

6/4/2014



## **Veterans Health Administration Eligibility & How To Enroll with the Washington DC VA Medical Center**

In order to receive health care, homeless and employment services at the DC VAMC/CRRC, veterans must be eligible for VHA services and enrolled with the Washington DC VA Medical Center.

### **Basic Eligibility:**

If you served in the active military, naval or air service and are separated under any condition other than dishonorable, you may qualify for VA health care benefits. (Ex. Honorable Discharge, General Discharge, Other than Honorable (can be upgraded to VA Honorable)).

Current and former members of the Reserves or National Guard who were called to active duty (other than for training only) by a federal order and completed the full period for which they were called or ordered to active duty may be eligible for VA health care as well.

### **Minimum Duty Requirements:**

Most Veterans who enlisted after September 7, 1980, or entered active duty after October 16, 1981, must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which they were called to active duty in order to be eligible.

In general, veterans who enlisted before September 7, 1980 must have 90 days active duty service.

This minimum duty requirement may not apply to Veterans who were discharged for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, discharged for a hardship, or received an "early out."

***Since there are a number of other exceptions to the minimum duty requirements, VA encourages all Veterans to apply in order to determine their enrollment eligibility.***

## How to Enroll with the Washington DC VAMC:

In order to enroll with the Washington DC VA Medical Center, veterans must complete an [Application for Health Care Benefits](https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/) (<https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>)

The veteran can either complete the form online, print and mail it, or submit it in person.

- **Online:**

The online application can be accessed at:

<https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/Form/1010ez.pdf>

If the veteran completes the online application, the VAMC staff will attempt to locate the DD214 (discharge paperwork) for the veteran and typically will respond to the veteran within 3 weeks to inform the veteran of his/her eligibility.

- **By Mail:**

The veteran can also print the form and mail it to the VAMC at:

VA Medical Center  
Eligibility Unit (08E)  
50 Irving Street N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20422

<https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>

- **In Person:**

The veteran can also bring the form to the Medical Center. The Eligibility Office is located in the main lobby 1st Floor, Room 1B100.

**If the veteran mails or brings in the application in person, he/she should also bring the following items (if applicable):**

- a copy of both sides of your current insurance card (including Medicare or Medicaid)
- a copy of your DD214, 'Armed Forces Report of Transfer or Discharge'

- (Purple Heart recipients only) a copy of your award letter if 'Purple Heart' is not noted on your DD214

### **How to Access Documents:**

- The Veteran can access his/her **DD214** by filling out the following online application (below). The veteran should have access to a printer as the form will need to be signed and mailed to the location designated on the form.
- The DD214 typically takes about 3 weeks to arrive in the mail.  
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>
- The veterans may also be able to enroll using his/her **Statement of Service** in lieu of the DD214. Veterans can access their statement of service by walking into the VA Regional Office at 1722 I Street NW and can get it printed out the same day. Veterans can also request the DD214 at 1722 I Street NW and will receive it in the mail.

### **Contacts for additional questions:**

#### **DC VA eligibility office:**

202-745-8000 ext 56333.

(50 Irving Street NW WDC)

The best time to call or come in is early in the morning.

#### **DC Homeless Outreach (HCHV)**

Comfort Attaochu 202-636-7667

Ilana Marmon 202-636-7668

(1500 Franklin Street NE):