

The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency offers free services to veterans and their families

The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) is the central coordinating agency for Michigan's more than 486,000 veterans and their families, providing support, care, advocacy and connection to resources and services. As a state agency, the MVAA works to identify and break down barriers veterans face in employment, education, health care and quality of life to make Michigan a great place for veterans to choose to live, raise a family, work and retire.

With nearly 60 employees, the MVAA assists veterans and their families by connecting them to the federal and state resources and benefits they earned with their service. The agency works with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), various state departments and agencies as well as hundreds of community-based veteran programs and service organizations to create "no-wrong-door" access to benefits and services.

You do not need to pay for a copy of your DD-214

The MVAA provides a variety of important services at no cost, including their DD-214 for Free program. Without a DD-214, obtaining benefits and services, including veteran-specific discounts on products and services, can be impossible. Copies of discharge documents are available for free by completing the [DD-214 request form](#). Upon receiving the form, the MVAA will work to obtain the discharge document directly from their records or will assist the veteran with a request from the National Personnel Records Center. The MVAA cautions against working with commercial services to obtain discharge documents. In some cases, they will charge veterans or their families as much as \$300 up front without a guarantee that they will fulfill the order, leaving veterans without the documentation they paid for. Requests sent to the MVAA are processed securely and at no cost.

Trained VSOs are available to help you secure your benefits

The MVAA also connects with veterans in their own communities through the [Veteran Service Officer \(VSO\)](#) program. Accredited MVAA VSOs serve as advocates for veterans and their family members to ensure they get the benefits they earned with their service. Additionally, the MVAA maintains a list of qualified VSOs for the entire state, enabling veterans to find a local VSO that can help them with their claims. Veterans and dependents can choose any VSO or VA Benefits Counselor on the MVAA's list for their county of residence, regardless of affiliation, and veterans can contact another counselor on the list for their county at any time. A full list of VSOs statewide is also available at Michigan.gov/VSO.

Reach out for more information or for assistance

The Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center (MVRSC) helps veterans and their families access discharge documents, get connected to VSOs and find other services to assist in their needs. If you would like to speak to a technician with the MVRSC, call 1-800-MICH-VET (1-800-642-4838). Our technicians are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Veterans and their families can also download the MiVeteran app to access additional resources and information directly from their mobile devices. The MiVeteran app is available for free and can be downloaded on your mobile device in the [App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#).

To learn more about the MVAA, please visit [Michigan.gov/MVAA](https://michigan.gov/MVAA) or follow the agency on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) and [X](#).

If you or someone you know is in crisis, call the Veterans Crisis Line at 988 then press 1 for veteran-specific assistance.