

Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs

The Committee on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs shall:

- (1) seek to establish a working relationship with those agencies in government, national, state and local, having the responsibility in the affairs of members of the various Armed Services and Veterans and to see that the programs to which they are responsible are administered fairly and justly to members of the minority community;
- (2) study conditions pertaining to veterans and members of the Military Service and their dependents and/or survivors in the community;
- (3) serve as a center of information on matters affecting the members of the Active Military, Reserves, State National Guard and Veterans;
- (4) maintain a repository of materials, information and forms to be used in assisting veterans and/or dependents of veterans and military personnel with their problems;
- (5) receive and act on all complaints relative to acts of discrimination on account of race, color, creed, or denial of benefits to which they are entitled because of discrimination;
- (6) prepare a quarterly report on committee activities to be submitted to the Executive Committee of the Unit and the National Director of Armed Services and Veterans Affairs.

Resources provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



Veterans Benefits Administration: 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 VBA.

- [Compensation](#)
- [Pension](#) and [Fiduciary](#)
- [Insurance](#)

- [Education](#)
- [Loan Guaranty](#)
- [Office of Transition and Economic Development](#)
- [Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment](#)
- [Office of Field Operations](#)
- [Appeals Management Center](#)

National Cemetery Association: Burial in a VA National Cemetery is open to all members of the armed forces and Veterans who have met minimum active duty service requirements, as applicable, and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. Members of the reserve components of the armed forces who die while on active duty or who die while on training duty under certain circumstances are also eligible for burial, as are service members and former service members who were eligible for retired pay at the time of their death.

A Veteran's spouse, widow or widower, minor children, and, under certain conditions, unmarried adult children with disabilities, may also be eligible for burial. Eligible spouses and children may be buried even if they predecease the Veteran.

VA provides the gravesite, grave liner, opening and closing of the grave, government headstone or marker, U.S. burial flag, Presidential Memorial Certificate, and perpetual care of the gravesite at no cost to the family.

VA operates 136 national cemeteries and 33 soldiers' lots and monument sites in 40 states and Puerto Rico. More than 4 million Americans, including Veterans of every war and conflict, are buried in VA's national cemeteries. VA also provides funding to establish, expand, improve, and maintain 110 Veterans cemeteries in 48 states and territories including tribal trust lands, Guam, and Saipan. For Veterans not buried in a VA national cemetery, VA provides headstones, markers, or medallions to commemorate their service. In 2017, VA honored more than 361,892 Veterans and their loved ones with memorial benefits in national, state, tribal and private cemeteries.

Information on VA burial benefits is available from local VA national cemetery offices, from the Internet at www.cem.va.gov, or by calling VA regional offices toll-free at 800-827-1000. To make burial arrangements at any open VA national cemetery at the time of need, call the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 800-535-1117.

Veterans Health Administration: The **Veterans Health Administration (VHA)** is the largest integrated health care system in the United States, providing care at [1,293 health care facilities](#), including 171 VA Medical Centers and 1,112 outpatient sites of care of varying complexity (VHA outpatient clinics) serving 9 million enrolled Veterans a year.

Click [here](#) to view the Veterans Health Administration's website for more information.

Center for Minority Veterans: Title 38, United States Code (USC), Section 317 reflects the current responsibilities of the CMV. The Center Director serves as principal advisor to the Secretary on the adoption and implementation of policies and programs affecting minority Veterans. CMV serves as an advocate for minority Veterans by conducting outreach activities to promote the awareness and use of VA benefits and services.

The Center for Minority Veterans is the Department of Veterans Affairs model for inter-and intra-agency co-operation, to ensure all veterans receive equal service regardless of race, origin, religion, or gender.

Click [here](#) to visit the Center for Minority Veterans website to view more information.

Minority Veteran Report: The Office of Data Governance and Analytics serve as the authoritative clearinghouse for VA to collect, validate, analyze, and disseminate key statistics on Veteran population and VA programs to support planning, analysis, and decision-making activities. For more information on reports, surveys, or statistics regarding the Veteran population, check our website at <http://www.va.gov/vetdata/>.

View most recent report:

https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/Minority_Veterans_Report.pdf

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Program

[Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Program - Office of Resolution Management, Diversity & Inclusion \(ORMDI\) \(va.gov\)](#)

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proudly leads the effort to build a diverse workforce and cultivate an inclusive work environment. We do this by developing and implementing policies and programs that promote diversity and inclusion in our workplace as we strive to ensure that VA's workforce is drawn from the broadest segments of society so that it is poised to meet the present and future needs of our Nation's Veterans, their families and beneficiaries.

VA is committed to a diverse workforce and an inclusive workplace and understands that diversity and inclusion are essential for a high-performing organization that delivers the best service to our Nation's Veterans. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community is an integral aspect of our human diversity. To that end, VA has implemented several policies and programs addressing issues facing the LGBT community and is helping VA employees and patients access benefits made available by changes to Federal policy. For more information, view this [Infographic on VA's LGBT Program](#).