American Legion Post 179

Veteran Resources

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Benefits

The VA Welcome Kit can help guide you to the benefits and services you've earned through your commitment and sacrifice to our nation.

The National Resource Directory (NRD) is a searchable database of resources vetted for the use of service members, veterans, family members and caregivers. NRD's resource categories include everything from benefits and compensation to transport and travel.

Additionally, this Financial Relief & Discount Guide for Veterans with Disabilities provides a comprehensive list of resources available to disabled veterans.

In the event of a government shutdown, this guide details impacted services.

Education

College Resources for Veterans and Their Families

LinkedIn offers Veterans, VA caregivers and Fry Scholars a free 1-year premium career subscription, including one year of access to LinkedIn Learning, which includes a library of over 14,000 business, technical, and creative courses on LinkedIn Learning.

Entertainment and Recreation

National Parks - Veterans may enter Federal Recreation Lands and National Parks for free with the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands lifetime access pass. More information can be found at the USGS website.

Texas State Parks - Texas Passports are available for Veterans to access Texas State Parks.

Together We Served - helps you find old service friends.

The United Heroes League (UHL) honors military kids with free sports gear, pro sports tickets, access to free sports camps, and grants to cover the costs of sports association fees. Any active service member or honorably discharged veteran who deployed to a combat zone as defined by DOD or VA, with children under 18, is encouraged to apply.

Vet Tix provides free event tickets to currently serving members of the military, veterans, their families, and immediate family members of those that have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving. *Eligibility is determined through ID.me, a third-party identify verification service that is also available on VA.gov.*

Employment

Veteran & Military-Friendly Employers

Financial Assistance

Emergency Fund Application (Individual and Post)

Groceries, Dining, and Shopping

The Defense Department announced Expanded Commissary, Military Service Exchange, and MWR Access as of Jan. 1, 2020. Veterans who are eligible and want to take advantage of in-person benefits must have a Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC).

Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits

Many local restaurants offer military and Veteran discounts including Union Station Diner, New Braunfels Coffee. As we identify local retailers and restaurants, we will add them to this list.

Many shops and retail chains offer military discounts, including Adidas, Apple, Advance Auto Parts, Costco, Foot Locker, Home Depot, iHop, Kohl's, Reebok, Samsung, Under Armor. While these are just a few, be sure to ask your local retailer if they offer a discount.

Health (Physical and Mental)

Five Ways to Cope with PTSD

Your food choices can make a difference in managing your health. The VA's nutrition services promote wellness and disease prevention by ensuring effective nutrition

education and counseling for veterans. To make meal planning easy, the VA has put together some free healthy recipes, video tutorials and cookbooks.

Operation Supply Drop's Games to Grunts program supports community engagement to veterans, military, and their families through video games. A similar organization, Stack Up, supports U.S. veterans by promoting positive mental health and combating veteran suicide through gaming and geek culture with its four pillar programs. *Eligibility is determined through ID.me, a third-party identify verification service that is also available on VA.gov.*

Housing

Current VA Mortgage Rates

VA Housing Grants for Disabled Veterans

Regroup4Vets.com - ReGroup's mission is to "provide healthy, supportive living environments to transitioning veterans to prevent hardships."

San Antonio Housing Assistance Program provides financial assistance to renters experiencing emergency hardships from COVID-19 and to keep families in their homes

Senior Living and Care - caring.com has helped millions of seniors and families select the right senior care products and services for their loved ones while also saving time and money. They want caregivers to feel less alone and less stressed when navigating the world of difficult senior care decisions. View Veteran's Benefit Guide.

Transportation

Veterans receive a 10% discount on the lowest available rail fare on most Amtrak trains. Use the Fare Finder at the beginning of your search and select *Military Veteran* for each passenger as appropriate to receive the discount. Active- duty U.S. military members, their spouses, and dependents are also eligible to receive a 10% discount on the lowest available rail fare.

The Space-A(vailable) program fills surplus capacity and seating on DOD aircraft. A popular perk among retirees, eligible disabled veterans can also take advantage of the program and fly for free. To be eligible for Space-A flights, veterans must have a permanent and total service-connected disability rating.

Veterans Organizations

Texas Veterans Commission
Trusted Military and Veteran Service Organization