

New ways for Pennsylvanians to support and honor their 950,000 Veterans

New ways for Pennsylvanians to support and honor their 950,000 Veterans

Thanks to a partnership between the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Department of Transportation, Pennsylvania is now offering a new specialty license plate, "Honoring Our Veterans," for cars and light trucks up to 10,000 pounds. Fifteen dollars from the sale of each \$35 license plate goes to the Veterans' Trust Fund.

The Veterans' Trust Fund (VTF), administered by DMVA, provides funds to assist and support Pennsylvania veterans and their families. The VTF will fund grants to statewide charitable organizations that assist veterans, veterans' service organizations and county directors of veterans affairs. The fund can assist veterans in need of shelter and with the necessities of living.

In addition to the license plate, Pennsylvanians can make a \$3 tax-deductible contribution to the VTF simply when applying for or renewing a Pennsylvania driver's license or photo ID, or renewing a motor vehicle registration. Individuals or organizations can also make a tax-deductible grant, gift or donation directly to the VTF.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans' Services was established to increase information sharing between commonwealth departments and commissions, coordinate complementary programs, and enhance service accessibility to veterans' benefits within Pennsylvania.

This coordinating council will consist of representatives of the departments of education, public welfare, corrections, probation and parole, labor and industry, drug and alcohol programs, as well as members of the military and veterans' affairs.

A new mobile Veterans Outreach van now travels throughout the state to assist veterans in obtaining information and initiating benefit claim paperwork. The wheelchair-accessible van can be scheduled in support of community activities, county directors of veterans' affairs, veterans service organizations and other veterans service officers.

By March 2014 persons who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces will be able to obtain a veterans' designation on state driver's licenses or PennDOT photo ID cards.

"The veteran identifier for drivers' licenses provides long overdue recognition for veterans who may not have other military identification," said Governor Tom Corbett. "While participation is voluntary, it will allow veterans to qualify for discounts or other benefits."

For more information about the VTF, visit www.vtf.state.pa.us or follow DMVA on Facebook at www.facebook.com/padmva or Twitter at www.twitter.com/padmva.

For more information and to get a copy of the application for the "Honoring Our Veterans" license plate visit: www.dmv.state.pa.us/license_plates/special_fund.shtml.

U.S. Army War College Archives - News Article - 19 November 2013