



WELCOME HOME

Operation Iraqi/Enduring Freedom Veterans and Service Members

Now it is VA's Turn to Serve



Ensuring a Seamless Transition

- We are honored to welcome all veterans and military service members who have recently returned from serving during our current combat operations such as Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).
- We are committed to helping make each service member's transition from active duty military status to civilian life as smooth and seamless as possible.
- The VA provides combat veterans with free health care for conditions potentially related to their combat service for up to two years following their separation from active duty. At the end of the two-year period, veterans will retain enrollment eligibility. Co-pay status will be determined based on individual circumstances.

Eligibility

The primary factor in determining basic eligibility for VA benefits is "veteran status."

- Active duty in the Armed Forces with a discharge or release from active service under conditions other than dishonorable conditions establishes veteran status
- Reservist or National Guard members can establish eligibility for VA healthcare benefits only if the President activated them for federal duty.
- Reservists who are never called to active duty may qualify for some benefits through the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA).

Online Enrollment

In order to receive health care benefits a veteran must enroll. You may enroll online at the VA site: www.va.gov. Click on the "Health" icon. Next, click "Returning Service Members." Then locate "To apply for health benefits online." This will open the electronic application for VA 10-10EZ.

Services Available

- Primary medical care
- Specialty medical care
- Surgery care services
- Rehabilitation care
- Mental health assessment and referrals
- Transitional and readjustment counseling
- Post deployment briefings
- Female veteran health care
- Patient health care advocacy
- Patient health care information
- Combat stress information
- Referral to substance abuse treatment
- Referral for individual and family counseling
- Information and referral to veteran employment assistance.
- Information / referral to Vet Readjustment Center

Program Manager

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Program Case Managers

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Transition Patient Advocate

Richard Ivy, Transition Patient Advocate
(314) 289-7634 (314) 289-6597 Fax

PTSD Program

Christina Fagan, MSW, LCSW
(314) 894-6417

Julie Mastnak, PhD
(314) 894-6417

James Cannon, MD
(314) 894-6417

Polytrauma Rehab

Erin Hullinger, MSW
(314) 894-6415

Meredith Melinder, PhD
(314) 894-6415

The National Suicide Prevention Hotline

1(800)273-TALK (8255)

Community Based Outpatient Clinic

Belleville

(800) 228-5459 x 5-6988

St. Charles

(800) 228-5459 x 5-6988

Missouri Veterans Home

(800) 228-5459 x 5-6988

Eligibility Questions

Aaron Johnson / Merdis Henderson

(314) 289-6412 (314) 289-7060 Fax

Minority Veterans Coordinator

Elizabeth Jenkins, MSW, LCSW
(314)-289-6476

Local Service Organizations:

American Legion (AL)

314-552-9884

American Veterans (AMVETS)

314-552-9888

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

314-552-9883

Military Order of the Purple Heart (PH)

314-552-9746

Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC)

314-552-9885

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

314-552-9886

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)

314-552-9887

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