinois Job Service provides a trained “Veterans Representative” to help you get the training and job you need. An electronic statewide job search information system is available at different locations throughout the State of Illinois. Contact your local Employment Security office for more information.





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- Employment Assistance for Air National Guard: State employees receive 15 days of military leave per year and 60 days of special training. Differential pay is no less than regular state pay differential for Basic Training. National Guard members are ensured employment protection while on Active Duty /ADSW & State Active Duty.
- The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs: Has a number of Small Business Administration loan and Job Training Programs.

Indiana

- Employment Assistance for Veterans: Department of Workforce Development provides services to Hoosier Veterans. Through the Disabled Veterans' Outreach program (DVOP), and the Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) Program, Workforce Development Offices throughout the State are equipped to assist Hoosier Veterans with their transition from the service to civilian life. The DVOPs specialize in tailored training and job placement opportunities for veterans with service-connected disabilities. LVERs coordinate services provided veterans including counseling, testing, and identifying training and employment opportunities. To learn more, visit <http://www.in.gov/dva/2390.htm>.
- Peddlers, Vendors, or Hawkers License: State law provides that any wartime Veteran who has an honorable discharge shall be granted these licenses by all cities and counties free of charge. See your county auditor. Ref: IC 25-25-2-1. (IC 25-25-2-3 exempts any county having a consolidated city from this rule.)
- Job Training Priority: A National Guard member who has served on active duty for 30 days or more is entitled to priority for placement in any state or federal employment or training program administered by the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) for up to one (1) year after discharge if the member is otherwise eligible for the program. This law also applies to the spouse of the Guard member. (IC 22-4.1-4-3)





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Iowa

- Veterans Employment Centers: Each Regional Workforce Development Center has a Veteran's Employment Representative coordinating all specific services provided to veterans. Services include identifying training opportunities; identifying employment opportunities; ensuring priority for certain jobs; working with Voc Rehab; conducting outreach to employers, community and veterans organizations, unions, local counseling, and social service agencies; developing job interview and resume writing skills; and helping conduct productive job searches. To learn more, visit https://va.iowa.gov/services/employment_services.html.

Kansas

- On-The-Job Training and Apprenticeships: Qualified veterans and dependents may receive GI bill education benefits while in an approved training program offered by a company or union. The training program must be at least six months long to be approved. Examples of current training programs include common occupations like: aircraft mechanic, bricklayer, carpenter, electrician etc. Some less common on-the-job training programs currently approved are: highway patrol officer, police officer, deputy sheriff, corrections officer, lineman, HVAC technician, dispatcher, security officer, buyer/purchaser, firefighter, financial analyst, emergency medical technician, and customer service representative.
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment: Department of Commerce can help Veterans with service-connected disabilities find and keep suitable employment. Some of the services provided are: 1) Job Search: Assistance in finding and maintaining suitable employment, 2) Vocational Evaluation: An evaluation of abilities, skills, interests, and needs, 3) Career Exploration: Vocational counseling and planning, 4) Vocational Training: If needed, training such as on-the-job and





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non-paid work experience, 5) Education Training: If needed, education training to accomplish the rehabilitation goal, and 6) Rehabilitation Service: Supportive rehabilitation and counseling services. For more information, call 785-296-5202.

- Professional License: Shall continue to be valid while an individual is in military service and for six months following their release. No licensee shall be required to pay a renewal fee, submit a renewal application, obtain continuing education or meet other conditions while on active duty. Also, no license shall expire, lapse or be canceled, revoked or suspended while an individual is on military service. Within six months after their release from active duty or within two weeks of engaging in activities that require a license, the licensee must file the completed application and renewal fee to maintain licensure. They have one year to complete required continuing education requirements.

Louisiana

- Veterans as Apprentices: Many veterans leave the military with the skills and knowledge employers and trade unions are seeking. The Louisiana Workforce Commission, Apprenticeship Division, provides information on Louisiana apprenticeship programs. To learn more, visit http://www.laworks.net/Apprenticeship/APP_MainMenu.asp

Maine

- CDL Certification for Military Waiver of skill test: In Maine, a qualified veteran who is, or who has been regularly employed in a military position within the last 90 days, can obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) by completing a waiver certification form and taking the written skills test. To learn more, visit <http://www.maine.gov/sos/bmv/licenses/CDLMilitary.html>.



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Maryland

- **Employment Assistance:** The Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation offers valuable information on career advancement and education to veterans. Maryland's One Stop Career Centers are part of a nationwide system that provides information to job seekers and employers. The Career Centers are located in 23 counties and Baltimore City. To learn more, visit <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/>.
- **Employment Preference:** Eligible veterans honorably released from active service may receive a 10-point veterans' preference in State employment testing. The preference also includes the spouses of disabled or deceased eligible veterans. Call the Maryland Department of Budget and Management Office of Personnel Services and Benefits at 410-767-4850.

Minnesota

- **G.I. Bill:** The Minnesota State Approving Agency's (SAAs) mission is to provide the administrative oversight of the G.I. Bill's Minnesota Education and Training Programs on behalf of our Veterans and other eligible persons. In Minnesota, there are more than 200 institutions that are SAA approved and over 6,500 programs that are SAA approved. In addition, there are over 50 SAA approved On-The-Job (OJT) and Apprenticeship Training Programs. To learn more, visit <http://www.mdva.state.mn.us/saa.htm>.

Missouri

- **Local Veterans Employment Representatives & Disabled Veteran outreach programs:** Facilitate or provide assistance in job placement and accessing needed services. Services provided are job development, monitoring job listings,





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identification of employment and training opportunities and direct referrals to jobs. To learn more, visit <http://jobs.mo.gov/>.

- **Veterans' Preference with State of Missouri Employment:** Missouri veterans receive five-point preference when testing for any position with the state, with a ten-point preference for a service-connected disabled veteran. Spouses of eligible veterans can also qualify for Veterans Preference for State testing.
- **Priority for Qualified Veterans Employment:** State agencies, which administer federally funded employment and training programs for veterans, shall give priority to qualified veterans and other eligible persons.

New Hampshire

- **Employment Assistance:** Service-connected disabled veterans and their unmarried widows may be exempt from fees for a Peddler's License. (See RSA 320:11).
- **Training:** Qualified veterans will be granted priority in obtaining training that is funded in whole or part by the federal government or the State of New Hampshire. (See RSA 115-B).

New Jersey

- **Licenses for Real Estate Brokers, Agents and Solicitors:** Licenses for real estate brokers, agents and solicitors are also available at no charge to a veteran who has wartime experience and a service-connected disability certified by VA. Qualified veterans will get a waiver of the education and experience requirements for licensure as a New Jersey real estate broker. To learn more, visit http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/division_rec/licensing/forms/recbrwavapp.pdf.



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- License to Vend: Honorably discharged veterans may obtain a no-fee license to vend any goods, wares or merchandise, or solicit trade within the state (NJSA 45:24-9). Licenses are procured from the county clerks office (NJSA 45:24-10) and regulated by municipalities. To receive a tax registration application call 609-292-1730 or start the registration process on-line, <http://www.state.nj.us/njbgs>.

New Mexico

- Apprenticeship program: NM state apprenticeship council Apprenticeship program is designed to provide paid training in new career fields such as plumbing, electrician, or carpentry. Registered programs can offer apprenticeships in dozens of Apprenticeship programs. LVER or DVOP Specialist provide access to apprenticeships. To learn more, visit <http://www.dws.state.nm.us/dws-apprentice.html>.

New York

- Waiver of Professional Continuing Education Requirements and Extension of Professional Licenses: Any professional license, certificate, or registration that expires while the holder is engaged in active military service shall be automatically extended for the period of active service plus 12 months after the end of the service. Applies to federal and state active duty, other than for training. POC: Appropriate licensing authority.
- Extension of Certification for Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Other First Responders: Certifications for EMTs, advanced EMTs and certified first responders who have been ordered to active military duty, other than for training, may be extended by the Department of Health. The period of extended certification is the entire period of active duty, plus 12 months. Applies to state





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and federal active duty, other than for training. Contact the NYS Department of Health at 518-473-8600.

- **Waiver of Professional Licensing Benefit Clarification:** When military service is partially within a licensing, registration or certification period, applicable continuing education requirements shall be reduced proportionately so that the individual is not required to complete those requirements while in military service. This shall not apply to limited permits or other credentials issued for a period of two months or less and shall not extend the terms of a limited permit that expires for reasons other than the passage of time. POC: Appropriate Licensing Authority.
- **Extension of Driver's Licenses and Motor Vehicle Registrations:** Driver's licenses and motor vehicle registrations that would otherwise expire during period of active duty may be extended. Applies to federal or state active duty relating to the war on terrorism. To learn more, visit <http://www.dmv.ny.gov/armedforces.htm> or call the NYS Division of Motor Vehicles at (upstate) 800-225-5368 or (downstate) 800-342-5368.
- **Experience Counts initiative:** Through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), NYS offers veterans a waiver to obtain a New York commercial driver license (CDL) if they have experience operating similar vehicles while in the military. To learn more, visit <http://www.dmv.gov.ny> or call the NYS Division of Motor Vehicles at (upstate) 800-225-5368 or (downstate) 800-342-5368.

Oregon

- **HireVetsFirst:** Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialists (DVOP) assist Veterans in applying for federal, state, and local government employment. The State of Oregon offers an array of services for employment assistance for eligible veterans, including job



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search workshops, resume/application assistance, referrals to jobs, training, apprenticeships, vocational guidance, tax credit eligibility determination, job development and more.

Pennsylvania

- Civil Service Preference: A veteran receiving a passing score on a state Civil Service examination are given an additional 10 points on initial appointment only.

Washington

- Puget Sound Electrical JATC (PSEJATC): The Puget Sound Electrical JATC (PSEJATC) in Washington State, in cooperation with the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 46, recently began a new training program for US military veterans returning from active duty. PSEJATC is a non-profit organization that provides the training required to receive certifications in Inside Wireman (Construction) Electrician, Low Voltage/Sound and Communication Electrician, and Residential Electrician. The training center is jointly sponsored by the Puget Sound Chapter of the NECA and IBEW Local 46. To learn more, visit <http://www.psejadc.org>.

West Virginia

- National Guard Education Benefits: The WV Educational Encouragement Program (WVEEP) provides up to 100% tuition assistance for certificate, associate, bachelors and masters level courses and up to \$5,000 per year for Soldiers attending in-state institutions. For students who have full scholarship under the Promise Scholars Program, WVEEP will pay them the money that would have been



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paid to the school. The Army National Guard Federal Tuition Assistance Program will pay for Certificate, Associate, bachelors and masters level up to \$6,000 per year. The two programs may be used concurrently to cover up to \$10,500 per year in tuition assistance. The State of West Virginia will pay up to 100% of in-resident tuition and fees at any state-supported college/university. Out-of-state students pay tuition at the in-state rates at state supported schools.

- Veterans Re-education Act Fund: Tuition assistance to those veterans who need a new vocation due to dislocation or unemployment.

Wisconsin

- License Fee Waivers for Veterans and Service Members: 2011 Wisconsin Act 209 requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to establish a program under which licensing agencies grant fee waivers to qualified veterans and service members who are applying for a broad array of professional or occupational licenses. The definition of “licensing agencies” under the Act encompasses the Departments of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection; Children and Families; Financial Institutions; Health Services; Natural Resources; Public Instruction; Revenue; Safety and Professional Services and its examining boards and affiliated credentialing boards; Transportation; and Workforce Development, as well as the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands, the Government Accountability Board, and the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance. The term “licenses” covers a broad array of credentials issued by those agencies. To learn more, visit <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/publications/act/2011/act209-sb338.pdf>.



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