

Tennessee State Veteran's Benefits



2020

The state of Tennessee provides veteran benefits. This section offers a brief description in each of the following categories.

- Housing
- Financial
- Employment
- Education
- Recreational
- Other State Sponsored Veteran Benefits

Housing

State Veterans Homes

Tennessee offers four state veteran homes whose goal is to provide veterans with the best health care in an environment which is pleasant and enjoyable; to provide a safe, warm and happy home for our veterans. Tennessee residents or natives are eligible for admission. Spouses, surviving spouses, and Gold Star Parents may also be eligible for admission. The homes are: The Tennessee State Veterans home in Murfreesboro, the W.D. "Bill" Manning Tennessee State Veterans' Home in Humboldt, the Ben Atchley Tennessee Veterans' Home in Knoxville, and the General Wendell H. Gilbert Tennessee State Veterans Home in Clarksville. To be eligible for admission, the veteran must:

- Be a resident of Tennessee at time of admission.
- Have been born in Tennessee.
- Have entered the U.S. Armed Forces in Tennessee.
- Have a Tennessee address as official Home of Record on Veteran's Military Record.
- Have an immediate family member (Parent, Spouse, Sibling, or Child) or Legal Guardian who would serve as primary caregiver and who is a resident of Tennessee.

Note: The Spouse, Widow/Widower or Gold Star Parent may also be eligible for admission on a space available basis. Costs are based on income.

Upon meeting the eligibility requirements, the applicant's name will be placed on our Potential Admissions Wait List. Complete and provide a copy of the veteran's discharge papers (DD214); if the applicant is not the veteran, additional information will be requested.

Current medical information will be needed. Admissions will be happy to collect this data from the medical doctor. We will be requesting:

- History and Physical
- Lab Work (UA CBC, Etc.)
- List of medications
- Chest x-ray or TB Skin Test
- Notes on current treatments
- Physicians orders for placement into our facility

The following paperwork will be required upon admission:

- The Veteran's DD214
- Marriage License or Certificate if a Veteran's spouse or widow.
- Insurance Cards
- Government Issued Identification
- Living Will (if applicable)
- Power of Attorney (if applicable)



W.D. "Bill" Manning Tennessee
2865 Main Street
Humboldt, TN 38343
(731) 784-8405
<http://tsvh.org/Humboldt/index.html>



Tennessee State Veterans' Home
345 Compton Road
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
(615) 895-8850
<http://tsvh.org/Murfreesboro/index.html>



Ben Atchley Tennessee Veterans' Home

One Veterans Way
 Knoxville, TN 37931
 (865) 862-8152

<http://tsvh.org/Knoxville/index.html>



Clarksville Veterans Home

Brigadier General Wendell H. Gilbert
 Tennessee State Veterans Home
 250 Arrowood Drive,
 Clarksville, TN 37042

<http://tsvh.org/Clarksville/index.html>

To learn more about the homes refer to the following videos:

- [Full Length Video: Introduction to Tennessee State Veterans' Homes](#)
- [Video: Tennessee State Veterans' Homes-Quality of Life](#)
- [Video: Tennessee State Veterans' Homes-Proudly Serving Those Who Served](#)

Cost

The TSVH accepts private payment, Medicare, Tennessee Medicaid, most Private Insurance, and VA higher per diem for long term care room and board and billable ancillary cost. Ancillary costs are those billed to private pay residents and to Medicare Part B and include therapy, pharmacy, laboratory, and radiology services.

The daily room rates for the four homes for fiscal year 2020 is indicated below on the left. The TSVH receives a basic per diem rate, currently \$115.62, from the VA for each eligible veteran. For eligible qualified veterans who pay privately for their care, The TSVHB applies the VA basic per diem towards the veterans private pay resident's bill, reducing the out-of-pocket daily room rates as indicated below on the right:

Room Type	Murfreesboro	Humboldt	Knoxville	Clarksville
Skilled care, semi-private room	\$310	\$310	\$310	N/A
Skilled care, private room	\$330	\$330	\$330	\$330
Intermediate care, semi-private room	\$275	\$275	\$275	N/A
Intermediate care, private room	\$295	\$295	\$295	\$295

Room Type	Murfreesboro	Humboldt	Knoxville	Clarksville
Skilled care, semi-private room	\$194.38	\$194.38	\$194.38	N/A
Skilled care, private room	\$214.38	\$214.38	\$214.38	\$214.38
Intermediate care, semi-private room	\$159.38	\$159.38	\$159.38	N/A
Intermediate care, private room	\$179.38	\$179.38	\$179.38	\$179.38

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) offers a higher per diem program to state homes that provide nursing home care to eligible veterans. The higher per diem program is only available to eligible veterans and not to spouses, widows/widowers, or gold star parents.

Higher Per Diem Based On Service-Connected Disabilities

The VA will pay a facility recognized as a State Veterans' Home for nursing home care a different per diem for a veteran:

- Who is in need of nursing home care for a VA adjudicated service-connected disability, or
- Who has a singular or combined rating of 70 percent or more based on one or more service-connected disabilities or a rating of total disability based on individual un-employability and is in need of nursing home care.

Payment for care under this program constitutes payment in full for all routine nursing home care provided to the veteran in the state nursing home. As a condition for receiving this per diem, the veteran must receive medications through the state nursing home rather than from the VA. The veteran must also utilize the VA for any services not provided by the nursing home, such as hospital care, hearing aids, and eyeglasses. If the veteran chooses to utilize other service providers, the veteran will be responsible for payment for those services.

Medication Program

In addition to the per diem payments discussed above, the VA will also furnish drugs and medicines to a facility recognized as a state veterans home that are ordered by a duly licensed physician as specific therapy in the treatment of illness of injury for a veteran receiving care in a state home if the veteran:

- Has a singular or combined rating of less than 50 percent based on one or more service-connected disabilities and is in need of such drugs and medicines for a service-connected disability and is in need of nursing home care for reasons that do not include care for a VA adjudicated service-connected disability; or
- Has a singular or combined rating of 50 or 60 percent based on one or more service-connected disabilities and is in need of such drugs and medicines and is in need of nursing home care for reasons that do not include care for a VA adjudicated service-connected disability.

The drug or medicine must be included in the VA's national formulary unless the VA determines a non-formulary drug or medicine is medically necessary.

Resources -- The following resources should be considered as you research senior care options and facilities for yourself or your loved one.

- [Tennessee Health Care Association](#)
- [Tennessee Skilled Nursing Home Facilities](#)
- [Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability](#)
- [American Health Care Association](#)
- [Medicare.gov](#)
- [Medicare.gov - Nursing Home Compare](#)
- [National Association of State Veterans Homes](#)
- [Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs](#)

Financial

Property Tax Relief for Disabled Veterans

To receive tax relief as a disabled veteran, one of the following categories must be met:

- A service-connected disability that resulted in:

- Paraplegia OR
- Permanent paralysis of both legs and lower part of the body resulting from traumatic injury or disease to the spinal cord or brain; OR
- Loss, or loss of use of, two (2) or more limbs; OR
- Legal blindness
- A service-connected permanent and total disability or disabilities, as determined by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- A 100% total and permanent disability rating from being a prisoner of war.
- Must own and use property as primary residence. The maximum market value on which tax relief is calculated is \$175,000

For more information on the changes to the Property Tax Relief Program read [Public Chapter No. 1065](#). To apply for this benefit please contact the County Trustee's office in your county. Use the [Tennessee Trustee website](#) to find your County Trustee contact information.

Property tax relief for surviving spouses

State law authorizes property tax relief to surviving spouses of disabled veterans who would have been eligible for relief had the veteran qualified under later amendments to the law. The tax relief is in an amount necessary to pay or reimburse such taxpayers for all or part of the local property taxes paid for a given tax year on that property that the disabled veteran owned and used as the disabled veteran's residence. The property tax relief is extended to the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran who, at the time of the disabled veteran's death, was eligible for disabled veterans' property tax relief, as long as the surviving spouse:

- Does not remarry;
- Solely or jointly owns the property for which tax relief is claimed; and
- Uses the property for which tax relief is claimed exclusively as a home.

[Public Chapter No. 884 \(2006\)](#) adds that if a subsequent amendment to the law concerning eligibility as a disabled veteran would have made the deceased veteran eligible for disabled veterans' property tax relief, then property tax relief will also be extended to the surviving spouse. This applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2011. Public Chapter No. 481 (2015) changes below. Must own and use property as primary residence. The maximum market value on which tax relief is calculated is \$100,000. For more information on the changes to the Property Tax Relief Program read Public Chapter No. 1065 (2016).

Click here to view [Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury Property Tax Relief Fact Sheet](#). To apply for this benefit please contact the County Trustee's office in your county. Use the [Tennessee Trustee website](#) to find your County Trustee contact information.

Motor vehicle privilege tax Relief

Any disabled veteran who has a 100 percent permanent, total disability from a service connected cause, or any former prisoner-of-war, as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, shall be exempt from the motor vehicle privilege tax upon submission of evidence of such disability to the officer in the county charged with the responsibility for collecting such tax.

Employment

Starting over in a new career field, finding a job and relocating can be a challenging and sometimes overwhelming process. The Tennessee Department of Veterans Services (TDVS) is dedicated to improving this process for Veterans in our state. TDVS strives to connect Veterans with quality resources

to prepare those who have served for a competitive workforce. TDVS also works with employers to recruit and retain Tennessee's Veterans.

Getting Started

Veterans looking for high-quality jobs have several options in the State of Tennessee. To get started, we recommend visiting the nearest [Tennessee Department of Labor Career Center](#) to find out more about translating military experience into civilian resume language. Military experience can be extremely marketable, but civilian employers need your best effort to help translate military service into civilian workforce skills.

Find Employment

- **Veterans Working for the Volunteer State** -- The State of Tennessee employs more than 4,000 Veterans within 23 state departments. The TEAM Act improved Veteran preference for preferred service jobs. Veterans who meet the minimum qualifications for open state preferred positions are guaranteed an interview. Preferred Service employees hold a position in an agency in the state service, in which the employee has successfully completed the requisite probationary period. Employees in Preferred Service have a streamlined appeals process for appreciation of a law, rule or policy by an agency which results in dismissal, demotion or certain suspensions. [Find out how to register for preferred positions.](#) Executive Service employees serve at the pleasure of the Appointing Authority and do not have the ability to appeal a suspension, demotion or dismissal. [Find out more about Executive Service Job Openings.](#) Recruiters from several state departments are looking for military Veterans in a variety of fields to offer leadership, discipline, teamwork and commitment to transform state government. [Connect with state departments recruiting Veterans.](#)
- **State Jobs** -- Recruiters from several state departments are looking for military Veterans in a variety of fields to offer leadership, discipline, teamwork and commitment to transform state government. The State of Tennessee is grateful for your service to our country and we recognize the tremendous sacrifices you have made for our freedom. We welcome the opportunity to have you join our workforce.

The State of Tennessee employs more than 4,000 Veterans within 23 state departments. The [TEAM Act](#) improves Veteran preference for preferred service jobs. Veterans who meet the minimum qualifications for open state preferred positions are guaranteed an interview. Preferred Service employees hold a position in an agency in the state service, in which the employee has successfully completed the requisite probationary period. Employees in Preferred Service have a streamlined appeals process for appreciation of a law, rule or policy by an agency which results in dismissal, demotion or certain suspensions. [Find out how to register for preferred positions.](#)

- **Federal Jobs** -- The Federal Government offers unique hiring paths to help hire individuals that represent our diverse society. Learn more about each hiring path and your eligibility.
 - <https://www.usajobs.gov/>
 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture is looking to military veterans across the country to fill the roles that keep America's food supply safe and secure, preserve and strengthen rural communities, and restore and conserve the environment. USDA wants to ensure that veterans looking to return home, or start a new career on a farm or in a rural community have the tools and opportunities they need to succeed. USDA's veterans website serves as a one-stop navigator for veterans looking to learn more about employment, education, and entrepreneurship on or beyond the farm.
 - Visit the USDA at www.usda.gov/veterans
- The [Jobs 4 TN](#) database provides easy access to the largest number of unduplicated online job opportunities currently available in one location with more than 90,000 jobs every day. In

addition to taking job orders directly from Tennessee employers, the system continually searches through the web sites of local newspapers, recruiters, hospitals, and government sites to pull in all the best jobs. Jobs noted with a star are job orders posted directly by Tennessee employers in Jobs4TN.gov.

- **Tennessee Department of Veterans Services Jobs - Opening(s):**
 - [Caretaker 1 - East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery](#)
 - [Caretaker 1 - Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery](#)
 - [Caretaker 1 - West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery](#)

Education

Choosing an Institution

Find a campus that provides the services, resources and the curriculum you are looking for to launch your next chapter.

- [East Tennessee Schools](#)
- [Middle Tennessee Schools](#)
- [West Tennessee Schools](#)

In-State Tuition

According to the *Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-7-1304* a Veteran or other individual eligible to receive educational benefits administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, through any provision of the United States Code, shall not be required to pay out-of-state tuition or any out-of-state fee when the Veteran or other individual is:

- (1) Enrolled in any public institution of higher education in this state;
- (2) Utilizing such benefits at the enrolling institution; and
- (3) Living in the state of Tennessee, regardless of the individual's formal state of residency.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill can be used for approved programs and provides up to 36 months of education benefits, generally payable for 15 years following release from active duty service. [Find out more about the Post-9/11 GI Bill.](#)

It is also important to note that although Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits can be transferred to dependents, the service member needs to apply for the transfer while still serving on active duty. [Find out more about transferring Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.](#)

The Marine Gunnery Sergeant John D. Favid Fry Scholarship provides Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to the children and surviving spouses of service members who died in the line of duty on active duty after September 10, 2001. [Find out more about the Fry Scholarship.](#)

Helping heroes grant for veterans

The grant will be available each year to as many as 375 eligible veterans on a first-come, first-serve basis and will award \$1,000 to students completing at least twelve (12) semester hours each term. Applicants need to have been awarded the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, or the Global War on Terrorism expeditionary Medal. Go through the complete list of requirements at <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/veteran-education/scholarships/veterans/helping-heroes-grant.html> to see if you qualify.

Scholarships

Click on the below to review the available scholarship:

- [Veterans](#)
- [Military Family Members](#)
- [Reserve | National Guard](#)

Military Family Members

Click on the below to review what is available to yours:

- [Scholarships](#)
- [Dependents Tuition Waiver](#)
- [Samsung American Legion Scholarship](#)
- [In-State Tuition](#)
- [MyCAA \(Military One Source | Spouse\)](#)

Reserve | National Guard

Click on the below to review yours:

- [Scholarships](#)
- [STRONG Act](#)

Military Transcripts

Before making the final decision of which school to apply to, make sure you check to see if that campus will allow you to transfer your military service for college credits. Check with the institutions you are considering applying to, and see what their policies are for accepting your military service as college credit. This includes your military occupational experience but also trainings that you have done. Depending on which branch you served in, look below to see how to go about getting your military transcripts.

- <http://www.airuniversity.af.mil/Barnes/CCAF> Air Force
- <https://jst.doded.mil/smart/signIn.do;jsessionid=xcPCS7Bh6TvhBLY1LJgghLsbQDspzkjHBRc5KR1KnhrvDlh4IR6k!1373174819> Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, fill out the Joint Services Transcript

Combat Veterans Can Register Early for State Classes

A military veteran who is a current resident of this state or whose home of record for military purposes is Tennessee and who is a student at a public institution of higher education shall be allowed to register for classes prior to the general student population at any public institution of higher education. Early registration shall occur using the same procedure used by student athletes, disabled students and honor students, if such groups are permitted to early register.

Vocational Rehab and Employment (VR&E)

This is a program administered by the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs to guide veterans through career counseling, personal academic support, and also in some cases financial assistance. Learn more about the program at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp>. There are specific eligibility requirements related to entitlement to funds. Veterans with a service-connected disability rating of at least 10% from the VA, are eligible. Check the full list of eligibility requirements at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp>.

Diplomas for past war veterans

High School diplomas may be issued to veterans whose education was interrupted by service in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War. The veteran is not required to be a current

resident of the State of Tennessee at the time of the request for a diploma. A surviving spouse or other immediate family member of a deceased veteran may also request the diploma. Refer to <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/veteran-education/education-benefits/diplomas-for-past-war-veterans.html> for how to obtain.

Recreational

Disabled Veteran Hunting & Fishing License

Free hunting and fishing licenses for 100% permanently disabled veterans or those with a 30% disability due to war service. There is a one-time fee of \$10.

Camping in State Parks

During the off-season, (Nov. 1 - Mar. 31), resident veterans can camp at the same discounted rate as Tennessee senior campers.

Free Day

On Veterans day camping and golf greens fees are free at state campgrounds and golf courses.

Other Tennessee State Veteran Benefits

State Veterans Cemeteries

1. Tennessee offers eligible veterans their choice of five state veteran cemeteries. Two in Knoxville and one each in Memphis, Nashville, and Parkers Crossroads. There is no fee for veteran interment. Generally veterans with an "other than dishonorable" discharge are eligible for burial. Go to <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/veteran-benefits/tn-state-benefits/veteran-burial-benefits/state-cemeteries.html> to click on the cemetery of your choice to pre-register for burial.



Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

7931 McCrory Lane
Nashville, TN 37221

(615) 532-2238
MTSV.Cemetery@tn.gov



[East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery](#)

Knoxville, TN 37919
(865) 577-3228
ETSV.Cemetery@tn.gov



[East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery](#)

2200 E. Gov. John Sevier Hwy 168
Knoxville, TN 37920
(865) 577-3228
ETSV.Cemetery@tn.gov



[West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery](#)

4000 Forest Hill/Irene Road
Memphis, TN 38125
(901) 543-7005
WTSV.Cemetery@tn.gov



Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads

693 Wildersville Road
Parkers Crossroads, TN 38388
(731) 967-4127
TSVCPC.Cemetery@tn.gov

2. Eligibility for interment extends to:

- Any person who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States (Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Marine Corps) who was discharged or released there from before September 7, 1980 under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who died while on active duty.
- Any person who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States who entered active duty as an enlisted person after September 7, 1980, and officers commissioned who entered active duty after October 17, 1981, and whose discharge or separation from active military service was under "other than dishonorable" conditions. A person whose first tour of duty began on or after the dates listed above is eligible if he or she completed a continuous period of active duty of at least 24 months or the full period for which called or ordered to active duty, whichever is shorter or was released because of a hardship discharge, or has a compensable service connected disability or was released because of a service connected disability.

3. Verification Information Required -- Full name of veteran. Date of birth, service and social security numbers. Service Dates: entry and discharge from active duty. (This information can be found in veteran's discharge papers or DD Form 214.)

4. Reserve & National Guard Members -- Eligible for interment if:

- They are in receipt of compensation or pension from the VA are eligible for burial; or
- They completed twenty or more years of reserve or guard service and are entitled to retirement pay.
- They are also eligible for burial under the following five (5) categories.
 - Dies under honorable conditions while undergoing active duty for training.
 - If called to active duty, completes the full period for which called up.
 - Dies under honorable conditions while performing full time AGR service.
 - Completed at least 24 months of active service.
 - Discharged due to service connected disability while on active duty.

5. Cost -- There is no cost for the veteran if eligibility requirements are met. Also, there is no fee for the interment of a veteran's spouse or eligible dependent children.

6. Cremations -- Columbarium services are now offered at the East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery on John Sevier Highway, Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery, West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery and the Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads. Call your [cemetery of interest](#) for more information.

7. Outer Containers -- The Tennessee Department of Veterans Services does not require outer containers for burials.

8. Headstones -- All veterans are entitled to a white, upright marble headstone at government expense when buried in a Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery. A temporary grave marker is used to identify grave site until the permanent headstone is delivered in approximately three to four months.

9. Unclaimed Veteran Remains -- For information on how to proceed with Unclaimed Veteran Remains go to <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/veteran-benefits/tn-state-benefits/veteran-burial-benefits/unclaimed-veteran-remains.html>

10. Floral policy -- Available at <https://www.tn.gov/veteran/veteran-benefits/tn-state-benefits/veteran-burial-benefits/floral-policy.html>

11. The Honor and Remember Flag -- Designated as the official state symbol of remembrance to honor fallen military service members. For information on obtaining one refer to <http://www.honorandremember.org/the-flag/flag-presentation>



12. For information about National Cemeteries established and maintained by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs go to <http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/listcem.asp>.

Veteran's Driver Licenses



Now being issued at Driver Service Centers Across the State

State law authorizes honorably discharged veterans to have language or a symbol indicating their military service placed on their driver license; requires the Department of Veterans Services, in consultation with the department of safety, to develop appropriate language or military symbol. This new ID will be a

source of convenience for veterans who do not typically carry their discharge papers with them everywhere they go to prove their veteran status.

Veterans must visit a driver services center and present a certified or original copy of their Department of Defense form 214 (DD-214), which is also known as discharge papers, to receive the special designation on a driver license or photo ID card. If the license or card is a renewal or duplicate of a non-commercial driver license, veterans may also visit one of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security's county clerk partners. The standard state issuance or renewal fees apply for the transaction. If it is not time to renew a driver license or photo ID, veterans may get a duplicate to replace a current non-commercial license or ID for \$8 for the first duplicate and \$12 for a second duplicate. [Click here](#) for the Driver Service Center location near you.

Veteran Specialty Plates

There are more than 20 Veteran related specialty plates offered in the State of Tennessee. We have provided links to find out more about each specialty plate, but to find out more about all specialty plates and how to obtain them, please visit the Tennessee Department of Revenue website <https://www.tn.gov/revenue/title-and-registration/license-plates/available-license-plates/military-and-memorial.html/>. License plates are free for 100% service connected disabled veterans, Ex-POW's, and recipients of MOH, DSC, NC or AFC. Following lists what is available:



Active/Retired/Honorable Discharge - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are active/retired/honorable discharged members or members spouse of the United States military and military reserves in good standing. Active military applicants must provide a current copy of their LES and stationing orders, along with a copy of the vehicle's registration. The retired and honorable discharge military applicants must provide a military ID card and show one of the following official military forms to prove their status: DD Form 2A (RES), DD Form 2N (RES), DD Form 2MC (RES), DD Form 2AF (RES), DD Form 2CG (RES) or DD214. A surviving spouse of such a deceased active, retired or honorably discharged member, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon paying the regular fee applicable to the vehicle and the fee prescribed by Tenn. Code Ann. 55-4-203, shall be issued a registration plate pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. 55-4-244, until the surviving spouse remarries.

Please note: Applicants must submit proof of their status each year upon renewal of their vehicle's registration. Retired and Honorable Discharged members can elect to choose to obtain a retired and honorable discharged plate instead, which only requires the submission for proof upon initial application. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75. The plate cannot be personalized.



Air Force



Army



Coast Guard



Marine Corps



Marine Corps League



Navy



Reserve Forces



Retired



Honorably Discharged Retired and Honorably Discharged



Air Medal - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Air Medal. Applicants must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are an Air Medal recipient. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate can not be personalized.



Blue Star Family - Blue Star Family license plates are offered for purchase to any eligible person whose spouse, parent, sibling, or child is currently serving in the armed forces of the United States at the time of application. Armed forces includes members serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard (when mobilized to augment the Navy) to include reservists and National Guard members.

To obtain this license plate, a registrant must:

1. Submit proof of current service from their service member. Examples of this documentation include copies of one of the following:
 - a. Current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES),
 - b. Member's military ID card, or
 - c. A letter from their unit commander on official letterhead stating the family member's current status as a member of the U.S. armed forces; and
1. Provide a written statement by the service member indicating the family relationship with

the registrant.

Proof of eligibility must be submitted for each renewal year. The initial fee for obtaining this license plate is \$25.75, and the subsequent annual fee is \$21.50. Additional charges for county and/or city wheel tax, where imposed locally, plus county clerk fees will apply. The plate cannot be personalized.

Retired members of the military may apply for this license plate if they also meet the criteria above, but may wish to obtain one of several choices of registration plates available for them in honor of their service.



Bosnia Veterans - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are honorary discharged veterans who served in Bosnia with the United States Armed Forces. The applicant will be required to show proof of service. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



Bronze Star (Meritorious) - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Bronze Star - Meritorious. The applicant must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a recipient of one of the applicable medals. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



Bronze Star (Valor) - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Bronze Star - Valor. The applicant must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a recipient of one of the applicable medals. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



Congressional Medal of Honor - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, the Air Force Cross or the Legion of Valor. Applicants must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a recipient of one of the applicable medals. There is no annual fee for this plate and it can not be personalized.



Desert Storm Veteran - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are honorably discharges veterans of Desert Storm. Applicants must provide proof of service. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



Disabled Veteran - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle, are veterans of the United States military and are entitled to compensation under the laws administered by the Veterans Administration; due to disability incurred in or aggravated by active military services of the United States (Tenn. Code Ann. 55-4-237). For more information on obtaining a disabled veteran plate, [click here](#).



Distinguished Flying Cross - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and who are recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross. Applicants must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a Distinguished Flying Cross recipient. There is no annual fee for this plate and it cannot be personalized.



Enemy Evadee - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are certified as an enemy evadee by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The application must be accompanied by discharge papers from the United States Armed Forces that have been certified by the Department of Veterans Affairs. A copy of the death certificate should be supplied in the event a surviving spouse wishes to renew such plate.

The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



Gold Star Family - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are a person whose spouse, parent, sibling or child served and died in the line of duty in the United States Armed Forces or its allies, or died as a result of injuries sustained in such service. Applicant must provide a DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty. The first plate is free. Additional plates will cost \$25.75 for initial issuance and \$21.50 for renewal. The plate cannot be personalized.



Handicapped Veteran - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle, are veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces and has a service-connected disability which is determined by the federal Department of Veterans Affairs to constitute less than one hundred percent (100%) permanent total disability. **Note:** This plate does not have handicapped parking privileges with it. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate can not be personalized.



Honorably Discharged - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces. An applicant must provide proof of service. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



Korean War - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are honorably discharged veterans of the Korean War. An applicant must provide proof of service. The annual fee for automobile registration is \$21.50 with an initial fee of \$25.75 required. The annual fee for motorcycle registration is \$14.50 with an initial fee of \$16.75 required. The plate cannot be personalized.



Legion of Valor - This plate is available to Tennessee residents who are registering a private passenger motor vehicle and are recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, the Air Force Cross or the Legion of Valor. Applicants must provide a letter or DD214 from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating they are a recipient of one of the applicable medals. There is no annual fee for this plate and it cannot be personalized.

Commercial Driver License

Tennessee will waive the required skills test for the first issuance of a commercial driver license for veterans who have a valid military commercial driver license.

Disabled Decal for Disabled Veteran Drivers

Veteran motorists previously defined as disabled drivers according to TCA Section 55-21-102, may apply and receive a free disabled driver decal which may be added to the existing specialty plate. To apply for a decal please visit the Tennessee Department of Revenue for details at <http://www.tn.gov/revenue/article/disable-plates-placards>.

No-Fee Registration of Discharges

Registration of discharges by county registrar at no fee.

State Veterans Services Offices

Veterans can obtain free services and assistance at their local state Veterans Service Office. To locate one nearest to you click on the below:

- [East Tennessee Field Offices](#)
- [Middle Tennessee Field Offices](#)
- [West Tennessee Field Offices](#)

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Visit the Tennessee Dept. of Veterans Affairs website <http://www.tn.gov/veteran> for contact information and benefits assistance. [Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/content/veteran-state-benefits/tennessee-state-veterans-benefits.html> | OCT 2020 ++]