



Intergovernmental Taskforce on Veterans Affairs

The Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs (MOVA) collaborates with federal, state, county, and local city departments to develop strategies for enhancing prosperity within the Veteran community. This Introductory Guide on Veteran Affairs is designed to help Veterans understand and access the benefits and resources they have earned by providing an overview of each department. This guide will be updated regularly and will continue to evolve as more benefits become available. For more detailed information or to explore additional programs, please contact the relevant departments for a comprehensive list of services.

### TABLE OF CONTEXT:

City of Chicago Services and Resources Guide	. 2
Enrollment in VA Heath Care / Community Based Clinics	3-4
Apply for VA Benefits / Veterans Benefits Administration	5
GI Bill / Educational Benefits / VITAL Program	6
Community Based Counseling / Vet Centers	7
Housing & Homelessness	8
Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs	9
Attorney General / Military and Veteran Rights Bureau	10
Secretary of State / Veteran Services	11
Emergency Financial Assistance / VACCC	12
Recording DD214 / Veteran Discount Card	13
Cook County Property Tax Exemptions	14
Chicago Vehicle City Sticker	15
Military Service Pass / CTA	16
Chicago Park District Veteran Program	17

# FIND CITY OF CHICAGO SERVICES AND RESOURCES

If you want to learn how to access city resources and take an active role in your community, you can download our **Introductory Guide to City Services** 



The guide includes steps to submit an infrastructure request, host a community event, get immigration, re-entry or domestic violence support, find your elected officials, and engage with various city departments. It also provides information on how to access critical services such as:

- Accessibility
- · Youth and education
- · Employment and workforce development
- Senior programs and services
- Permits
- · Financial Assistance
- Health and Social Services
- Infrastructure





To download the Introductory Guide to City Services, scan the QR code or visit chicago.gov/cscc.





# APPLY FOR VA HEALTH CARE IN THESE FOUR EASY WAYS



### **ONLINE**



VA.gov/healthcare/apply/application/ introduction



877-222-VETS (8387)



### MAIL

### **VA Form 10-10EZ to:**

Health Eligibility Center 2957 Clairmont Rd. Suite 200 Atlanta, GA 30329



### IN PERSON



Visit your nearest VA Medical Center or Clinic.

VA.gov/find-locations/



Home > Health care > Apply for VA health care

### Apply for VA health care

Enrollment Application for Health Benefits (VA Form 10-10EZ)

VA health care covers care for your physical and mental health. This includes a range of services from checkups to surgeries to home health care. It also includes prescriptions and medical equipment. Apply online now.

Have you applied for VA health care before?

Sign in to check your application status

### Follow these steps to get started



### Check your eligibility

Make sure you meet our eligibility requirements for enrollment before you apply.

**Note:** We can help connect you with mental health care—no matter your discharge status, service history, or eligibility for VA health care. <u>Find out how to get mental health care</u>

What are the eligibility requirements to enroll in VA health care? ✔

2

### Gather your information

Here's what you'll need to apply:

- Social Security numbers for you, your spouse, and your qualified dependents.
- Your military discharge information if you sign in to apply, we may be able to fill
  in this information for you. If you don't sign in to apply, we'll ask you to upload a
  copy of your DD214 or other separation documents.
- Insurance cards for all health insurance companies that cover you. This includes any coverage that you get through a spouse or significant other. This also includes Medicare, private insurance, or insurance from your employer.

We'll also ask you for this optional information

- Last year's gross household income for you, your spouse, and your dependents.
   This includes income from a job and any other sources. Gross household income is your income before taxes and any other deductions.
- Your deductible expenses for last year These include certain health care and education costs. These expenses will lower the amount of money we count as your income.

Why does VA need this information?



### Start your application

We'll take you through each step of the process. It should take about 30 minutes.

What happens after I apply? ▼



# **COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS**

To make access to healthcare easier, the VA established Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) across the country. These clinics provide the most common outpatient services, including health and wellness visits, without the hassle of visiting a larger medical center. We have four located in the Chicagoland area, including Crown Point, Indiana; Chicago Heights; Auburn Gresham; and Lakeside (Downtown).

# ADAM BENJAMIN JR., VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION OUTPATIENT CLINIC

9301 Madison Street Crown Point, IN 46307-7745

Main phone: 219-662-5000 Mental health care: 312-569-7225

> Mon-Fri 07:30am- 4:00 p.m. Sat-Sun Closed





### CHICAGO HEIGHTS VA CLINIC

211 Dixie Highway, Suite 4 Chicago Heights, IL 60411-1696

Main phone: 708-754-8880 Mental health care: 312-569-7225

> Mon-Fri 08:00am- 4:00 p.m. Sat-Sun Closed





### **AUBURN GRESHAM VA CLINIC**

7731 South Halsted Street Chicago, IL 60620-2412

Main phone: 773-962-3700 Mental health care: 312-569-7225

> Mon-Fri 07:30am- 4:00 p.m. Sat-Sun Closed





### LAKESIDE VA CLINIC

211 East Ontario Street, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60611-3276

Main phone: 312-469-4850 Mental health care: 312-569-7225

> Mon-Fri 08:00am- 4:30 p.m. Sat-Sun Closed





For more information please visit: https://www.va.gov/chicago-health-care/locations/





# U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Benefits Administration

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs comprises three administrations: the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), and the National Cemetery Administration (NCA). The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) provides a variety of benefits and services to service members, veterans, and their families. Below are some of our major program offices within the VBA.

### SERVICES AT THE CHICAGO REGIONAL OFFICE INCLUDE

- File a Disability Compensation Claim
- PACT ACT/Exposures
- Dependency Change
- File an Appeal/Decision Review
- General Benefit Questions
- Homeless Assistance
- Help Understanding a Letter
- Veterans Service Outreach Call Center

- Letter or Form Request
- Military Sexual Trauma
- Payment Questions
- Privacy Act (Copy of Records) Request
- Report a Death/Burial Questions
- State Veterans Benefits Questions
- Claim Status
- Submit Evidence

### **VISIT US AT OUR LOCATIONS**

Use the QR Code to schedule a appointment using VERA in-person on virtually. Need to speak with a Representative please call (800) 827-1000 or visit https://va.my.site.com/VAVERA/s/



### **CHICAGO VA REGIONAL OFFICE**

2122 W. Taylor Street Chicago IL, 60612 Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-4:00 PM



### CHICAGO HEIGHTS VET CENTER

1010 Dixie Highway 2nd Floor Chicago Heights, IL 60411 Mondays only 8:00 AM-4:00 PM



### **AUBURN GRESHAM VA CLINIC**

7731 S Halsted St, Chicago, IL 60620 Wednesdays only 8:00 AM-4:00 PM



### CHICAGO VET CENTER

8658 S Sacramento Ave, Chicago, IL 60652 Fridays only 8:00 AM-4:00 PM





# VETERANS INTEGRATION TO ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP





## WHAT IS VITAL

The Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership program (VITAL) is committed to aiding student veterans in adjusting to the academic setting, helping them to overcome obstacles that might impede academic success, and supporting them in completing their educational goals.

It is a veteran-centered, results-oriented collaboration between the VA Medical Center (VAMC) and higher education. We understand the unique factors facing our student veterans and are here to help. If you are a veteran enrolled in a local college or university, VITAL will partner with you to resolve issues and find resources

- Assistance with enrollment and care at the VA Medical Center.
- Help with resources from within the VA and its affiliates including: Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and Veteran Readiness & Employment (VR&E).
- Referral to and collaboration with university disability services to request academic accommodations.
- · Peer to peer mentoring and support.

### CONTACTUS ★★★★

Jesse Brown VA Medical Center 820 S Damen Avenue Chicago, IL 60612 vhachsvital@VA.Gov (773) 986-7310





92% of those who use Vet Centers say their quality of life benefits from our services.

Vet Centers are community-based counseling centers that provide a wide range of social and psychological services, including professional counseling to eligible Veterans, service members, including National Guard and Reserve components, and their families. Individual, group, marriage and family counseling is offered. Vet Center counselors and outreach staff, many of whom are Veterans themselves, are experienced and prepared to discuss the tragedies of war, loss, grief and transition after trauma.

### **OUR PRIORITIES**

### SAFE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Our records cannot be accessed by other VA or DoD offices, military units, or other community networks and providers without your permission or unless required to avert a life-threatening situation. Here, you can be as open as you want — there's absolutely no judgement.

### **GUIDED BY PROFESSIONALS WHO GET IT**

Our highly trained counselors and team members are dedicated to seeing you through the challenges that come with managing life during and after the military. Most of us have also served, so we understand common Veteran and military experiences.

### NO COST. NO STRINGS ATTACHED

Vet Center services are available to you at no cost, regardless of discharge character, and without the need to enroll in VA health care or have a service-connected disability.

### **LOCATIONS**

There are 6 Chicagoland Vet Centers and 11 across the state. Call today to find a location closest to you.

### **CHICAGO VET CENTER**

8658 South Sacramento Avenue Chicago, IL 60652 773-962-3740

### **OUR SERVICES**

### **COUNSELING**

We provide individual, group, couples, and family counseling to talk through problems, brainstorm solutions, discuss what resources are available, and work with you to create effective and practical plans for your personal growth.

### REFERRALS

We provide medical, benefit, employment, and other VA and community referral services to help you and your family navigate time-consuming tasks, like applying for VA benefits or finding a job.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Vet Centers help you connect with your community by working with local partners and using our resources to advocate for your needs. Ultimately, this allows us to create a greater support system for you and your family.

94% of those who use Vet Centers trust us to provide services that improve their lives.

Call us 24/7
Vet Center Call Center: 877-927-8387







### NATIONAL CALL CENTER FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness—and their family members, friends and supporters—can make the call to or chat online with the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans, where trained counselors are ready to talk confidentially 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### WHO CAN CALL

- Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Family members, friends and supporters calling on behalf of Veterans
- VA Medical Centers and other VA facilities and staff
- Federal, state and local partners
- Community agencies and providers who serve Veterans who are homeless

### WHY MAKE THE CALL TO 1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838)

- It's free and confidential
- You'll get access to trained VA counselors
- It's available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- You'll get information about VA homeless programs, health care and other services in your area

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN VETERANS MAKE THE CALL

- A trained VA staff member asks a few questions to find out what you need
- Then, you're connected to the nearest VA staff person who can help

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN OTHERS MAKE THE CALL

- Family members and non-VA providers receive information about available homeless programs and services
- They can keep their information confidential or leave contact information so staff can follow up

### COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND REFERRAL PROGRAM (CHICAGO)

- Main Phone M-F, 8-4:30 p: 312-569-5750,
- VHACHS CRRC Walk-In Clinic Staff
- Email: VHACHSCRRCWalkInClinicStaff@va.gov

### AFTER HOURS

Jesse Brown VA Medical Center 820 S Damen Ave Emergency Department Monday—Sunday 3:30pm -12:00am 312.569-6138

### COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM

If you are in need of immediate shelter please call 3-1-1 for the coordinated entry system.

### **Illinois Department of**

# **Veterans Affairs**

Who we are and what we can do for you.



### MISSION

As an expression of our gratitude for their service to our country, we are committed to empowering veterans and their families to thrive in Illinois. Every encounter we have with them is met with dignity and respect, as we understand the challenges of military service and the lifelong impact it has on their lives.

### VISION

Illinois is the destination of choice for veterans and a national leader in Veteran advocacy and services. IDVA sets the standard for connecting veterans and their families with all their earned benefits and privileges to empower them to thrive.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

TEAM IDVA: Teamwork, Excellence, Accountability, Motivation.

### INTRODUCTION

As an Illinois veteran, you have earned benefits and services designed to support your education, career, and health care aspirations from the federal government and the state of Illinois. Each veteran has a unique background and situation qualifying him/her for a wide range of benefits.

The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) is your vehicle for uncovering and obtaining the benefits and services that apply to you. With Veteran Service Officers across the state, we work with each veteran to discuss his/her personal, family, and health circumstances and identify which services and benefits will work for you.

### HOW IS IDVA DIFFERENT FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS?

There is often confusion over the difference between the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA).

- The IDVA is your local advocate to ensure you obtain your earned benefits at the federal and state level.
- While we don't dispense federal benefits, we help you identify and apply for these benefits.
- We also locate the Illinois benefits you have earned.
- We help you navigate both systems, so the process is less cumbersome and you don't miss out on opportunities that are available to you.
- The IDVA also offers five Veterans' Homes across the state for those seeking residential care.
- The VA Healthcare System is ran by the federal government, but our Veteran Service Officers have resources to help you find the right place for you.

For more information, we encourage you to visit our website at: https://veterans.illinois.gov or call: 1-800-437-9824 to reach a Veteran Service Officers to discuss your needs and uncover the possibilities that will open doors for you, your family, and your future.





# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ILLINOIS

201 West Point Drive, Suite 7, Belleville, IL 62226 www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov

### MILITARY AND VETERANS RIGHTS BUREAU

The Attorney General's Military and Veterans Rights Bureau works to ensure that service members and veterans receive the benefits they have earned by serving our nation in the military. The bureau contends with a wide variety of financial and legal concerns affecting the military community, such as consumer fraud, scams connected with Veterans Affairs (VA) benefit assistance, military employment rights and housing issues. The work of the bureau can be grouped into four basic categories: Outreach, Advocacy/Mediation, Specialized Policy Support and Enforcement.

### **EDUCATION**

The Military & Veterans Rights Bureau operates a Helpline, 1-800-382-3000, which averages over 500 calls annually. A Military & Veterans Rights Advocate fields calls from service members, veterans and dependents on a wide variety of issues related to military service, conducts necessary research, and provides useful information designed to assist in the receipt of veterans benefits.

### OUTREACH

The Military and Veterans Rights Bureau provides assistance through programs and educational materials designed to help veterans and service members understand their rights and obtain services. As part of these efforts, the bureau publishes two detailed guidebooks for Illinois veterans and service members: **Benefits for Illinois Veterans** and Legal Rights of Illinois Service Members

### ADVOCACY/MEDIATION

The Military & Veterans Rights Advocate will attempt mediation in certain areas including;

- Mediation of service member employment disputes involving the Illinois Service Member Employment & Reemployment Rights Act.
- Mediating landlord-tenant disputes for service members facing Permanent Change of Station orders that conflict with lease agreements;
- Mediating financial transaction disputes, such as fraudulent credit report entries or erroneous debts;
- Obtaining compensation owed to veterans or to service members on military leave from their primary employer for annual guard training; and
- · Securing refunds of disputed charges and fees.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

The Military and Veterans Rights Bureau investigates allegations of pattern and practice violations of certain state-based military rights, which are also violations under the Illinois Human Rights Act. Additionally, as part of the Consumer Protection Division, the Military and Veterans Rights Bureau works to pursue or support enforcement actions involving cases of fraud targeting members of the armed forces.

**Filing a complaint:** You may file a complaint by calling the Military and Veterans Rights Helpline at 1-800-382-3000 or by filling out a complaint form on the Illinois Attorney General's website at https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/rights-of-the-people/military-and-veterans-rights/ and submitting it to the Military and Veterans Rights Bureau by mail at the address listed on the form or by fax to (618) 236-8620.



### **MILITARY AND VETERANS SERVICES**

### VETERAN DL/ID CARD DESIGNATION

If you are an honorably discharged U.S. veteran and wish to have a designation on your DL/ID indicating you are a VETERAN, you may apply by providing proof of discharge, issued by the U.S. government, such as a copy of your DD214 or summary of 4 benefits letter at any Driver Services facility. If you need to obtain an official discharge document, you will need to visit an Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) service office.

### **MILITARY LICENSE PLATES**

In recognition of those who have served our country, the Secretary of State offers several military service license plates. Military plates may be displayed on passenger vehicles and trucks and vans weighing 8,000 pounds or less. Titles, transfers, duplicate registration cards and replacement license plates are subject to standard fees. Fees for military plates vary. For more information on fees for specific military plate categories, please contact the Secretary of State's Vehicle Services Department at the number below or visit ilsos.gov

### ILLINOIS VETERANS' HISTORY PROJECT

The Illinois Veterans' History Project creates a permanent record of the names and stories of Illinois war veterans and civilians — past and present — who have served our country so their contributions will not be forgotten. To participate in the Illinois Veterans' History Project, veterans or family members can complete an Illinois Patriots Information form at ilsos.gov. The form also is available at Driver Services facilities and public libraries statewide. Participants may also submit an oral recorded history that will be placed in the Illinois Digital Archives (www.idaillinois.org) and the Library of Congress Veterans History Project (www.loc.gov/vets). For information about conducting an oral interview, please call 217-785-1537.

### **OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE**

T213 State Capitol Springfield, IL 62756 115 S. LaSalle St., Ste. 300 Chicago, IL 60603 800-252-8980 (toll free in Illinois) 217-785-3000 (outside Illinois)

# VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF COOK COUNTY



The Veterans Assistance Commission (VACCC) of Cook County is a distinct unit of local government created by State Law under the Military Veterans Assistance Act and funded by Cook County. Our Mission is to provide immediate emergency financial assistance to Cook County discharged Veterans and their families.

### HOW WE CAN HELP

- · Rent or Mortgage
- Utilities (Electric/Gas/Water) Food (Spouse & Child <18)</li>
- Work Uniforms/Shoes
- Burials
- Records Request i.e.
- DD214 OR Cook County Birth
- Certificate
- Transportation
- Weekly Bus Cards-CTA/PACE
- Referrals for: Outpatient- CWT/School
   Job Interview- Employment House
   Search NOT FOR PERSONAL USE

### WHAT TO BRING

- DD214-Minimum 6 months of Active Duty Service
- VA Rating Award OR No Benefit Letter
- To obtain document:
- Contact the VA Regional Office-2122 W.
- Taylor/(800) 827-1000
- OR have it faxed to the VACCC office
- Total Household Income Verification
- Current Two Pay Stubs/Pension
- Unemployment-UI Finding Letter/Social
- Security Award Letter/GI Bill
- Current Illinois Driver's License OR State of Illinois Photo I.D.

### **LOCATION**

Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center 1100 S. Hamilton Ave, Chicago, Illinois 60612 C-011 Lower Level

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Benefits Window Closes at 3 p.m.

### **CONTACT INFO**

Office: (312) 433-6010 Fax: (312) 433-6015 vaccc@cookcountyil.gov

https://www.facebook.com/VACofCookCounty

## OFFICE OF COOK COUNTY CLERK



### COOK COUNTY MILITARY AND VETERANS DISCOUNT CARD

The Cook County Clerk's Office and the County's Department of Veterans Affairs are offering veterans, active-duty personnel, and other members of the military a free discount card offering reduced costs and benefits from hundreds of businesses in the Chicagoland area. This public-private partnership is a small way to honor those who have served by providing money-saving discounts on a wide variety of products and services.

**To apply for a card visit:** www.cookcountyclerk.com/Veterans **To Register as a business partner:** www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/veterans/register-your-business-military-veterans-discount-card



### FREE RECORDING OF DD214 & DISCHARGE PAPERS

Military veterans may record their DD214 for free at the Cook County Recorder of Deeds. A copy of the DD214 is then accessible for free to the veteran and her/his family whenever needed. To protect the privacy of veterans, the document is not accessible to the public. The DD214 is a vital document with many purposes including to establish dates of military service, veterans benefits and burial.

### OFFICE OF COOK COUNTY CLERK

118 N. Clark St. - Suite 120 Chicago, IL 60602-1387 312-603-5788 CookCountyClerkIL.Gov



The Assessor's Office administers property tax exemptions that may contribute to lowering your property tax bill. The exemptions listed in this brochure reduce the equalized assessed value (EAV), or taxed value, of a home.



### VETERANS WITH DISABILITIES EXEMPTION

This Homestead Exemption for Veterans with Disabilities is for veterans with a service-connected disability as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The exemption reduces certain amounts of the Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) on the primary residence of a veteran with a disability, very likely lowering the tax bill. The amounts of those EAV deductions depend on the level of disability. **Veterans 70% or more disabled receive an EAV reduction of \$250,000, and because of this can be totally exempt from property taxes on their home.** 

**Automatic Renewal:** No, this exemption must be filed annually. Per new legislation, Veterans who are rated 100% disabled and classified as "permanently and totally disabled" by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will be automatically renewed each year.

### Percentage of Disability Exemption amount (EAV reduction)

**30-49% 50-69% 70% - 100%** \$2,500 \$5,000 \$250,000

To learn more or apply please visit: https://www.cookcountyassessor.com/returning-veterans-exemption or call 312.443.7550

### RETURNING VETERANS EXEMPTION

A Returning Veterans Exemption is for veterans returning from active duty in armed conflict. They are eligible to receive a \$5,000 reduction in the equalized assessed value of their property only for each taxable year in which they return.

**Automatic Renewal:** No, this exemption must be filed annually.

To learn more or apply please visit: https://www.cookcountyassessor.com/returning-veterans-exemption or call 312.443.7550

### **MAIN OFFICE**

118 N. Clark St., 3rd Floor, Chicago, IL 60602 312.443.7550 cookcountyassessor.com





# ATTENTION VETERANS!

# Did you know that the Office of the City Clerk expanded its No-Fee Chicago City Sticker program to include more Veterans?

Read below to find out if you may be eligible for a No-Fee Veteran Sticker for serving our country.

The Office of the City Clerk has expanded its No-Fee Chicago City Sticker Program for many of our City's Veterans. Residents who have an unexpired Illinois Driver's License or State ID with a Veteran designation will be eligible to receive one free City Sticker for a passenger, large passenger, motorbike, or small truck.

Ex-Prisoners of War, Purple-Heart Veterans, or disabled veterans with Illinois PW, PR, IS, or DV plates will remain eligible for City Stickers for no fee.

Please note that residents can only take advantage of this offer at Office of the City Clerk locations. There will be no refunds for previously issued stickers. Residents will qualify when their sticker is up for renewal.

# OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK CITY HALL OFFICE

121 N LaSalle St., Room 107 Chicago, IL 60602

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00AM - 5:00PM

# OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK SATELLITE OFFICE NORTH

5430 West Gale St. Chicago, IL 60630 Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00AM - 5:00PM

# OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK SATELLITE OFFICE SOUTH

5672 South Archer Ave. Chicago, IL 60638 Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00AM - 5:00PM







### **MILITARY SERVICE PASS**

Obtain a CTA Ventra Card and enjoy complimentary rides on all CTA buses and trains. Over 8,000 service members and veterans have already received CTA Ventra Cards. Active U.S. military personnel, in full uniform and presenting their United States Armed Forces ID, as well as qualifying disabled veterans with a Military Service Pass, are eligible for free rides on CTA buses and trains.

### TO APPLY FOR A NEW MILITARY SERVICE PASS

Please visit the Ventra Customer Service Center at 567 W. Lake St, 2nd Floor, or complete the <u>Military</u> <u>Pass Program Application</u> form and send with the required supporting documents to:

### Ventra

CTA Ventra Military Pass Program PO Box 8291 Chicago, IL 60680

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR MILITARY SERVICE PASS**

You are eligible for a Military Service Pass if you qualify as:

- Chicago area active duty military personnel and possess an Armed Forces ID Card;
- An actively drilling member of the National Guard and Reserves who possesses an Armed Forces ID card or a member of the Coast Guard with appropriate identification.
- A Chicago area disabled veteran who has a qualifying service-connected disability and can
  provide proof that: you are in receipt of United States Department of Veterans' Affairs (USDVA)
  disability compensation of 10% or greater; or you are receiving military disability retirement pay
  in lieu of USDVA compensation at a rate of 10% or greater.

### **CONTACT**

Please call Ventra Customer Service at 1-877-NOW-VENTRA (1-877-669-8368) with any questions.



## **CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT VETERAN PROGRAMS**

The Mission of Chicago Park District Veterans Programs is to provide access and engage veterans and active military personnel in sports, recreation, and leisure.

- We strive to:
  - Expose veterans to recreation, leisure and enrichment programs
  - Keep veterans and active military actively engaged in recreation and leisure activities
  - Provide opportunities for adaptive sports skill development
  - Provide inclusive programming for veterans of all abilities
  - Provide annual family based events
  - Partner with local agencies to provide resources and program enhancement

All Chicago Park District Veterans Programs are FREE of charge with proof of service (DD214, signifier on driver's license, etc.).

### **SESSION PROGRAMS & EVENTS**

The Chicago Park District aims to provide a variety of recreation and leisure programs and events for veterans of all ability levels. Click on the button below to see this session's current offerings.

### MILITARY DISCOUNT

Information about the Chicago Park District military discount can be found here:; <a href="https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/programs-memberships/program-policies-procedures">www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/programs-memberships/program-policies-procedures</a>

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information please send your requests to.: <a href="weets-to:veterans@chicagoparkdistrict.com">veterans@chicagoparkdistrict.com</a>





# No matter the need, help is just a phone call away.



2-1-1

for everyday crises and needs such as food, housing, and utilities assistance

3-1-1

for local community and municipal services\*

9-8-8

for the suicide and crisis lifeline

9-1-1

for an emergency

\*3-1-1 is not available in all communities. Please contact your local city or village office for municipal or local government services if you do not have access to 3-1-1.











VETERANSAFFAIRS@CITYOFCHICAGO.ORG 312-744-8510