



New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS)



Serving Those Who Served

Mission Statement

Build healthier communities by connecting all Veterans and their families to the highest quality care, services, and eligible benefits through advocacy and collaboration.

Vision Statement

All Veterans and their families are educated about and have an opportunity to attain all earned benefits through collaborative and synchronized efforts of all community service organizations.

Core Services & Programs

State Benefits: Manages state Veterans' benefits, memorials, and state cemeteries.

Benefits include:

- New Mexico state park/museum passes
- Veteran license plates
- Veteran property tax exemptions
- Education scholarships
- Veteran property tax waivers
- Discounted hunting and fishing licenses

Operates State Veterans Cemeteries:

- Gallup State Veterans Cemetery
- Angel Fire State Veterans Cemetery
- Fort Stanton State Veterans Cemetery & Fort Stanton Historical Merchant Marine Cemetery
- Taos State Veterans Cemetery (Projected to open in FY26)

Additionally, State Benefits operates the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Angel Fire including a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall. We administer the National Guard and Reserve Burial Equity Act, allowing state Veterans' cemeteries to provide an honored final resting place for qualified National Guard members, Reservists and their qualified dependents. We oversee the Forgotten Heroes Burial Program for unclaimed or indigent Veterans, and the State Veterans' Funeral Honors Program which trains and supports 32 Veteran Service Organizations Funeral Honors Teams statewide.

Field Services: Provides direct support to Veterans and their eligible dependents through comprehensive benefits counseling and claims assistance. Accredited Field Service Officers prepare and submit claims directly to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in accordance with Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations. With 20 offices located throughout the state, the division ensures accurate, timely, and ethical representation of Veterans' claims while promoting equitable access to earned benefits across all New Mexico communities.

Healthcare Coordination: Educates Veterans about available health benefits and connects them to community resources. We oversee transportation programs funded by both VA and the state, ensuring Veterans have access to medical appointments. The program also manages homeless assistance services, suicide prevention initiatives, and social work support to advocate for Veterans' well-being and overall care.

Women Veterans' Program (WVP): Provides dedicated support and advocacy to ensure women Veterans and their families receive high-quality services. The WVP conducts outreach to educate women Veterans about available federal and state benefits and actively champions equitable access to all programs and services for Veterans.

Veteran Tribal Liaison: Serves as the NMDVS key point of contact, fostering relationships and building new connections across New Mexico's Pueblos, Nations, and Tribes. We are committed to empowering Native American Veterans through improving access to resources and strengthening advocacy efforts.

State Approving Agency (SAA): State Approving Agency (SAA): Reviews, evaluates, and approves eligible programs at educational institutions and training establishments in New Mexico for those individuals wishing to enroll and utilize their GI Bill® education benefits. In addition, to help ensure institutions remain in compliance, the SAA conducts supervisory, technical assistance, and risk-based surveys.

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at <https://benefits.va.gov/gibill>.

Veteran Business Outreach Center (VBOC): Supports Veterans, reserve component members, their eligible spouses, and widows/widowers with business planning, funding, marketing, and other essential resources to start or grow a business. VBOC offers Boots to Business and Reboot programs, equipping transitioning service members and Veterans with foundational knowledge to explore business ownership. VBOC also provides mentorship, training, and networking opportunities to enhance entrepreneurial success.

Administrative Services: Provides essential support services for NMDVS. Ensures effective and efficient financial administration, contract and procurement processes, official recordkeeping, policy implementation, resource management, Human Resources, IT support, compliance and risk management, and facilities management.

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 **Instagram:** [newmexicoVeterans](https://www.instagram.com/newmexicoVeterans)

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