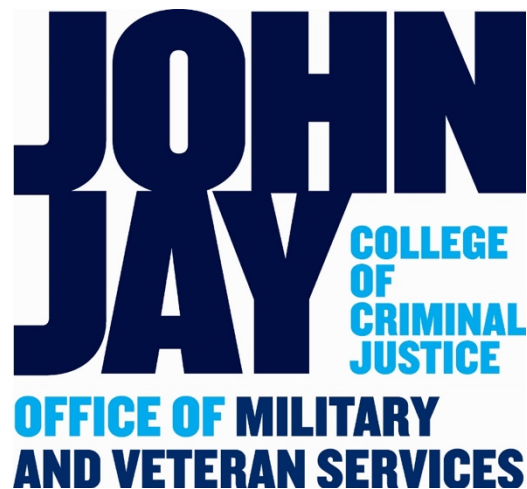


**John Jay College of Criminal Justice**  
**NJ Residents' Veteran Services and Benefits**

**NJ Veterans Benefits Hotline: 888-8NJ-VETS (888-865-8387) NJ Vet2Vet Helpline: 866-838-7654**



Information Compiled from various websites by Michael Sabato, US Marine Corps veteran and John Jay College Graduate Student

8 December 2020

## **NJ Motor Vehicle Commission (DMV/NJMVC)**

### **Disabled Veteran/Purple Heart Parking Placard**

You only need a service connection of any percentage for the DV placard.

- New Jersey law (N.J.S.A. 39:4-207.10) permits exemption from payment of municipal parking meter fees, for up to 24 hours, for disabled veterans and Purple Heart recipients under certain, specific circumstances:
  - The parked vehicle is owned by the disabled veteran or the Purple Heart recipient.
  - The disabled veteran or Purple Heart recipient is the driver or a passenger in that vehicle.
  - The vehicle displays a unique placard issued by the MVC.
- A disabled veteran or Purple Heart recipient placard affords the vehicle owner the same privileges as the license plates.

An applicant for a placard must be the owner of the vehicle in which the placard is to be used, and the placard can only be used by the owner if that owner is the driver of the vehicle or a passenger in it.

<https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/vehicletopics/disvet.htm#:~:text=The%20holder%20of%20a%20disabled,in%20PWAD%20labeled%20parking%20spots.>

### **CDL Skills Waiver Program**

The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) is helping military personnel transition their military driving experience into civilian employment. By waiving the CDL Skills Test (behind-the-wheel exam), qualified military applicants will no longer have to provide a commercial vehicle in order to obtain a New Jersey CDL license.

Veterans seeking the CDL waiver must meet certain requirements and present specific documentation, including:

- Satisfactory proof he/she was a member of a branch of the active or reserve component of the military within the last 12 months in a military position requiring the operation of a military motor vehicle equivalent to a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV).
- A current or expired military commercial driver license **and** a valid New Jersey driver license.
- A completed Military CDL Skills Test Waiver Form certified by a commanding officer.
- Successful completion of a CDL knowledge and vision test.
- Presenting [6 Points](#) of ID and proof of primary address.
- A CDL Holder Self Certificate and Medical Examiner's Certificate

<https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/drivertopics/militarywaiver.htm>

## **NJ Resident Veteran Tax Exemptions**

### **Income Tax**

You are eligible for a \$6,000 exemption (\$3,000 for Tax Years 2017 and 2018) on your New Jersey Income Tax return if you are a military veteran who was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States on or any time before the last day of the tax year. Your spouse (or civil union partner) is also eligible for an exemption if they are a veteran who was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances and you are filing a joint return. This exemption is in addition to any other exemptions you are entitled to claim and is available on both the resident and nonresident returns. You cannot claim this exemption for a domestic partner or for your dependents. **Note:** This exemption can only be claimed by qualifying veterans. It does not pass through to a surviving spouse.

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/military/vetexemption.shtml#:~:text=You%20are%20eligible%20for%20a,last%20day%20of%20the%20tax>

### **Property Tax**

If you are an honorably discharged veteran with active wartime service, you may qualify for an annual \$250 Property Tax deduction. Veterans who served in peacekeeping missions and operations may qualify. You also may qualify if you are a surviving spouse/civil union/domestic partner.

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/lpt/lpt-veterans.shtml#:~:text=If%20you%20are%20an%20honorably,annual%20%24250%20Property%20Tax%20deduction>

### **100% Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption**

If you are an honorably discharged veteran who was 100% permanently disabled during active wartime service, you may qualify for an **annual property tax exemption**.

The enactment of Public Law 2017, chapter 367 on January 16, 2018, amended the wartime service criteria for the **100% Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption**. Veterans are no longer required to serve a minimum period of time in a foreign country, waters, or airspace. The veteran's disability must have occurred while on active duty during one of the wartime service periods defined by the New Jersey Legislature.

If you are a surviving spouse or civil union/domestic partner, you also may qualify.

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/lpt/lpt-disabledvet.shtml#:~:text=If%20you%20are%20an%20honorably,an%20annual%20property%20tax%20exemption.&text=The%20veteran's%20disability%20must%20have,by%20the%20New%20Jersey%20Legislature>

### **Active Military Service Property Tax Deferment**

If you are serviceperson, deployed or mobilized for active service in time of war, you may qualify for a deferment of your property tax bill. You may authorize someone to apply for the deferment on your behalf.

- Once your deployment/mobilization is over, you have 90 days to pay your deferred property taxes;
- This deferment does not include any tax payments that were delinquent prior to deployment or mobilization;
- Interest on late deferral payments will be assessed back to their original due date;
- Sewer, water, electric and other municipal charges may not be deferred;
- If there is a mortgage on the property with an escrow account for property tax payments, contact your lender regarding the deferment.

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/lpt/lpt-activemilitary.shtml>

### **Wounded Warrior Caregivers Credit**

The Wounded Warrior Caregivers Relief Act provides a tax credit to qualified family caregivers who take care of a military service member who has a disability arising out of service in any war or conflict on or after September 11th, 2001.

The credit is equal to 100% of the federal veteran disability compensation, or \$675, whichever is less.

You are eligible for this credit if you provided care for a relative who is a qualifying armed services member and your gross income was \$100,000 or less (married, filing joint; head of household; qualifying widow(er)) or \$50,000 or less (single; married, filing separate).

- Spouse
- Niece
- Uncle
- Grandparent
- Child
- Great-grandchild
- Nephew
- Aunt
- Sister
- Parent
- Great-grandparent
- First Cousin
- Grandchild
- Brother

The above relationships by marriage (e.g., stepchild, mother-in-law, etc.)

Complete [Schedule NJ-WWC](#) to calculate the credit, and enter the amount on Line 60. If two or more people care for the same person, the credit is apportioned based on the share of total care expenses for the year. If you are not required to file a New Jersey Income Tax return, you can claim this credit by completing the State of New Jersey, Property Tax Credit Application, [Wounded Warrior Caregivers Credit Application \(Form NJ-1040-HW\)](#).

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/military/woundedwarrior.shtml>

### **Gold Star Family Counseling Credit**

If you are a mental health care professional who provided counseling through the Gold Star Family Counseling program, you can take a credit to reduce your tax due. The amount of the credit may be equal to the amount documented annually by the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs for the Gold Star Family Counseling Program. However, the credit cannot reduce your New Jersey Gross Income Tax liability to an amount less than zero.

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/military/goldenstar.shtml>

## ***Veteran Owned Businesses (VOB)/ Disabled Veteran Owned Business (DVOB)***

### **Quick Reference Guide to Starting a Business in NJ**

NJSTART is designed to streamline the procurement process and make it more efficient for companies looking to do business with the State. It is highly recommended that you register your business at [www.NJStart.gov](http://www.NJStart.gov).

<https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/pdf/doingbusinessinnj.pdf>

### **VOB Certification**

A "Veteran" is any citizen and resident of this State now or hereafter honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances who served in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or a Reserve component thereof for at least 90 days and shall include disabled veterans.

A "Veteran-owned business" is a business that has its principal place of business in the State, is independently owned and operated and at least 51% of the business is owned and controlled by persons who are veterans. The Principal Owner must provide copy of their Federal Form DD-214 indicating honorable discharge or release under honorable circumstances

### **DVOB Certification**

"Disabled Veterans-owned business" means a business that:

1. Has its principal place of business in the State, is independently owned and operated and at least 51% of the business is owned and controlled by persons who are disabled veterans; or

2. Is a business which has its principal place of business in this State and has been officially verified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as a service disabled veteran-owned business for the purposes of department contracts pursuant to Federal law.

<https://business.nj.gov/faqs/how-do-i-get-certified-as-a-veteran-owned-business-vob-or-disabled-veteran-owned-business-dvob>

### **NJ Special Hawker and Peddlers License**

Authority: Title 45: 24-9 N.J.S.A.

Eligibility: Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States

Criteria: Every person who has been honorably discharged from active military service of the United States and who is a resident in the State.

Application: Copy of WD Form 93 or DD For 214 (Separation from Active Duty) is presented to the County Clerk in which the veteran resides. The County Clerk forwards the original copy to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for verification.

For additional information call 609-530-6866.

#### **§ 309-1 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

##### *PEDDLER*

A person, commonly referred to as a "peddler" or "hawker," who goes from place to place by traveling on the streets or from house to house and carries with him goods, wares and merchandise for the purpose of selling and delivering them to consumers.

##### *PERSON*

An individual, firm, partnership, corporation, voluntary association, incorporated association and principal or agent thereof.

##### *SOLICITOR*

A person selling goods or services by sample or taking orders for future delivery, with or without accepting an advance payment for the goods, or a person seeking contributions for any purpose whatsoever and classified as follows:

[Amended 5-24-1983 by Ord. No. 972]

##### *A. SOLICITOR A*

A person selling goods by sample or taking orders for future delivery with or without accepting an advance payment for the goods.

##### *B. SOLICITOR B*

A person soliciting for the contraction of services, such as dry cleaning and so forth.

*C. SOLICITOR C*

A person seeking any form of contribution for other than religious, charitable or nonprofit organizations.

*D. SOLICITOR D*

A person seeking any form of contribution for a religious, charitable or nonprofit corporation.

[Added 5-24-1983 by Ord. No. 972]

*E. SOLICITOR E*

A person who, whether a resident of the Borough or not, engages in a temporary business within the Borough of selling and delivering goods, wares, merchandise and/or services within the Borough and who, in furtherance of such purpose, hires, leases, uses or occupies any building, structure, motor vehicle, tent, railroad, boxcar or boat, public room in a hotel, lodging house, apartment or shop, parking lot, sidewalk, street, alley, public right-of-way or other place within the Borough for the exhibition and sale of such goods, wares and merchandise, either privately or through public sale and/or auction. Seasonal businesses, such as the sale of ice cream, soda, etc., by truck traveling throughout the Borough and not remaining at a stationary location, and businesses of a permanent nature, such as the sale of food items, business supplies and other items by motor vehicle to industries and businesses in the Borough, are not included under this category. Also, flea markets, carnivals and other activities of a similar nature which are sponsored by nonprofit organizations are not included under this category.

<https://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/benefits-resources/peddlers-license.shtml>

**Veteran Employment Services and Opportunities**

If you are looking for a job in local, state, or federal government, you may be entitled to "veteran's preference" if you meet certain criteria. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the State of New Jersey has several search engines available which will allow you to search for education programs. However, be aware that not all programs listed on these sites may be approved for Veterans' training. Conversely, some programs not listed on these databases may be approved. For definitive information regarding a school or program please contact the New Jersey State Approving Agency.

<https://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/services/saa/>

**Veteran Opportunity to Work (VOW)**

Prepare for your next mission by accessing services you may have earned under the Veterans Opportunity to Work (VOW) program and other VA training and career assistance programs. Make your move from military to civilian life a success and get the training you need to thrive in your next career. If you're an employer, consider hiring our Veterans—they've got the strength, character, and skills that you're looking for.

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/vow/>

[https://careerconnections.nj.gov/careerconnections/plan/foryou/veterans/veteran\\_services.shtml](https://careerconnections.nj.gov/careerconnections/plan/foryou/veterans/veteran_services.shtml)

## **Parks and Recreation**

### **NJ Hunting and Fishing Licenses (Active Duty)**

Any person on active duty in the armed services of the United States, whether a state resident or non-resident, is entitled to hunt with a resident license. Service personnel may obtain a resident hunting license upon presenting proof of active duty to a license agent. A previous resident license (from this or any other state) of the appropriate type or proof of successfully completing the appropriate hunter education course is still required to obtain a hunting license.

### **Licenses for NJ National Guard Members**

Eligible active NJ National Guard personnel are entitled to free licenses, permits and stamps. Contact MSG (Ret.) Robert Greco via e-mail at [Robert.Greco@dmava.nj.gov](mailto:Robert.Greco@dmava.nj.gov) or at NJ Department of Military/Veteran Affairs, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. Call 609-530-6866 for more information.

### **Veterans with a Service-connected Disability**

Resident NJ veterans with a service-connected disability **of any degree** are eligible for free licenses. See the Disabled Veteran License Information page for details.

Documents required for initial certification:

1. Proof of service - connected disability (one of the following)
  - ◆ Letter of certification of service-connected disability from Veterans Affairs, or
  - ◆ Wallet sized card from the VA indicating service-connected disability.
2. Proof of honorable discharge (DD-214 or similar document).
3. New Jersey driver license or other proof of residency.

Free bear permits are also available via over-the-counter sales.

Questions can be directed to the Division's Trenton office at 609-292-2965 or email [njfishandwildlife@dep.nj.gov](mailto:njfishandwildlife@dep.nj.gov);  
<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/dvinfo.htm>

### **Free admission to New Jersey State Parks for Military Service Members, Veterans and Retirees**

NJ Division of State Parks and Forestry does not charge an admission fee for entrance into a State park or forest to:

- Active member of NJ National Guard who completed initial active duty training
- Any member of a NJ Reserve (any branch)
- Any Active-Duty members
- Any Disabled Veteran
- Any retirees of the NJ National Guard

### **Free Private Beach Facility Available for use by New Jersey National Guard**

Guard members can use the privately-owned beach located at Sea Girt and avoid crowds and fees

<https://www.nj.gov/military/admin/departments/ngtc/mwr.shtml>



## **Homelessness and Mental Health Services**

### **New Jersey Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Readjustment Counseling**

NJ Division of Veterans Services provides Veterans with a Readjustment Counseling Program. NJ Veterans and their Families are provided services ranging from individual counseling, group counseling, Biofeedback to medication monitoring. The clinicians provide exceptional services to Veterans and their Families and address the problems encountered when reintegrating into civilian life. It is important to recognize the stressors and traumas of these combat Veterans, raise awareness of civilians back home, and meet the clinical needs of our Veterans. The following link will direct you to NJ State Veteran Service Offices which you can search by county <https://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/services/vso/>

### **New Jersey Catastrophic Entitlement**

The state of New Jersey, through the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, authorizes eligible disabled Veterans and Surviving Spouses to receive a monthly entitlement of \$62.50. A Veteran must be a New Jersey resident in receipt of a permanent service-connected disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs that resulted from wartime service resulting in one of the following catastrophic disabilities: loss of sight; amputation of both hands, both feet or one hand and one foot; hemiplegia and permanent paralysis of one leg and one arm on either side of the body; paraplegia and permanent paralysis of both legs and lower parts of the body; osteochondritis and permanent loss of use of both legs; multiple sclerosis and the loss of use of both feet or both legs; quadriplegia.

Veterans Benefits Bureau information: 609-530-6954 or [vbb@dmava.nj.gov](mailto:vbb@dmava.nj.gov)

### **New Jersey Homeless Intervention Program**

The NJ Homeless Intervention Program offers referral assistance to those who are homeless, involuntarily displaced or in imminent danger of losing their home. Call 609-530- 6826.

### **New Jersey Veterans Transitional Housing Program (Veterans Haven South)**

The Veterans Transitional Housing Program (Veterans Haven South) is a New Jersey State-operated facility for homeless Veterans. After being medically evaluated at a VA Medical Center, eligible Veterans must agree to a long-term program focusing on psychological, social and vocational rehabilitation. Residents must be willing to maintain their sobriety while enrolled. Veterans must be drug and alcohol free at time of admission, must be eligible for VA healthcare benefits, and must be homeless. Random drug and alcohol testing are constantly performed and violators are immediately placed in an Intensive Outpatient Program to assist with maintaining sobriety. There are three plans offered:

- ***Bridge Housing:*** Individual Service Plan (ISP) designed for the short-term with the focus on the rapid move to permanent housing.
- ***Clinical Treatment:*** Treatment programs will incorporate strategies to increase income and housing attainment goals.
- ***Service Intensive Transitional Housing:*** The services incorporate tactics to increase the Veteran's income through employment and/or benefits and obtaining permanent housing.

**New Jersey National Guard Medical Coverage for Injury, Illness and Death Benefits covered under Workers' Compensation Laws during State Active Duty**

National Guard Service members on State Active Duty who incur an injury, disease or disability in the line of duty are entitled to the benefits under New Jersey Worker's Compensation laws.

*New Jersey Revised Statutes Title 34 - Labor and Workmen's Compensation*

**Who is eligible for New Jersey National Guard Medical Coverage for Injury, Illness and Death Benefits covered under Workers' Compensation Laws during State Active Duty?**

New Jersey National Guard Service members that suffer injury, illness or death in the line of duty are eligible.

**Miscellaneous NJ Benefits**

**New Jersey Veterans Transportation Program**

This program assists the Veteran in need of transportation. The program originated due to the distance many N.J. Veterans had to travel to get to a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facility for medical care. Free transportation is offered to VA medical centers and clinics, other hospitals, private physicians, VA Regional Office and local Veterans Service Offices in most counties. The State Veterans Service Officer in the county should be contacted to explain the details of the program, level of service in that county, qualifications and requirements, and assist in scheduling the transportation.

<https://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/benefits-resources/>