

# NYC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

## VETERANS RESOURCE GUIDE

**Mission:** The NYC Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) connects, mobilizes, and empowers New York City's Veteran community to foster purpose-driven lives for service members – past and present – in addition to their caregivers, survivors, and families.

### Connect to Services

DVS connects NYC's Veterans to services from our partner organizations through the VetConnectNYC platform. DVS Care Coordinators receive all requests made through VetConnectNYC and process them within 3-5 business days. Visit [VetConnectNYC.org](http://VetConnectNYC.org) to learn more.

### Housing

#### Veteran Peer Coordinators

Veteran Peer Coordinators (VPCs) support Veterans facing housing insecurity by:

- helping to find affordable housing
- identifying apartments Veterans are eligible for
- providing transportation to and from apartment viewings
- ensuring Veterans have rental subsidies

#### Housing Coordination Center

Our Housing Coordination Center (HCC) team works to increase the supply of housing available to Veterans facing housing insecurity. The HCC also finds brokers and landlords who are looking to house Veterans.

#### Aftercare & Eviction Prevention

DVS provides aftercare support to ensure that recently housed Veterans can stay in their new homes. Assistance includes:

- regular check-in calls
- referrals to community partners
- rental arrear and mediation for both the landlord and the tenant

#### HUD-VASH Continuum Program

DVS co-administers a rental subsidy program with NYCHA to help disconnected Veterans access to HUD-VASH Section 8.

### Community Wellness

#### Mission: VetCheck

Through Mission: VetCheck, volunteers make check-in calls to Veterans across NYC to provide information on public services and mental health resources. Volunteer with Mission: VetCheck or request a check-in call for yourself or a Veteran you know: [nyc.gov/missionvetcheck](http://nyc.gov/missionvetcheck).

### Community Recognition

#### Final Honors Program

DVS provides eligible indigent and unclaimed Veterans dignified burials at a national cemetery: [nyc.gov/vetburials](http://nyc.gov/vetburials)

### Benefits

#### DVS Claims Unit

The DVS Claims Unit is a newly accredited team formed to help Veterans, service members, and their families get the benefits they deserve. The DVS Claims Unit provides quality assistance, advocacy, and guidance in the preparation, presentation, and packaging of VA benefit claims for submission and review by the Veterans Administration. The Claims Unit also helps Veterans understand what VA benefits they may be eligible for based on their service. For assistance with your VA benefit claim, please fill out the form at [VetConnectNYC.org](http://VetConnectNYC.org) and select "Benefit Navigation" as your preferred service.

### Employment

#### VetConnectPro

VetConnectPro is an employment tool designed to help Veterans find employment, professional mentorship, and resources to advance their careers. VetConnectPro features the following tools to help Veterans land a great job in NYC:

- military skills translator
- a dashboard with NYC gov job postings
- information on civil service exams
- recommended online job training

Create or upload your resume: [nyc.gov/vetconnectpro](http://nyc.gov/vetconnectpro).

### Business Support

#### VeteranBizNYC

VetBizNYC is an online interactive map to make it easier for New Yorkers to find and support Veteran-Owned Businesses (VOBs) in their community. Find a VOB in your or add your business to the map: [nyc.gov/vetbiznyc](http://nyc.gov/vetbiznyc).

### Oral History

#### Veteran Voices Project

The Veteran Voices Project (VVP) is an oral history initiative to preserve the stories of NYC's Veterans: [nyc.gov/vetvoices](http://nyc.gov/vetvoices).

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DVS is working to support NYC's Veterans and their families. If you would like to learn more about the following services, visit [nyc.gov/vets](http://nyc.gov/vets) or contact DVS at [connect@veterans.nyc.gov](mailto:connect@veterans.nyc.gov) or 212-416-5250.

### Education

#### Veterans on Campus

The Veterans on Campus initiative helps colleges adopt best practices that ensure student Veterans successfully transition to civilian life.

### Legal Services

As of 2017, service members and Veterans are a protected class in New York City. If you feel you have been discriminated against based on your military status, you can file a complaint with the Commission on Human Rights. For legal services, including discharge upgrades, DVS can connect you to resources through the City Bar Justice Center's Veteran Assistance Project. The Project provides low-income Veterans with pro bono assistance. To get connected, call 877-564-3383. DVS, through its Discharge Upgrade Assistance Legal Services (DUALS) program, is awarding 1.5 million dollars over the next three years to non-profit legal organizations assisting Veterans challenging their discharge statuses due to actual or perceived sexual orientation, PTSD, MST, or other issues that affect service records. To learn more, call 212-416-5250.

### Professional Mentorship

#### Service2Service

DVS partnered with NYCService to launch Service2Service, a mentorship program that connects NYC government employees with Veterans interested in careers in public service.

### Health and Wellness

#### Mental Health First Aid

DVS co-created a Veteran-specific version of the Mental Health First Aid training, designed to address Veterans' mental health needs. To register for a Mental Health First Aid course call 212-416-5250.

### Entrepreneurship

#### Certify Your Business

Contact [business@veterans.nyc.gov](mailto:business@veterans.nyc.gov) to learn how to get certified as a Veteran-owned Emerging Business Enterprise or Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise.

### Stay Informed

#### Weekly Newsletter

DVS delivers a weekly newsletter to keep NYC Veterans informed about the latest news impacting their community. The newsletter includes updates on City services, information on DVS programs, Veteran-specific resources, and a rundown of virtual Veteran events. To sign up for our newsletter, email [connect@veterans.nyc.gov](mailto:connect@veterans.nyc.gov) or use your phone to scan this QR code:



### Stay Connected

#### Follow Us on Social Media

Keep up with DVS on social media by following @nycveterans on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

### Multimedia

#### Listen to the DVS Podcast: SITREP NYC

DVS's podcast, SITREP NYC, provides a deep dive into the issues that impact Veterans and their families.



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