



**Mississippi VA**  
SERVING OUR HEROES

# State Benefits for Mississippi Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors



2023-2024



# OUR MISSION

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To honor Mississippi  
Veterans and their  
dependents through  
superior service, care, &  
assistance.

<b>State Veterans Affairs</b> .....	2
Military Records .....	2
State Approving Agency .....	3
State Veterans Memorial Cemeteries .....	3
State Veterans Outreach Service Officers .....	4
State Veterans Claims Division .....	4
State VA Hospital Services .....	5
State Veterans Nursing Homes .....	5
State Veterans Nursing Homes Service Officers .....	5
State Veterans Nursing Home Daily Charge Exemption .....	6
<b>Mississippi Veterans Home Purchase Board</b> .....	6
<b>Mississippi Department of Archives and History</b> .....	6
<b>State Personnel Board</b> .....	7
<b>Mississippi Department of Employment Security</b> .....	7
Mississippi's Pledge to Hire A Hero .....	7
<b>Mississippi Military Department</b> .....	7
Funeral Honor Detail .....	8
<b>Mississippi's Laws Concerning Veterans Benefits</b> .....	8
County Veterans Service Officers .....	8
Property Ad Valorem Tax .....	8
Hunting and Fishing Licenses .....	8
Privilege Tax .....	9
State Retirement .....	9
Veterans Records .....	9
Death Certificates .....	10
Honorary High School Diploma .....	10
Employer Tax Credit .....	10
Concealed Weapon Training Exemption .....	10
In State Tuition for Nonresident Students .....	11
Concealed Weapon Permit Fee Exemption .....	11
Concealed Weapon Permit Fee Exemption for Active Duty Military .....	11
Education Assistance .....	11
Employment Preference .....	12
Re-employment .....	12
Professional License Reciprocity .....	12
<b>Motor Vehicle License Plates</b> .....	13
<b>County Veterans Service Officers</b> .....	18

## MISSISSIPPI VETERANS AFFAIRS

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**Address:**

120 North State Street  
Jackson, MS 39201

**Postal:**

Post Office Box 3439  
Jackson, MS 39207

**Phone:** (601) 576-4850**Toll Free:** (877) 203-5632**Fax:** (601) 576-4868

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In 1924 the Mississippi Legislature recognized that World War I Veterans needed assistance to obtain Veterans' benefits. This resulted in legislation which created and funded the office of State Service Commissioner. The duties and functions of the office were to aid all residents of Mississippi who served in the military forces of the United States during any war and their dependents and beneficiaries so that they would receive all benefits to which they were entitled under the laws of the United States.

The State Service Commissioner's office was not adequately staffed to provide the level of case work assistance necessary for the five-fold increase in the population of Veterans brought on by World War II. In 1948, the Legislature changed the State Service Commission to the State Veterans Affairs Board (SVAB) to provide additional manpower and assistance for the increasing number of Veterans and dependents. In 2019, the agency's name was formally changed to Mississippi Veterans Affairs.

Mississippi Veterans Affairs (MSVA) is charged with assisting former and current members of the Armed Forces of the United States and their dependents in securing any benefits or privileges to which they are entitled. The agency operates the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery, the four Mississippi State Veterans Nursing Homes, approving programs and institutions of education and training under the GI Bill, and advises the governor and legislature on Veterans' affairs.

### MILITARY RECORDS

The MSVA stores copies of military discharge documents (DD214's & DD215s) when received.

- ▶ Recently released military personnel must request that their discharge documents be sent to Mississippi by listing it on their military release.
- ▶ WWII draft cards are stored electronically, however the discharges are not. If the necessary information is located in the WWII Discharge Index, the MSVA may issue a MS State Certified Certificate.
- ▶ Korean War and Vietnam War records were received and stored electronically depending on personal information that was submitted at time of service.

The MSVA does not have access to all Military Records but will help to obtain records when possible.

## STATE APPROVING AGENCY

120 North State Street • Jackson, MS 39201  
Post Office Box 3439 • Jackson, MS 39207  
**Phone:** (601) 576-4867 • **Fax:** (601) 576-4870

The State Approving Agency inspects and approves new programs of education and training at Institutions of Higher Learning, Community and Junior Colleges, Vocational-Technical Schools, Flight Schools, On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship programs for GI Bill education eligibility. If you have questions concerning a school or a training program being approved to teach Veterans, Reservists, and Dependents under the GI Bill, please contact the State Approving Agency.

*If you have questions concerning eligibility, please contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at **1-888-442-4551**.*

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## STATE VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERIES

### **Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery**

248 Honor Circle • Newton, MS 39345  
**Phone:** (601) 683-2959 • **Fax:** (601) 683-2958

### **North Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery**

2 Legion Road • Kilmichael, MS 39747  
**Phone:** (662) 262-4232 • **Fax:** (662) 262-4241

Both Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemeteries are open for in-ground burials and accepts cremains for both in-ground or columbarium interment. The cemetery in Newton is located approximately three (3) miles east of Newton on Highway 80. The cemetery in Kilmichael is located on Highway 82 west. Veterans, their spouses and eligible dependent children can be buried in a Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery at no cost unless the burial involves re-interment from another cemetery. The VA provides a free grave marker and perpetual care is provided at no cost. Contact your funeral director or the office of the cemetery of choice for information.

## STATE VETERANS BENEFITS SPECIALISTS

### VB Area Director - South

Phone: (601) 480-8187

### VB Area Director - North

Phone: (601) 278-5330

Mississippi Veterans Affairs has placed trained VSO's throughout the state to aid both Veterans, Veteran Service Officers, and Congressional Representatives.

Location	Address	Contact
Hernando	365 Loshier Street, Suite 200 Hernando, MS 38362	(662) 449-2811
MSU Starkville	250 Bailey Howell Drive Mississippi State, MS 39762	(662) 325-6867
DSU Cleveland	14000 Hwy 82 West, Rm 171 Itta Bena, MS 38941-1400	(662) 846-4613
MSU Meridian	1000 Hwy 19 North, Room 92 Meridian, MS 39307	(601) 484-0205
USM Long Beach	730 East Beach Blvd. Hardy Hall, Room 203 Long Beach, MS39560	(228) 214-3362
Tupelo	1918 Briar Ridge Road, Room 347 Tupelo, MS 3804	(662) 840-2480
UM Oxford	George Street House, PO BOX 1848 Oxford, MS 38677	(662) 915-2583
USM Hattiesburg	200 North 35th Avenue Hattiesburg, MS 39401	(601) 266-8386
Alcorn State University	1000 ASU Drive Lorman, MS 39096	(601) 877-6601
MS National Guard Joint Force Headquarters	1410Riverside Drive Jackson, MS 39202	(662) 871-9446

## STATE VETERANS BENEFITS SPECIALIST CENTRAL DIVISION

120 North State Street  
Jackson, MS 39201  
Post Office Box 3439 • Jackson, MS 39207  
**Phone:** (601) 576-4850 • **Fax:** (601) 576-4868

MSVA employs Veterans Benefits Specialist to provide free advice and guidance to Veterans and dependents regarding VA claims, casework, hearings, appeals, and discharge upgrades. Benefits Specialists with Mississippi Veterans Affairs hold accreditation from the following Veteran Organizations:

- › American Legion
- › Veterans of Foreign Wars

## VA HOSPITAL STATE VETERANS BENEFITS SPECIALISTS

The MSVA Hospital Specialists provide free advice and guidance to Veterans and dependents with VA claims, pertaining to VA medical care and treatment problems, hospitalization and nursing home placement issues. Our hospital service officers provide free representation to Veterans on issues of disagreement and at personal hearings held in the VA Hospitals in Biloxi, Jackson and Memphis.

**Biloxi VA Hospital** 400 Veterans Avenue, Building 3, Room 146 • Biloxi, MS 39351  
Phone: (228) 523-5253

**Jackson VA Hospital** 1500 E. Woodrow Wilson Dr. D-116 Module A • Jackson, MS 39216  
**Phone:** (601) 364-1451

**Memphis VA South Clinic** 1056 East Raines Rd. Room 173 • *Memphis, TN 38116*  
**Phone:** (901) 523-8990 ext. 51126

## STATE VETERANS NURSING HOMES

Mississippi houses four State Veterans Nursing Homes (SVNH) containing 150 beds per home. Each SVNH employs skilled and dedicated professionals to provide care for eligible Veterans and spouses.

Eligibility for admission to the Homes requires each serviceman/woman:

- › Should be or have been a Mississippi resident.
- › Have qualifying military service.
- › Have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.
- › Be the spouse of a Veteran who resides in one of the State Veterans Nursing Homes.

Out of state Veterans may be admitted to the Homes if there are no Mississippi residents waiting to accept a bed. Out of state applicants must have a medical need for nursing home care and must be able to pay the applicable daily charge for care in the Home.

**Veterans Home | Collins** 3261 Highway 49 • Collins, MS 39428  
**Phone:** (601) 765-0403

**Veterans Home | Jackson** 4607 Lindbergh Drive • Jackson, MS 39209  
**Phone:** (601) 353-6142

**Veterans Home | Kosciusko** 310 Autumn Ridge Drive • Kosciusko, MS 39090  
**Phone:** (662) 289-7044

**Veterans Home | Oxford** 120 Veterans Drive • Oxford, MS 38655  
**Phone:** (662) 236-7641

## STATE VETERANS NURSING HOME DAILY CHARGE EXEMPTION

There shall be no State Veterans Nursing Home resident daily charge for those residents in need of nursing home care for a VA adjudicated service-connected disability; or who have a singular or combined service-connected rating of seventy percent (70%) or more based on one or more service connected disabilities or rating a total one hundred percent (100%) based on individual unemployability and are in need of nursing home care.

**Miss. Code Ann., § 35-1-27**

*Indigent Veterans can request assistance with the expense of care in the facilities.*

Applications for admission to the Veterans Homes can be obtained from any of our offices, from many hospital social work departments, or by visiting our website at [www.msva.ms.gov](http://www.msva.ms.gov).

## MISSISSIPPI VETERANS HOME PURCHASE BOARD

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**Address:**

3466 Highway 80  
Pearl, MS 39208

**Postal:**

Post Office Box 54411  
Pearl, MS 39288-4411

**Phone:** (601) 576-4800

**Website:**

[www.vhpb.state.ms.us](http://www.vhpb.state.ms.us)

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The Veterans Home Purchase Board provides low interest mortgage loans in amounts up to \$300,000.00 for eligible Veterans and unmarried surviving spouses to purchase an existing single family home or to construct a new home. Eligibility requires that the Veteran be a Mississippi resident prior to entering military service or be a resident for two (2) consecutive years prior to applying for the loan. The Veteran must have or obtain a Certificate of Eligibility for Home Loan Guaranty from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and be discharged from extended active duty under honorable conditions. Contact the Veterans Home Purchase Board for information and applications.

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

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**Address:**

200 North State Street  
Jackson, MS 39205

**Phone:**

(601) 576-6850

**Website:**

[www.mdah.state.ms.us](http://www.mdah.state.ms.us)

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The Mississippi Department of Archives and History maintains historical records and a reference library concerning Mississippi residents and units which served during the Civil War, the Spanish American War and World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

## STATE PERSONNEL BOARD

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**Address:**

210 East Capitol, Suite 800  
Jackson, MS 39201

**Phone:**

(601) 359-1406

**Website:**

[www.mspsb.ms.gov](http://www.mspsb.ms.gov)

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Applications for state employment are processed by the State Personnel Board (SPB). The SPB's website lists state jobs which are currently on recruitment and for which they are accepting applications. The SPB website also provides job descriptions and minimum qualifications for the positions on recruitment.

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

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**Address:**

1235 Echelon Parkway  
Jackson, MS 39213

**Postal:**

Post Office Box 1699  
Jackson, MS 39213-1699

**Phone:** (601) 321-6004

**Website:**

[www.mdes.state.ms.us](http://www.mdes.state.ms.us)

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Veterans seeking assistance regarding employment or unemployment insurance benefits should contact the Mississippi Department of Employment Security for assistance. MS Employment Security offices and WIN Centers are located in many areas of the state and may be listed in your local telephone book. Veterans may also obtain assistance through the MDES website at <http://mdes.ms.gov/win-job-centers/> or by calling the call center at **1-888-844-3577**.

## MISSISSIPPI MILITARY DEPARTMENT (ARMY & AIR NATIONAL GUARD)

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**Address:**

1410 Riverside Drive  
Jackson, MS 39202

**Postal:**

Post Office Box 5027  
Jackson, MS 39296-5027

**Phone:** (601) 313-6232

**Website:**

[www.ngms.state.ms.us](http://www.ngms.state.ms.us)

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The Mississippi Military Department maintains personnel and military discharge records for members of the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard. Contact the Mississippi Military Department to request copies of those records.

## MISSISSIPPI'S PLEDGE TO HIRE A HERO

The Mississippi Department of Employment Security Partners with businesses through its network of WIN Job Centers across the state. Center staff helps with free job postings and saves businesses time and money by providing recruitment, screening, and referral of only qualified candidates.

Information on Work Opportunities, Tax Credits, and On-The-Job Training is also available through the Centers. To find the nearest center and learn more about these programs, call **(888) 844-3577** or visit the website at [www.mdes.ms.gov](http://www.mdes.ms.gov).

## FUNERAL HONOR DETAIL REQUEST

Families of eligible Veterans should request funeral honors through their Funeral Director. The Funeral Director will contact the appropriate military service branch to arrange for the funeral honors detail. To initiate the request, the family must provide a discharge document showing dates of service and character of discharge to the Funeral Director. Although the Mississippi Veterans Affairs does not have cognizance over the funeral honors process, we are always available to assist in any way possible. Please contact Mississippi Veterans Affairs should you need assistance or help in obtaining discharge documents.

## MISSISSIPPI LAWS CONCERNING VETERANS BENEFITS COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

Counties may employ a County Veterans Service Officer who shall be (a) honorably discharged or honorably released Veteran of any war or police action in which the Armed Forces of the United States have been, are or shall be committed for action; (b) the surviving spouse or child of any such deceased or living Veteran; or (c) any person employed as a County Veterans Service Officer in any county of the State of Mississippi on March 30, 1990.

County Veterans Service Officers must be certified by Mississippi Veterans Affairs which requires that they (a) attend at least one (1) of the annual training programs provided each year and successfully complete a written examination each year on the duties and responsibilities of and assistance available to such officers and Veterans. No County Veterans Service Officer shall be entitled to any compensation for their service unless they are annually certified by Mississippi Veterans Affairs.

**Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-21**

## AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION

Any Veteran having a service-connected, total disability and who has been honorably discharged from military service shall be exempt from all Ad Valorem taxes on the assessed value of homestead property and to extend such exemption to un-remarried surviving spouses of such Veterans.

**Miss. Code Ann., §27-33-75 and §27-33-67**

## HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES

Veterans who have a total service-connected disability from the Veterans Administration are not required to purchase hunting or fishing license, but must have on their person proof of age, residency and disability status while engaged in hunting or fishing.

**Miss. Code Ann., §49-7-5**

## PRIVILEGE TAX

Persons who are 65 or older, blind, deaf, dumb, or with loss of hand or foot, or loss of use of the hand or foot or who can provide documentation that they are 50% disabled to perform physical labor and whose annual gross income is \$900.00 or less are exempt from payment of privilege tax for specified businesses.

**Miss. Code Ann., §27-15-227**

## STATE RETIREMENT

Members of the State Public Employees Retirement System who served in the Armed Forces of the United States or who served in Maritime Service during periods of hostility in WWII shall be entitled to up to four (4) years credit for active duty in the Armed Forces or in such Maritime Service, provided they entered State Service after discharge from the Armed Forces or after completion of such Maritime Service. Credit may be extended beyond four (4) years for those persons who can provide positive proof that they were retained in the Armed Forces or such Maritime Service during WWII by causes beyond his control and without opportunity for discharge.

**Miss. Code Ann., §25-11-109**

## RECORDING AND RETRIEVING DOCUMENTATION

The Mississippi Dept. of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics is to furnish, without charge, copies of birth and death certificates when they are needed to establish claims for dependency, disability, or survivors benefits for any Veteran who is a legal residents of the State of Mississippi or their claimants.

**Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-9**

The State Bureau of Vital Statistics is to furnish, at no expense, and immediately upon application a certified copy of birth certificates for any person volunteering for service in one of the Armed Forces of the United States.

**Miss. Code Ann., §41-57- 25**

Chancery and Circuit Clerks are to furnish, without charge, copies of marriage licenses, divorce decrees, adoption decrees and any and all other records when the same are needed to establish claims for dependency, disability or survivors benefits for any Veterans who are legal residents of the State of Mississippi or their claimants. **Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-11**

Chancery Clerks shall record, without cost whatsoever to any person of the Armed Forces of the United States residing in the same county, all honorable discharges and all certificates of service of any and all members of the Armed Forces of the United States. Certified copies will be furnished free without cost to the soldier, sailor, marine, coast guardsman, or nurse.

**Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-13**

## **ADDITIONAL CERTIFIED COPIES OF DEATH CERTIFICATES**

The Office of Vital Records Registration shall furnish up to five (5) certified copies of the death certificate and (1) birth certificate of any deceased person who was an honorably discharged Veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or who was killed or died while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, without charge, to any person or entity that is authorized to receive death certificates. The applicant for a copy of the death certificate must furnish such written evidence of the deceased person's service in the Armed Forces of the United States as required by the office. Copies of death certificates furnished under the authority under this section shall be in addition to any copies of death certificates furnished without charge under the authority of Section §35-3-9.

**Miss. Code Ann., § 41-57-26**

## **HONORARY HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA**

The school board of a local school district may award an honorary high school diploma in a form prescribed and supplied to school districts by the State Board of Education to Veterans of World War II, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam Conflict who were unable to complete their education due to their military service. The honorary diploma is available to any honorably discharged Veterans residing in Mississippi who was (a) scheduled to graduate between 1941 and 1955 but was inducted into military service before completing the necessary graduation requirements, or (b) was scheduled to graduate between 1963 and 1973 but volunteered for military service and received the Vietnam Service Ribbon. Family members of deceased eligible Veterans may apply for the diploma to be awarded posthumously.

**Miss. Code Ann., § 37-16-13**

## **CREDIT FOR TAXPAYERS THAT EMPLOY CERTAIN VETERANS**

Any taxpayer that employs a person who is a new hire employed after January 1, 2015, who is an honorably discharged Veteran, as defined in Title 38 of the United States Code, who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, and who has been unemployed for six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to being employed by the taxpayer, shall be allowed an annual credit against the taxes imposed.

## **CONCEALED WEAPON TRAINING, STATE RESIDENCY EXEMPTION**

Concealed-carry permit qualification requirements have been revised to authorize any member, honorably retired member or Veterans of any active or reserve component branch of the United States of America Armed Forces having completed law enforcement or combat training with pistols or other handguns as recognized by such branch after submitting an affidavit attesting to have read, understand and agree to comply with all provisions of the enhanced carry law. **Miss. Code Ann., § 97-37-7**

**Miss. Code Ann., § 45-9-101**

## **AUTHORIZATION OF IN-STATE TUITION FOR NONRESIDENT STUDENTS WHO ARE UNITED STATES VETERANS OR PERSONS ENTITLED FOR VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**

Any Veteran, as defined by Title 38 of the United States Code, or a person entitled to education benefits under Title 38 of the United States Code is authorized in-state tuition.

**Miss. Code Ann., § 37-103-25**

## **CONCEALED WEAPON PERMIT FEE EXEMPTION FOR SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITIES**

Any Veterans having a service-connected disability shall be exempted from concealed weapon permit fees and renewal fees. The Veteran must be a resident of the state for 12 months or longer immediately preceding the filing of the application. However, this residency requirement may be waived, provided the applicant possesses a valid permit from another state, is active military personnel stationed in Mississippi, or is a retired law enforcement officer establishing residency in the state.

**Miss. Code Ann., §45-9-101**

## **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**

Children of any member of the armed services whose official home of record and residence is within the State of Mississippi and who is officially reported as being either a prisoner of war or missing in action can receive an eight semester scholarship, without cost, exclusive of books, food, school supplies, materials and dues or fees for extracurricular activities at any state supported college or university within the State.

**Miss. Code Ann., §37-108-1**

The Adjutant General of Mississippi is authorized to pay the tuition for certain members of the active Mississippi National Guard who are enrolled within the State of Mississippi in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational education school or junior college.

**Miss. Code Ann., §33-7-405 and §33-7-407**

Military personnel stationed in Mississippi are classified as state residents for the purposes of payment of tuition at state colleges and universities.

**Miss. Code Ann., §37-103-17**

## EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE

The State Personnel Board designates the Veteran or disabled Veteran status of applicants on the lists of eligible applicants for job vacancies within state service. These lists are sent to the agencies seeking to fill vacancies.

In state layoffs, Veterans are granted preference and additional preference is given disabled Veterans.

**Miss. Code Ann., §25-0-303**

## RE-EMPLOYMENT

Any person who is a member of any reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States who, in order to perform duties or receive training with the Armed Forces of the United States or of the State of Mississippi leaves a position, other than a temporary position, in the employ of any employer, and who shall give evidence of the Satisfactory completion of such duty or training, and who is still qualified to perform the duties of such position, shall be entitled to be restored to his previous or a similar position, in the same status, pay, and seniority. Such period of absence for military duty or training shall be construed as an absence with leave but may be without pay.

**Miss. Code Ann., §33-1-19**

## PROFESSIONAL LICENSE RECIPROCITY

As passed by the Mississippi Legislature (2013 Regular Session) and Signed into law by the Governor: Senate Bill 2419 provides that Military and Military Spouses who are moving or have moved to Mississippi due to an active duty transfer may more quickly obtain licenses for many professions such as teaching, accounting, cosmetology, engineering and real estate brokerage. Licenses for physicians, nurses, dentists, dieticians, and other medical jobs are also included. The bill also provides that individuals with military training may (subject to guidelines set by licensing boards) count their experience toward requirements for various job licenses, certifications, and registrations. State licensing boards can grant either a permanent or temporary occupational license. People with temporary licenses can start working while applying for permanent ones.

To view the complete bill:

<http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2013/html/SB/2400-2499/SB2419PS.htm>

Licensing for specific professions is regulated by cognizant Boards/Agencies. Individuals must contact individual licensing boards for information and eligibility.

## MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES

Photos of Mississippi Veteran and military license plates can be viewed on the website for the Mississippi Department of Revenue [www.dor.ms.gov](http://www.dor.ms.gov).

Once you enter the Dept. of Revenue website click on Tag/Titles, then click on Special Plates and then click on Available License Plates. Color photos of available specialty plates will be displayed.

### HONORING VETERANS



Any owner of a passenger vehicle, pickup truck or noncommercial motor vehicle can purchase the Honoring Veterans license plate. The plate costs an additional thirty dollars (\$30.00) over regular license plate fees and \$24.00 of that fee goes to support indigent Veterans residing the State Veterans Nursing Homes and the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.140**

### VETERAN MOTOR VEHICLES



In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by Mississippians who are honorably discharged Veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces, any such person is privileged to obtain distinctive motor vehicle license plates or tags for each motor vehicle registered in his name identifying his status as a Veteran. In addition, decals indicating branch and period of military service are to be affixed to the license tags. An additional annual tag fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) shall be collected for such license plates for the benefit of indigent Veterans who are residents of the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.12**

### VETERAN MOTORCYCLES



In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by Mississippians who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces, any such person is privileged to obtain distinctive motorcycle license plates or tags for each motorcycle registered in his name identifying his status as a veteran. In addition, decals indicating branch and period of military service are to be affixed to the license tags. An additional annual tag fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) shall be collected for such license plates for the benefit of indigent Veterans who are residents of the State Veterans Nursing Homes.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.125**

### **GOLD STAR FAMILY**

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi and a family member of a service member who has been killed in action or died in a combat zone while serving in the Armed Forces, and was a resident of Mississippi at the time of death, may purchase a Gold Star license tag for an additional thirty dollars (\$30.00), \$24.00 of which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.162**



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### **AFGHANISTAN VETERAN**

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and served in the Afghanistan theater of operations and was awarded either the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, for service in, or in support of operations in Afghanistan may purchase the Afghanistan Veteran license plate for an additional fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), \$24.00 of which will benefit the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery and the State Veterans Nursing Homes.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.187**



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### **IRAQ VETERAN**

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and served in the Iraq theater of operations and was awarded either the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, for service in, or in support of operations in Iraq may obtain the Iraq Veteran license plate for an additional fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), \$24.00 of which will benefit the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery and the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.186**



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### **VIETNAM VETERAN**

In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by a legal resident of Mississippi who is an honorably discharged Veteran who served in the United State Armed Forces during the Vietnam Conflict and was awarded a Vietnam Service Ribbon, may obtain the Vietnam Veteran license plate or tag for an additional fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Home. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.85**



### PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR

Any resident of the State of Mississippi who is an honorably discharged former member of one of the Armed Forces of the United States and while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States was present during the attack on the island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, between the hours of 7:55 AM and 9:45 AM, Hawaii time, is privileged to obtain two distinctive motor vehicle license plate for an additional tag fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for use on a private passenger vehicle (to include station wagons, recreational motor vehicles and pickup trucks) registered in the county of his or her legal residence.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19- 56.5**



### DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN

Any legal Veteran resident of the State of Mississippi with a service-connected disability (100%) permanent and total by the VA; or a rating of (70%) and above non permanent and total; and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person, is privileged to purchase annually one (2) motor vehicle license plate or motorcycle tag for his or her county of residence for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00 each) in total cost.

**Miss. Code Ann., §27- 19- 53**



### PURPLE HEART

Any resident of the State of Mississippi who can provide written proof that while serving in the Armed Forces of the United State he or she was awarded the Purple Heart Medal is privileged to obtain one free distinctive license plate or tag for use on a private passenger vehicle (to include station wagons, recreational motor vehicles and pickup trucks) registered in the county of his or her legal residence.

The unmarried surviving spouse of a deceased person who was issued a Purple Heart Medal license plate or tag may apply for or retain one (1) such license plate or tag which shall be exempt from taxes and fees.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.5**



### DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS & AIR MEDAL

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross or Air Medal while in military service may purchase a special license plate recognizing that award. The applicant must present Satisfactory proof of award of the medal and pay an additional (\$30.00) tag fee.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.13**



### BRONZE STAR



Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and was awarded the Bronze Star medal while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States may obtain special license plates recognizing that award. Applicants must present official written proof of the award of the medal. The applicant must pay an additional thirty dollars (\$30.00) tag fee, \$24.00 of which benefits indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Homes.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.62**

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### SILVER STAR



Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and was awarded the Silver Star medal while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States may obtain special license plates recognizing that award. Applicants must present official written proof of the award of the medal.

The Silver Star plate is exempt from all fees and taxes and may be retained by the un-remarried surviving spouse of the deceased Veteran recipient. Proof of marital status must be provided for the un-remarried spouse to obtain the Silver Star plate.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.284**

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### CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR



Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person is privileged to obtain annually, one (1) motor vehicle license plate or tag for a private passenger motor vehicle or pickup truck in the county of his residence. The CMH license plate or tag is exempt from all motor vehicle registration fees and privilege taxes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-54**

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### EX-PRISONER OF WAR



Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who was a prisoner of war, and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person, is privileged to obtain annually one (1) motor vehicle license plate or tag for a private passenger vehicle or pickup truck in the county of his or her residence. The Ex-POW license plate or tag is exempt from all motor vehicle registration fees and privilege taxes.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-54**

### NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL



In recognition of the patriotic services rendered by a legal resident of the State of Mississippi who received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, any such Veteran may obtain a Navy and Marine Corps Medal license plate or tag for an additional thirty dollars (\$30.00), \$24.00 of which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing at the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.199**

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### RESERVE, NATIONAL GUARD, MERCHANT MARINE, RETIRED



Any resident of the State of Mississippi who has completed an active duty career with the Armed Forces of the United States and active duty and retired members of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, United States Reserves and those United States Merchant Marines in maritime service during the period from December 7, 1941, to August 15, 1945, and their surviving spouses may be issued distinctive motor vehicle license plate or tag at no additional cost in the county of his or her legal residence.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-51**

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### COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE / COMBAT VETERAN



Any resident of the State of Mississippi who received the Combat Infantryman Badge or other equivalent Badges/Ribbons for the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marines from the United States Armed Forces may be issued a distinctive motor vehicle license plate for an annual additional fee. The portion retained of the additional fee will be deposited in the County general fund.

**Miss. Code Ann. § 27- 19-56.12**

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## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS

The majority of counties in Mississippi employ a County Veteran Service Officer to assist county residents with VA claims. County Veteran Service Officers can answer questions and provide information, examples listed below:

- › Applying for VA Benefits
- › Completing forms
- › Checking on VA Claim Status
- › Providing advice to Veterans and their dependents

### ADAMS COUNTY

307 Market Street  
Natchez, MS 39120

**Office:** (601) 304-7800

### ALCORN COUNTY

600 East Waldron St.  
Corinth, MS 38834

**Office:** (662) 286-7744

**Fax:** (662) 284-4922

### AMITE COUNTY

185 Irene Street  
Liberty, MS 39645

**Office:** (601) 657-4197

### ATTALA COUNTY

715 Fairground Road  
Kosciusko, MS 39090

**Office:** (662) 287-6045

**Fax:** (662) 289-0111

### BENTON COUNTY

Benton Courthouse  
Ashland, MS 38603

**Office:** (662) 224-6325

**Fax:** (662) 224-6303

### BOLIVAR COUNTY

113 South Davis Street, Hwy 61  
Cleveland, MS 38732

**Office:** (662) 843-2471

**Fax:** (662) 846-5898

### CALHOUN COUNTY

469 Veterans Avenue  
Calhoun City, MS 38916

**Office:** (662) 628-1933

**Fax:** (662) 628-1933

### CARROLL COUNTY

803 Front Street  
Vaiden, MS 39176

**Office:** (662) 237-9274

**Fax:** (662) 237-9642

Carrollton Courthouse  
Carrollton, MS 38917

**Office:** (662) 237-9274

**Fax:** (662) 237-9642

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### CHICKASAW COUNTY

665 North Jefferson Street  
Houston, MS 38851

**Office:** (662) 456-3652

793 Highway 245 South  
Okolona, MS 38860

**Office:** (662) 542-3575

### CHOCTAW COUNTY

583 West Main Street  
Ackerman, MS 39735

**Phone:** (662) 285-7719

**Fax:** (662) 285-3922

### CLAIBORNE COUNTY

1703 Bride Will Lane  
Port Gibson, MS 39150

**Office:** (601) 437-1105

**Fax:** (601) 437-4430

### CLARKE COUNTY

100 East Church Street  
Quitman, MS 39355

**Office:** (601) 776-2461

**Fax:** (601) 776-1013

### CLAY COUNTY

227 Court Street  
West Point, MS 39773

**Office:** (662) 494-1554

**Fax:** (662) 494-1969

### COAHOMA COUNTY

144 Ritch Street  
Clarksdale, MS 38614

**Office:** (662) 624-5201

526 3rd Street  
Clarksdale, MS 38614

**Office:** (662) 902-4523

**Fax:** (662) 483-1288

### COPIAH COUNTY

122 South Lowe Street  
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

**Office:** (601) 894-4101

**Fax:** (601) 894-4081

### COVINGTON COUNTY

502 South Arrington Ave  
Collins, MS 39428

**Office:** (601) 765-4004

**Fax:** (601) 765-0283

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### DESOTO COUNTY

6595 Hwy 305 N  
Olive Branch, MS 38654

**Office:** (662) 404-6598

### FORREST COUNTY

1200 Corinne Street  
Hattiesburg, MS 39403

**Office:** (601) 583-4521

**Fax:** (601) 582-4947

### FRANKLIN COUNTY

38 Walnut Street  
Meadville, MS 39653

**Office:** (601) 384-2763

**Fax:** (601) 384-2763

### GEORGE COUNTY

1st Floor Courthouse  
355 Cox Street  
Lucedale, MS 39452

**Office:** (601) 247-2117

**Fax:** (601) 947-8804

### GREENE COUNTY

415 Oak Street  
Leakesville, MS 39451

**Office:** (601) 394-2442

### GRENADA COUNTY

Grenada County Courthouse  
First Floor  
Grenada, MS 38902

**Office:** (662) 226-1821

**Fax:** (662) 227-2860

### HANCOCK COUNTY

854 Highway 90, Suite A  
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520

**Office:** (228) 467-2100

**Fax:** (228) 467-2691

18335 Hwy 603  
Kiln, MS 39556

**Office:** (228) 467-2100

### HARRISON COUNTY

730 Martin Luther King Blvd. 1st Floor  
Biloxi, MS 39533

**Office:** (228) 435-8271

1801 23rd Avenue  
Gulfport, MS 39502

**Fax:** (228) 436-8649

**Office:** (228) 865-4027

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### HINDS COUNTY

316 South President Street  
Jackson, MS 39205

**Office:** (601) 968-5408

### HOLMES COUNTY

16979 Hwy 17  
Lexington, MS 39095

**Office:** (662) 834-3134

**Fax:** (662) 885-3085

### HUMPHREYS COUNTY

Belzoni Courthouse  
Belzoni, MS 3903

**Office:** (662) 247-0143

**Fax:** (662) 247-0101

### ISSAQUENA COUNTY

5490 Glen Allen Road  
Glen Allen, MS 38744

**Office:** (662) 403-0241

**Office:** (662) 347-9410

### ITAWAMBA COUNTY

507 Legion Dr.  
Fulton, MS 38843

**Office:** (662) 862-2841

**Fax:** (662) 862-2831

### JACKSON COUNTY

4111 Amonett  
Pascagoula, MS 39568

**Office:** (228) 769-3228

**Fax:** (228) 696-6284

### JASPER COUNTY

37 E West 8th Ave.  
Bay Springs, MS 39422

**Office:** (601) 764-2871

**Fax:** (601) 764-2035

### JEFF DAVIS COUNTY

Courthouse  
Prentiss, MS 39474

**Office:** (601) 792-5939

Wellness Center  
Bassfield, MS

### JEFFERSON COUNTY

1483 Main Street  
Fayette, MS 39069

**Office:** (601) 786-3021

**Fax:** (601) 786-6009

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### JONES COUNTY

515 North 5th Avenue  
Laurel, MS 39440

**Office:** (601) 428-0467  
**Fax:** (601) 425-7191

### KEMPER COUNTY

39 Bell Street  
Dekalb, MS 39328

**Office:** (601) 743-2247

### LAFAYETTE COUNTY

1301 Monroe Ave, Suite 107  
Oxford, MS 38655

**Office:** (662) 236-3111

### LAMAR COUNTY

12 Veterans Drive  
Purvis, MS 39475

**Office:** (601) 794-4218  
**Fax:** (601) 794-4218

Oak Grove Senior Center  
5874 West 4th Street  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402

**Office:** (601) 336-5019

19 Center Street  
Sumrall, MS 39482

**Office:** (601) 758-0015

### LAUDERDALE COUNTY

1827 23rd Avenue  
Meridian, MS 39302

**Office:** (601) 482-9811  
**Fax:** (601) 482-9845

### LAWRENCE COUNTY

County Office Building  
Monticello, MS 39654

**Office:** (601) 587-3006  
**Fax:** (601) 587-0750

### LEAKE COUNTY

101 Court Square, Room 102  
Carthage, MS 39051

**Office:** (601) 267-7200  
**Fax:** (601) 298-4789

### LEE COUNTY

300 West Main Street  
Tupelo, MS 38802

**Office:** (662) 432-2099  
**Fax:** (662) 432-2098

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### LEFLORE COUNTY

310 West Market Street  
Greenwood, MS 38935

**Office:** (662) 453-3157  
**Fax:** (662) 451-7324

### LINCOLN COUNTY

301 South First Street, Room 202  
Brookhaven, MS 39601

**Office:** (601) 835-3470  
**Fax:** (601) 835-3455

### LOWNDES COUNTY

308 Legion Drive  
Columbus, MS 39705

**Office:** (662) 327-2005  
**Fax:** (662) 328-5430

### MADISON COUNTY

125 W. North Street  
Canton, MS 39046

**Office:** (601) 855-5689  
**Fax:** (601) 859-5875

### MARION COUNTY

124 McGeehee Drive  
Columbia, MS 39429

**Office:** (601) 736-0740  
**Fax:** (601) 736-0750

### MARSHALL COUNTY

136 Alderson Street  
Holly Springs, MS 38635

**Office:** (662) 252-5508  
**Fax:** (662) 252-5508

### MONROE COUNTY

**201 West Commerce, 3rd Floor**  
Aberdeen, MS 39730

**Office:** (662) 661-4012  
**Fax:** (662) 369-4651

1619 Hwy 25 North  
Amory, MS 38821

**Office:** (662) 256-3841  
**Fax:** (662) 305-3207

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

618 Summit Street  
Winona, MS 38967

**Office:** (662) 283-1618  
**Fax:** (662) 283-2333

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### NESHOBA COUNTY

11901 Highway 15 North  
Philadelphia, MS 39350

**Office:** (601) 656-4531  
**Fax:** (601) 656-5042

124 Industrial Road  
Choctaw, MS 39350

**Office:** (601) 650-1737  
**Fax:** (601) 389-5866

### NEWTON COUNTY

1st Floor Courthouse  
Decatur, MS 39327

**Office:** (601) 635-2178  
**Fax:** (601) 635-4014

### NOXUBEE COUNTY

158 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
Macon, MS 39341

**Office:** (662) 726-5423  
**Fax:** (662) 726-5262

### OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

101 East Main Street, 2nd Floor  
Starkville, MS 39759

**Office:** (662) 323-6155

### PANOLA COUNTY

705 Keating Road  
Batesville, MS 38606

**Office:** (662) 563-5757

### PEARL RIVER COUNTY

153 Savannah Millard Road  
Poplarville, MS 39470

**Office:** (601) 403-2558  
**Fax:** (601) 403-2567

### PERRY COUNTY

103 South Main Street  
New Augusta, MS 39462

**Office:** (601) 964-8214  
**Fax:** (601) 964-8214

### PIKE COUNTY

1002 Warren Krout Road  
McComb, MS 39649

**Office:** (601) 684-9966  
**Fax:** (601) 684-1810

### PONTOTOC COUNTY

311 Center Ridge Drive  
Pontotoc, MS 38863

**Office:** (662) 489-3907

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### PRENTISS COUNTY

100 W. Loveless Road  
Booneville, MS 38829

**Office:** (662) 728-5532

### QUITMAN COUNTY

1054 M.L.K. Jr. Drive  
Marks, MS 38646

**Office:** (662) 645-3818

### RANKIN COUNTY

211 East Government St., Suite A  
Brandon, MS 39042

**Office:** (601) 824-2652

**Fax:** (601) 497-8208

### SCOTT COUNTY

100 East Main Street  
Forest, MS 39074

**Office:** (601) 469-4477

### SHARKEY COUNTY

301 East China Street  
Rolling Fork, MS 39159

**Office:** (662) 907-0748

### SIMPSON COUNTY

2nd Floor Old Courthouse  
Mendenhall, MS 39114

**Office:** (601) 847-1354

### SMITH COUNTY

County Office Building  
Raleigh, MS 39153

**Office:** (601) 782-9222

**Fax:** (601) 782-9488

### STONE COUNTY

214 North Critz Street  
Wiggins, MS 39577

**Office:** (601) 928-7509

**Fax:** (601) 928-5122

### SUNFLOWER COUNTY

200 Main Street  
Indianola, MS 38751

**Office:** (662) 207-8644

119 N. Chester Ave  
Ruleville, MS 38771

**Office:** (662) 207-8644

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### TALLAHATCHIE COUNTY

150 Court Square  
Charleston, MS 38921

**Office:** (662) 375-4639 (Webb)  
**Office:** (662) 647-5551 (Charleston)

### TATE COUNTY

107 Court Street  
Senatobia, MS 38668

**Office:** (662) 301-8364  
**Fax:** (662) 301-2200

### TIPPAH COUNTY

107 North Main Street  
Ripley, MS 38663

**Office:** (662) 837-9214  
**Fax:** (662) 512-0193

### TISHOMINGO COUNTY

1008 Battleground Drive, Room 211  
Iuka, MS 38852

**Office:** (662) 423-7053

### TUNICA COUNTY

1061 South Court Street  
Tunica, MS 38676

**Office:** (662) 363-2515

### UNION COUNTY

116 East Bankhead Street  
New Albany, MS 38652

**Office:** (662) 534-1982  
**Fax:** (662) 534-2059

### WALTHALL COUNTY

**908 Armory Road**  
Tylertown, MS 39667

**Office: (601) 303-0160**

### WARREN COUNTY

1009 Cherry Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39181

**Office:** (601) 636-1627  
**Fax:** (601) 636-1628

### WASHINGTON COUNTY

738 Washington Ave.  
Greenville, MS 38702

**Office:** (662) 335-6196  
**Fax:** (662) 332-8275

## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### WAYNE COUNTY

609 Azalea Drive  
Waynesboro, MS 39367

**Office:** (601) 735-4258  
**Fax:** (601) 671-3761

### WEBSTER COUNTY

1842 Veterans Memorial Blvd.  
Eupora, MS 39744

**Office:** (662) 258-3051  
**Fax:** (662) 258-3093

### WILKINSON COUNTY

525 Main Street  
Woodville, MS 39669

**Office:** (601) 660-7453

1 Municipal Drive  
Woodville, MS 39669

**Office:** (601) 660-7453

### WINSTON COUNTY

5595 Old Robinson Road  
Louisville, MS 39339

**Office:** (662) 773-9555  
**Fax:** (662) 773-9557

### YALOBUSHA COUNTY

306 Railroad Street  
Water Valley, MS 38965

**Office:** (662) 934-8145

### YAZOO COUNTY

2201 Gordon Ave.  
Yazoo City, MS 39194

**Office:** (662) 746-1008  
**Fax:** (662) 716-0442







Visit our website for the latest up-to-date information on benefits, benefits specialists and veterans' resources.

**[msva.ms.gov](https://msva.ms.gov)**

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