

VETERANS BENEFITS

Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs

The mission of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs is to provide comprehensive care and quality service to Louisiana's veterans, and their families, with regard to health care, education, disability benefits, long-term care and burial honors.

Call 225.219.5000 · Email veteran@la.gov · Mail to 602 N. Fifth St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Crisis Line

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs provides 24/7, confidential crisis support to veterans and their loved ones. Veterans do not have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect.

Dial 988 then press 1 · Text 838255 · Chat at veteranscrisisline.net

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Resources

There are a host of mental health and substance abuse resources for veterans. The Governor's Challenge to Prevent Veteran Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans and their Families website provides a listing of these resources from organizations across the state. For more information about mental health and substance abuse resources, contact LDVA's Veterans Outreach Program.

Visit linktr.ee/LaGovernorsChallenge · Call 225.219.5006 · Email veteran@la.gov

Veteran Homelessness Prevention

The Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs partners with the state's continuums of care and non-profit organizations to prevent veteran homelessness, and to help veterans who are currently homeless into emergency, transitional or permanent housing. For more information about veteran homelessness prevention, contact LDVA's Veterans Outreach Program.

Call 225.219.5006 · Email veteran@la.gov

Compensation and Pension Benefits

The Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs serves Louisiana's 283,000 veterans and their families connecting them with the benefits they have earned. LDVA's accredited veterans assistance counselors staff 74 veterans service offices across the state and file claims with the federal VA on behalf of veterans for compensation and pension.

To locate an office: Visit vetaffairs.la.gov/locations · Call 225.219.5000 · Email veteran@la.gov

Educational Benefits

The Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs' State Approving Agency staff work with school certifying officials to accept GI Bill payments on behalf of student veterans and their dependents. Additionally, LDVA staff administer Louisiana Title 29 Dependents' Educational Assistance to children of veterans granted at least 90% service-connected rating, including Individual Unemployability (excluding temporary ratings).

Call 225.219.5000 · Email veteran@la.gov

Employment Assistance and Business Owner Resources

The State of Louisiana and the federal government offer employment assistance to veterans through their Civil Service programs, the Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) and the federal VA Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E). Specifically, LWC's Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) work with veterans to prepare them for and assist in securing employment. For business owners, Louisiana Economic Development has several veteran-related programs. For more information about employment assistance, contact LWC's Office of Workforce Development's Veterans' Program Manager Eric Taylor at 337.262.5750 or etaylor1@lwc.la.gov. For more information about resources for business owners, contact LDVA's Veterans Outreach Program at 225.219.5006 or veteran@la.gov.

Tax Exemptions

Louisiana veterans are eligible for income tax exemptions for military retirement pay, and service-connected Louisiana veterans are eligible for residential property tax exemptions on their primary residence. For state property tax exemptions on your Louisiana residence, call your parish assessor's office. For Louisiana income tax exemptions on military retirement pay, call Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) at 866.912.6488.

State-run Veterans Homes and Cemeteries

The Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs operates five state-run veterans homes and five state-run veterans cemeteries providing a place for veterans to live at our homes, and a final resting place of honor at our cemeteries. See contact information below for admission to a veterans home or eligibility and interment at a veterans cemetery.

Louisiana Veterans Home 225.634.5265

Northeast Louisiana Veterans Home 318.362.4206

Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home 318.741.2763

Southeast Louisiana Veterans Home 985.479.4080

Southwest Louisiana Veterans Home 337.824.2829

Central Louisiana Veterans Cemetery 337.238.6405

Northeast Louisiana Veterans Cemetery 318.728.4346

Northwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery 318.925.0612

Southeast Louisiana Veterans Cemetery 985.646.6458

Southwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery 337.246.7094