



## Utah Department of Veterans Affairs

As a state agency we assist former and present members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents in preparing claims for and securing such compensation, hospitalization, education and vocational training, and other benefits or privileges to which they may be entitled under Federal or state law or regulation by reason of the service in the military. We also assist Veterans and their families with navigating the VA system and those veterans that are in need of employment and intensive services.

### ❖ Outreach

Our outreach program has two main areas:

1) Outreach to local communities and Special Events. Our community outreach program involves Service Officers and Outreach Representatives on a consistent schedule traveling across the state to assist Veterans and their dependents with filing VA claims. Because the claims process can be so intimidating and because not everyone can get to a service officer in Salt Lake our representatives go to service areas throughout the state.

2) Our special events outreach consists of Benefit and Information Fairs, Workshops and a variety of other events that are ways of bringing the many available services and resources to communities throughout the state.

### ❖ Utah Veterans Cemetery & Memorial Park

The Utah Veterans Memorial Cemetery is located just north of Camp Williams in Bluffdale, Utah. It serves as a lasting memorial to Armed Forces veterans of all wars as an honored burial place for eligible Utah Veterans, their spouses and dependent children.

The Veterans Cemetery was dedicated on Memorial Day 1990. The cemetery offers a beautiful panoramic view of the Wasatch Mountains. It serves and pays tribute as a honored burial ground to Utah veterans of all wars. Also it provides an appropriate venue for memorial services, funerals, meditation and other veteran memorial related events.

### ❖ State Veterans Nursing Homes

Quality nursing and health care services are provided for Utah veterans with U.S. military service during peacetime or wartime. While wartime service is not a requirement for admission to the nursing home, wartime veterans with one day or more of wartime service, as recognized by state and federal laws, have top priority. A veteran's spouse or surviving spouse may also qualify for admittance to the Utah State Veterans Nursing Home, providing the marriage to the veteran occurred at least one year before the application.

### ❖ State Approving Agency for Veterans Education

The vision of the Utah State Approving Agency is to ensure that every eligible veteran, reservist/National Guard member, and other eligible persons are afforded the opportunity to pursue their education or vocational program goals to their full potential. The Utah SAA will work to protect the eligible person's right to a quality education or a quality training program through the accurate, ethical, and expedient administration within each institution/facility that offers education or training programs.

- ❖ The benefits listed on this page are specific to the State of Utah, except where noted, and are generally administered through this agency.
- ❖ Disabled Veteran Property Tax Abatement
- ❖ Purple Heart Fee Exemption
- ❖ Scott B Lundell Tuition Waiver for Military Members' Surviving Dependents
- ❖ Honorary High School Diplomas
- ❖ Veterans License Plates
- ❖ Free Use of Armories
- ❖ Fishing License Privileges
- ❖ Special Fun Tags
- ❖ America the Beautiful Pass (Federal Program)
- ❖ Bus/Trax Reduced Fare Cards
- ❖ Veterans Upward Bound
- ❖ Recording of Military Discharges/DD-214
- ❖ Veterans Status on Drivers License

**Additional services that could be offered with Legislative support:**

Business and Occupation licensing for equivalent military training. (limited at present)

Business and Occupation license fee exemptions for Disabled Veterans.

State Parks and Recreation Passes for Veterans and Disabled Veterans

Education benefits for spouses of Veterans that have 100% disability. They are the new bread winner for the family.

Equitable education credits across the board for veterans that have completed military service schools (for profit institutions allow more credit for military courses) 38 vs 8

Require college curriculum and continued education requirements for social workers and mental health providers in Veteran's mental health and PTSD.

24 hour veteran priority of service preference for jobs posted with DWS [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov) and state jobs [statejobs.utah.gov](http://statejobs.utah.gov)

Insure Federal Contracting Job Listing (FCJL) employers, are posting jobs with DWS i.e. schools districts and colleges and other state agencies.

Insure FCJL contractors are meeting their requirements of hiring Veterans and disabled veterans?

Continued education for law enforcement officers and academy trainees for PTSD

Fund Veterans Business "Start Ups"

Insure school districts higher education and local governments give veterans preference for employment.