

# North Dakota Veterans Affairs State Programs

## SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES

**P.O.W.:** A veteran, who while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, was a prisoner of war and has received an honorable discharge from the U. S. Armed Forces may be issued a special number license plate. On the death of the veteran, the surviving spouse may retain the numbered plate as an active plate.

**Veteran's Cemetery:** Distinctive numbered plates may be issued to individuals eligible for internment in the North Dakota Veteran's Cemetery. The surcharge collected will be divided between the Veteran's Cemetery Trust Fund and the Veteran's Cemetery Maintenance Fund.

**DAV:** Veterans who are 100% service-connected disabled may be issued a special plate for minimum cost.

**National Guard:** Distinctive numbered plates may be issued to members of the National Guard. The Adjutant General shall certify those members of the National Guard eligible to receive the plates.



ARMY



MARINE



NAVY



NON BRANCH



COAST GUARD



AIR FORCE

## PARKS ADMISSION

**Disabled Veterans/POWs:** ND veterans with a 50% service-related disability and former POWs are eligible for a free annual permit. All other ND veterans with service-related disabilities are eligible to receive an annual permit for \$20. This program is available to North Dakota residents only, with VA proof of disability or status, or a ND DAV/POW license plate.

For information contact: **North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department**, 1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 3, Bismarck, ND 58503-5357 (701) 328-5357 website: [www.ndparks.com/](http://www.ndparks.com/)

## TUITION WAIVER

Any eligible dependent of a 100% service-connected veteran, upon being duly accepted for enrollment into any North Dakota state supported institution of higher education or state-supported career and technical education school, must be allowed to obtain a bachelor's degree or certification of completion, for so long as the dependent is eligible, free of any tuition and fee charges.

However, the bachelor's degree or certificate of completion is to be earned within a 45 month, or 10 semester period or its equivalent; and further provided that tuition and fee charges shall not include costs for aviation flight charges or expenses. Contact the Registrar's office of the educational institution you plan to attend.

## VETERAN'S BONUS

The 2005 ND Legislature passed legislation providing for payment of adjusted compensation (bonus) for certain domestic and foreign service. Some nonresidents may be eligible for the bonus.

For information on the eligibility requirements and the application, visit the ND National Guard website: [www.guard.bismarck.nd.us](http://www.guard.bismarck.nd.us).

## PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

The 2007 ND State Legislature passed a bill allowing a property tax exemption for 50% and higher service connected disabled veterans on the first \$150,000 of the home's valuation. To apply for the exemption, qualifying veterans can obtain an "Application for Property Tax Exemption" form from the Ward Co. Tax Director's office. For City of Minot residents, contact the city assessor's office. There is no means test, income or asset criteria to apply for the exemption.



Property Tax Exemption for qualifying veterans

Tuition waiver for eligible dependent.

## **North Dakota Department of Veterans Administers a Number of Programs**

### **GRANTS**

The Hardship Assistance (Grant) Program is available to low income veterans or spouses for medical assistance for hearing aids, eye glasses, and dental care. Grants may be awarded for up to \$4,000 per year. To qualify, monthly income must be less than \$1,200 (for a single person) and liquid assets must be less than \$4,000.

The Veterans Aid Loan Program allows resident veterans to apply for a loan of up to \$5,000, payable over four years, with an 8% interest rate. If the recipient satisfies all conditions of loan repayment, one-half of the interest is returned upon receipt of the last payment. To qualify, the person must be an eligible veteran or dependent, be a North Dakota resident for at least one year, and meet applicable eligibility criteria

### **STATE VETERANS HOME**

The State Veterans Home is located at Lisbon, ND. The Home is open to most North Dakota resident veterans and/or their spouses. There are approximately 110 beds in the basic care unit and 40 beds in the skilled care unit.

### **ND VETERANS CEMETERY**

The North Dakota Veterans Cemetery is located approximately six miles south of Mandan, ND on a small knoll overlooking the Missouri River. Eligible Veterans, National Guardsmen, Reservists, and dependents are afforded burial rights in the cemetery.

## **Mission Statement**

*The Ward County Veterans Service office is responsible for assisting veterans, widows of veterans, children or other eligible relatives of veterans in making claims for benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

*These benefits include, but are not limited to, applications for service-connected compensation, pensions, medical care, education, home loan guarantees and burial benefits. This office also advises veterans and refers them to the appropriate professional sources to alleviate their problems.*

*We assist veterans and their spouses in application to the North Dakota Veterans Home at Lisbon and the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery at Mandan.*

*The VSO administers an emergency aid fund for veterans and can refer them to area aid organizations for assistance. The VSO attends Veteran's organizations meetings and participates in veterans functions.*

*The VSO also accomplishes home, nursing home and hospital visits to assist impaired veterans and accepts speaking engagements for the purpose of informing people of benefits due them as a veteran or a dependent of a veteran.*



## **WARD COUNTY Veteran Services**

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