



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits Administration

Assistance for Homeless Veterans

Does VA Have Programs to Assist Homeless Veterans?

Yes. VA offers the following benefits to assist eligible homeless Veterans:

- Disability benefits
- Education benefits
- Healthcare benefits
- Housing assistance
- Rehabilitation services
- Employment assistance
- Residential care
- Compensated work therapy

For more services and information, visit <https://www.benefits.va.gov/persona/veteran-homeless.asp>.

Benefits and Services Available for Homeless Veterans

Disability Benefits

VA awards more than \$29 billion annually in disability benefits. These benefits support millions of Veterans. Often, these payments are Veterans' main source of income. Receiving these benefits helps prevent homelessness for many Veterans.

Outreach

Staff members at VA regional offices and VA Health Center Network provide care to Veterans across the nation. Veterans can receive care at VA medical centers and

community-based outreach clinics. Vet centers and special homeless programs visit community shelters, agencies and outside areas. This outreach helps thousands of homeless Veterans each year.

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program

This program operates at more than 135 sites. It provides outreach, exams, treatment and referrals to Veterans who are homeless. VA specialists also provide case management to Veterans dealing with mental health issues, including substance abuse. The tools and support the program provides can help homeless Veterans get their lives on a better track.

Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans Program

This program provides medical care and rehabilitation. Care occurs in a residential setting on VA medical center grounds. Eligible ambulatory Veterans are those disabled by medical or psychiatric disorders, injury or age. However, these Veterans must not need hospitalization or nursing home care to be eligible.

Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program

This program provides grants and technical assistance to community-based, non-profit organizations. The grants help Veterans and their families stay in their homes.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and VA Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH)

HUD and VA partner to provide permanent housing and treatment services to homeless Veterans. HUD allocates Housing Choice vouchers across the country. These vouchers allow Veterans and their families to live in market rate rental housing. VA provides case management services during this time. A housing subsidy is paid directly to the landlord by the local public housing authority. The Veteran then pays the difference between the actual rent and the subsidized amount. The case management services help the Veteran attain recovery goals.

Homeless Veterans Supported Employment Program

This program provides vocational assistance, job development and placement. It also provides ongoing support to improve employment outcomes among homeless Veterans and those at risk of homelessness. Formerly homeless Veterans who have been trained as Vocational Rehabilitation Specialists provide these services.

Compensated Work Therapy

This program is comprised of three unique programs to help Veterans return to competitive employment:

- Sheltered Workshop
- Transitional Work
- Supported Employment

Veterans in the CWT program are paid at least the federal or state minimum wage — whichever is higher.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment VetSuccess Program

This program assists Veterans with service-connected disabilities. It helps them prepare for, find and keep suitable jobs. Services include:

- Comprehensive rehabilitation evaluation to determine abilities, skills and interests
- Employment services
- Assistance finding and keeping a job
- On-the-job training
- Apprenticeship
- Non-paid work experiences

Acquired Property Sales for Homeless Providers Program

This program allows homeless provider organizations to purchase available properties. VA obtained these properties through foreclosures on VA-insured mortgages. Properties can be purchased at a discount rate of 20 to 50 percent. Some of the properties are available for lease.

How Can You Get More Information?

To connect with any of the above services, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-4AID-VET (877-424-3838). The hotline is free and available 24/7. You do not need a VA registration or VA healthcare to use this service.