

Benefits for Veterans and Spouses

Many veterans and spouses are not aware of the numerous federal, state and local benefits available to them . Listed below are some of the benefits available . If you have any questions on any of these benefits please call Mike Halus at 828-260-0620 . Mike is a certified Veterans Service Officer with Disabled American Veterans.

Social Security (SS)

1. Confirm SS has your recorded military service time to increase monthly payments if served active duty between 1940-2001. SS based on 35 years of highest earnings Tel 800-772-1213

Veterans Administration

2. Local VA hospital is one of the best in the nation. Telephone # 828 298-7911.
3. Admission to VA health care. Do not apply. It is better to submit a claim. If VA says you have a service connection you are automatically in the VA health care system. Monthly tax free compensation up to \$3,000 for service connected disability.
4. Veteran's ID card available for any Veteran from VA call 844 698-2311. This card does not provide access to VA Health Care – only proves person is a veteran.
5. VA Health Care: free hearing aids and eye glasses and annual physical, special Veterans Health Registry available to those exposed to agent orange and nuclear radiation, VA will pay urgent care and emergency room expenses for life threatening event if in VA health system, VA Prosthetic and Sensory Aids
6. VA payment of Urgent Care. If you need urgent care and are covered by VA Health Care, you can go to local Urgent Care, confirm they are on contract to local VA Hospital, and get treatment at either no cost or small co-pay.
7. Asheville VA hospital will provide free transportation for vets who cannot drive for scheduled appointments – call two weeks in advance. 828 298-7911 X2916
8. Death of Veteran. Burial, financial, grave marker, and compensation for widow if service connected (DIC). Now survivor can receive both Survivor Benefit Plan of retiree and DIC.
9. VA Compensation Claims, Temporary 100% disability. Camp Lejeune water Aug 1953-Dec 1987. VA disability over 30% able to get increased compensation for spouse. If service connected situation gets worse – file. File for Secondary claims.
10. TeleHealth and VideoHealth with VA. Google for details. Provided by local VA hospital.
11. Service Dogs. For Veterans diagnosed as having visual, hearing or substantial mobility impairments and whose care will be enhanced through a guide or service dog.
12. VA presumptive illnesses for Agent Orange and Camp Lejeune.
13. Honorable Discharged Vets shop at Military Exchanges in stores and on line. Tax savings.