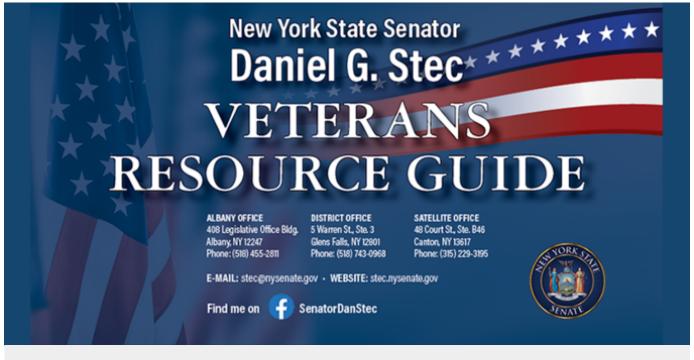


New York State Senator Daniel G. Stec's Veterans Resource Guide

DANIEL G. STEC November 1, 2023

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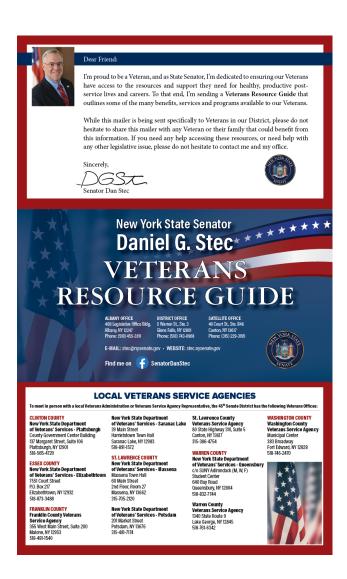
Senator Stec's Veterans Resource Guide

I'm proud to be a Veteran, and as State Senator, I'm dedicated to ensuring our Veterans have access to the resources and support they need for healthy, productive postservice lives and careers.

To that end, I'm sending a Veterans Resource Guide that outlines some of the many benefits, services and programs available to our Veterans.

While this mailer is being sent specifically to Veterans in our District, please do not hesitate to share this mailer with any Veteran or their family that could benefit from this information.

If you need any help accessing these resources, or need help with any other legislative issue, please do not hesitate to contact me and my office.



VETERANS RESOURCES

TALK TO A BENEFITS ADVISOR OR RECEIVE CLAIMS ASSISTANCE

Do you need assistance managing benefits? Are you unsure of what services you may be eligible for? Schedule an appointment with one of the State's Veterans Benefits Advisors, all of whom are Veterans themselves.

You can call **1-888-838-7697** to speak to an advisor, or visit **veterans.ny.gov** to schedule a phone or video consultation online, or search to find a Services Office near you.

JOSEPH P. DWYER PEER-TO-PEER VETERANS' SUPPORT PROGRAM

Created in 2012, the Joseph P. Dwyer Peer-to-Peer Veterans' Support Program supports Veterans who are transitioning from military service to civilian life and facing challenges related to PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and depression. Currently, the State provides funding for Dwyer programs in more than 20 counties. To learn more about the Joseph P. Dwyer Program, contact your local Veterans Services office.

DISABILITY COMPENSATION

Disability compensation is available to Veterans injured during active-duty military service or who have a pre-existing disability that worsened during their active-duty service. Common examples include:

- Hearing loss or tinnitus (ringing or buzzing sounds in your ears) after exposure to loud noises without adequate hearing protection.
- Chronic pain and/or loss of range of motion in your back, shoulders, hips, arms, legs, feet or hands because of marching long distances while carrying heavy packs or weighted Items.
- Nightmares, flashbacks to your time in service, challenges in crowded places, or frequent fears from exposure to stressful environments or situations.

For those eligible and approved, you receive a tax-free monthly disability compensation payment from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

To learn more about eligibility and how to apply, visit **veterans.ny.gov/disability-compensation**.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND RESOURCES

From federal scholarships and work-study programs to State initiatives, there are a host of continuing education opportunities available to Veterans and their families. Learn more at veterans.ny.gov/education or call 1-888-838-7697.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

There are three different property tax exemptions available to Veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces:

- Alternative Veterans' Exemption
- · Cold War Veterans' Exemption
- Eligible Funds Exemption

The exemption applies to county, city, town, and village taxes. Exemptions may apply to school district taxes.

Obtaining a Veterans' exemption is not automatic. If you're an eligible Veteran, you must submit the initial exemption application form to your assessor. The deadline in most communities is March 1 — please confirm the date with your assessor. To learn more, call 1-888-38-7697 or visit veterans.ny.gov/property-tax-exemptions-veterans.

HOUSING

There are several programs available that provide housing assistance and low-interest housing loans for Veterans. If you know a homeless Veteran, or are a Veteran at imminent risk of homelessness, I strongly encourage you to contact the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-4VETAID (877-424-3838) for assistance.

For more information on available housing support for Veterans, visit **veterans.ny.gov/housing** or call **1-888-838-7697**.

