

## VETERANS CEMETERY



The State of Idaho currently has one State Veterans Cemetery. This cemetery is located at 10100 Horseshoe Bend Road, Boise Idaho & can be reached at 208-577-2330, or by email [cemetery@Veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:cemetery@Veterans.idaho.gov). Pre-registration forms are available.

### BURIAL BENEFITS

Eligibility for interment in the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery mirrors National Veterans Cemetery eligibility requirements. There is no requirement to be a resident of the State of Idaho. Interment fees for eligible Veterans are paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Associated funeral expenses and preparation are not included and are incurred by the Veteran's family or estate. Veterans and families are able to choose:

- A columbarium niche, cremation inurnment that includes an inscribed, granite niche cover;
- An in-ground, garden niche, cremation inurnment that includes a flush-to-the-ground inscribed, granite marker;
- A scattering garden, set in a natural draw of the Boise foothills, that includes a location for an inscribed marker in memory of the deceased;
- A full casket, in-ground interment that includes an inscribed, upright granite marker.

Military Funeral Honors are coordinated by the Cemetery. Honors include the playing of Taps, folding of the flag and its presentation to the next-of-kin. An Honor Guard detail of at least two members of the Armed Services is provided for the interment service of the eligible Veteran.

### PRE-REGISTRATION

Pre-registration allows a Veteran and spouse to establish in advance, their eligibility for interment at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery. There is no cost for pre-registration and it does not obligate the Veteran to be interred at the Cemetery. Pre-registration is intended to simplify and assist the Veteran's next-of-kin at the time of death. The key items for pre-registration are a copy of the Veteran's discharge papers and, for married Veterans, a copy of the marriage certificate.

### HOW MUCH DOES THE VA PAY?

**Service-Related Death.** VA will pay up to \$2,000 toward burial expenses for deaths on or after September 11, 2001. VA will pay up to \$1,500 for deaths prior to September 10, 2001. If the Veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of transporting the deceased may be reimbursed.

**Nonservice-Related Death.** VA will pay up to \$300\* toward burial and funeral expenses, and a \$300\* plot-interment allowance for deaths on or after December 1, 2001. The plot-interment allowance is \$150 for deaths prior to December 1, 2001. If the death happened while the Veteran was in a VA hospital or under VA contracted nursing home care, some or all of the costs for transporting the deceased's remains may be reimbursed. (\*increases to this amount are pending in congress)

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

BOISE VETERANS HOME	208-334-5000
LEWISTON VETERANS HOME	208-799-3422
POCATELLO VETERANS HOME	208-236-6340
OFFICE VETERANS ADVOCACY	208-577-2300 Boise 208-799-5084 Lewiston 208-236-6358 Pocatello
VETERANS CEMETERY	208-577-2330
VA HOSPITAL-BOISE	208-422-1000
VA HOSPITAL-SALT LAKE	800-613-4012
VA HOSPITAL-SPOKANE	800-325-7940
VA HOSPITAL-WALLA WALLA	888-687-8863
CALDWELL CLINIC	208-454-4820
LEWISTON CLINIC	208-746-7784
TWIN FALLS CLINIC	208-732-0947
POCATELLO CLINIC	208-232-6214
COEUR D'ALENE CLINIC	208-665-1700
SALMON CLINIC	208-756-8515
IDAHO DIV VETERAN SERVICES	208-577-2310
VA REGIONAL OFFICE	1-800-827-1000
VA HOME LOAN	1-888-244-6711 <b>OR</b> 1-888-349-7541
VA DIRECT DEPOSIT	1-877-838-2778
VA VOC REHAB-BOISE	208-334-1063
VETERANS EDUCATION-GI BILL	208-577-2298

TO OBTAIN A DD-214:

[www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html)



## BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO IDAHO VETERANS

Division of Veterans Services

351 COLLINS ROAD  
BOISE ID 83702  
Phone: 208-577-2310  
Fax: 208-577-2311  
Email: [www.idaho.veterans.gov](http://www.idaho.veterans.gov)

## EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS:

Veterans hiring preference closely mirrors the rules within the Federal Government. Specific Information can be found in Idaho Statute Title 65, Chapter 5.

### General Information:

Idaho Law provides Veterans preference points for individuals who have been in active service, other than active duty for training, of the United States as defined by Idaho Code, Title 65, Chapter 5, Section 502(6), & U.S.C Section 2108. (See specific eligibility information below). Veterans preference points are also provided for individuals who have served on active duty in the armed services, have been discharged honorably, & who have a present service connected disability of 10% or more, or are a Purple Heart recipient. Veterans preference points are added to the final passing score & may improve a Veterans position on a list of qualified candidates. The preference points added are used only for initial appointment & not for promotions, transfers, or reassignments. Veterans preference requires public employers to provide additional consideration for eligible Veterans, but it does not guarantee the Veteran a job.

### Who is Eligible

To be eligible for Veterans preference points you must have been discharged under honorable conditions. Veterans preference points are available on the initial hire only.

### Preference Points

**5 points:** Preference eligible Veterans discharged under honorable conditions, or the widow or widower of a preference eligible Veteran, as long as she or he remains unmarried, are eligible for five (5) preference points.

**10 points:** Disabled Veterans are defined as any individual who has served on active duty in the armed services at any time, who has been discharged under honorable conditions, & who has a present service connected disability of 10% or more or are Purple Heart recipients. They are eligible for 10 points that will be added to the earned rating & shall be placed on the register in accordance with their augmented rating. Widows or widowers of any disabled Veteran or Purple Heart recipient honorably discharged may also claim the 10 points if he or she remains unmarried. Spouses of



## EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONT)

disabled Veterans may claim preference if the Veteran is unable to qualify for any public employment because of a service-connected disability.

**10 points with offer of interview:** Disabled Veterans discharged under honorable conditions who served on active duty in the armed forces at any time & who have a service connected disability of 30% or more shall be offered an interview if they are one (1) of the top ten (10) qualified applicants. Widows or widowers of any disabled Veteran may also claim the 10 points if he or she remains unmarried -- however they will not be guaranteed an interview if he or she is one (1) of the top ten (10) qualified applicants.

### Preference Eligible Veterans:

Served on active duty in the armed forces at any time, & separated under honorable conditions & has established the existence of a service-connected disability of 10% or more; **OR**

are Purple Heart recipients; **OR**

Served on active duty at any time from December 7, 1941 & ending July 1, 1955; **OR**

Served on active duty for 180 consecutive days, any part of which occurred after January 31, 1955, & before October 15, 1976; **OR**

Served on active duty at any time from August 2, 1990, & ending on January 2, 1992; **OR**

Served on active duty for a period of more than 180 consecutive days, any part of which occurred during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, & ending when prescribed by Presidential proclamation or by law as the last date of Operation Iraqi Freedom; **OR**

Have been awarded an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM), whether listed here or not\*\*, is qualified for Veterans preference. Examples of some of the most common campaign medals are: Vietnam (Service Medal), El Salvador, Lebanon, Granada, Panama, Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Southwest Asia (Persian Gulf), Somalia, & Haiti; **OR** if you are the spouse of

## RECREATIONAL FEES:



### Admission to Parks:

[http://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks/passes\\_fees\\_regulations.aspx](http://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks/passes_fees_regulations.aspx)

Idaho resident Veterans who are **100%** permanent & total service related disabled receive the following:

The basic fee for a campsite in which the Veteran is camping will be waived. This waiver does not include specific fees for hookups, reservations, group accommodations, etc.

### **Free Motorized Vehicle Entrance to our parks.**

Parks will issue qualified Veterans a current vehicle passport free of charge. If the Veteran wishes to purchase a permit for a second vehicle, they may do so for \$5.

Effective January 1, 2009, a three-year pilot fee discount program will provide a waiver of campsite fees to any Idaho resident who is a disabled veteran and whose service-related disability is rated at 50% to 90% permanent and total disability. A waiver of fees for those at one hundred (100) percent disabled is already in force,

Disabled Idaho Veterans will need to show one of the following types of identification to receive their discounts, 1) A card issued for medical reasons by the Veterans Administration showing that the Veteran's disability is 100% service related. 2) A letter from the Veterans Administration that the Veteran's disability is 100% service related. 3) A disabled Veteran license plate on their vehicle that has been issued by the Idaho Transportation Department.

### Hunting & Fishing Licenses:

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/about/offices/>

**Disabled American Veterans Combination Hunting & Fishing License: \$ 5.00** Letter from Veterans Affairs office showing a percentage of disability, letter or statement from Veterans Affairs office showing individual is nonservice-connected pension or a service-connected benefit with at least 40% disability.

**Military Furlough Combination Hunting/Fishing: \$17.50** Idaho residents who are in the U.S. military service, & maintain Idaho as their official state of residence as noted on the individuals LES statement may purchase this license when on leave. LES must be presented to purchase this license.

**Disabled American Veterans Fishing License: \$ 5.00** Letter from Veterans Affairs office showing a percentage of disability, letter or statement from Veterans Affairs office showing individual is non service connected pension or a service-connected benefit with at least 40% disability.

**Military Furlough Fishing: \$ 17.50** Idaho residents who are in the U.S. military service and maintain Idaho as their official state of residence as noted on the individuals LES statement may purchase this license when on leave. LES must be presented to purchase this license.



## IDAHO STATE VETERANS HOMES

There are three (3) Skilled Nursing Facilities in Idaho for Veterans, all of which are Medicare and Medicaid certified. Honorably discharged Veterans and their spouses (who require skilled nursing care) are eligible for admission to the nursing homes. Spouses are not eligible for admission to the residential/domiciliary unit at the Boise home. There are limits to the number of spouses that can be residing in a home at any given time.



**The Pocatello Home offers:**  
66 beds for Skilled Nursing

### POCATELLO HOME

1957 Alvin Ricken Drive  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
208-236-6340

[pocatello@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:pocatello@veterans.idaho.gov)



**The Lewiston Home offers:**  
66 beds for Skilled Nursing

### LEWISTON HOME

821 21st Avenue  
Lewiston, ID 83501  
208-799-3422

[lewiston@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:lewiston@veterans.idaho.gov)



**The Boise Home offers:**

131 beds Skilled Nursing  
36 beds Residential Unit  
Special Care Unit

### BOISE HOME

320 Collins Road  
Boise, ID 83702  
208-334-5000

[boise@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:boise@veterans.idaho.gov)



## EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONT)

a disabled Veteran who is physically unable to perform any work; or the widow(er) of a preference eligible or disabled Veteran; please refer to our Veterans preference form in your online application for more information.

Note: The Veteran must have been separated from the Armed Forces under honorable conditions & your DD214 may be requested to verify your Veteran status at time of appointment

\*Reference Idaho Code, Title 65, Chapter 5, Section 502 (6) U.S.C. Section 2108.

\*\*For a complete list of wars, campaigns, & expeditions of the Armed Forces which qualify for Veterans preference, go to [www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vgmedal2.asp](http://www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vgmedal2.asp)

### Veterans Requesting to Open a Register:

**Disabled Veterans:** May be eligible to open a closed announcement for which there is an existing register.

**Other Veterans:** Within 120 days of discharge may also be eligible to open a closed announcement for which there is an existing register.

## EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE:

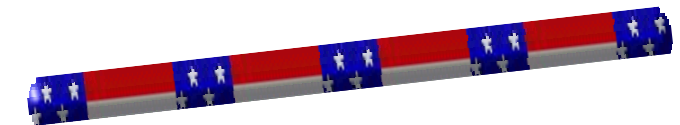


Idaho Department of Labor provides several services to Veterans & active duty military.

1. **Job Priority:** Veterans receive priority in job search assistance and referrals
2. **Priority in Training Programs:** W.I.A., OJT, apprenticeships, etc.
3. **Veterans Representatives:** Veterans trained and dedicated to help Veterans solve employment issues
4. **USERRA assistance:** Referrals to formal and/or informal assistance for Veterans employment and re-employment issues.

**Contact Idaho Department of Labor for more information:**

[www.labor.idaho.gov](http://www.labor.idaho.gov)



## PROFESSIONAL LICENSE

All persons holding occupational or professional licenses issued by the State of Idaho and who are serving in the armed forces of the United States, shall be exempt from the payment of any professional or occupational license or renewal fee required by any law of this state for the period during which such persons shall be engaged in the military services of the United States. And during such period of military service, or service in the auxiliary branches thereof, or servitude and for six (6) months following the discharge from such military service or auxiliary service or servitude in the present war, such license shall remain in good standing without the necessity of renewal and during said period the same shall not be cancelled, suspended or revoked.



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

Provides up to a \$1,000 grant, in cases of extreme emergency, to wartime Veterans in need of assistance. Must have entered the military from Idaho, or lived within the state for at least 5 years. The event or emergency must have occurred within 90 days of the request.

For assistance contact Office of Veterans Advocacy at 208-577-2300.

## VETERANS SPECIALTY LICENSES PLATES



All license plates and registration information can be obtained at : [www.itd.idaho.gov/dmv/online\\_services](http://www.itd.idaho.gov/dmv/online_services)

The following Veterans Specialty Licenses Plates are available through the Idaho Department of Transportation:

- ◆ [DISABLED VETERAN](#)
- ◆ [PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT](#)
- ◆ [CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR](#)
- ◆ [PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR](#)
- ◆ [FORMER PRISONER OF WAR](#)
- ◆ [VETERANS PLATES](#)
- ◆ [MILITARY VETERAN MOTORCYCLE](#)
- ◆ [NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS](#)
- ◆ [MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES RESERVES](#)
- ◆ [GOLD STAR](#)

The Gold Star plate is available for spouses, parents and other immediate family members of military members killed by hostile actions during active military service in a period of war recognized by the US Congress. Surviving spouses and parents of deceased service members will not pay fees for gold star plates. A portion of the fees paid by other qualifying relatives will be used to defray the costs of administering the issuance of the plates at ITD and IDVS. Any remaining fees will be used to provide support programs for veterans. Proof of entitlement must be furnished to the department before plates will be issued. This proof can be provided by a copy of DD214 or equivalent documentation, or a letter from the United States Veterans Administration attesting to veterans status.



## TAX BENEFITS:

**(Prior to claiming any Tax Benefits, individuals are urged to review the current Idaho Tax Code. Tax benefits are based upon specific criterion, & each individual should review their particular situation.)**

Tax Benefits for Veterans are primarily tied to income, & all retirement income is taxable prior to age 65. Disability Income is not taxed.

### **Property Tax Reductions & Exemptions:**

The state has rules allowing low income individuals to reduce their property taxes. These rules are based upon the income earned by the individual in a given year.

**State Tax Exemption:** When stationed outside the State of Idaho, active duty personnel are exempt from Idaho state income tax.

**Retired Military Pay:** Retirement benefits paid by the United States to a retired member of the U.S. Military or the un-remarried widow of such member if the recipient is age 65 or older, or disabled and age 62 or older is deductible. The amount deducted must be reduced by retirement benefits paid under the Federal Social Security Act or the Tier 1 Federal Railroad Retirement Act. The maximum amounts that may be deducted for 2009 are: **MARRIED FILING JOINTLY:** Age 65 or older or age 62 or older and disabled is \$41,814. **SINGLE:** Age 65 or older or age 62 or older and disabled is \$27,876. The amount of deduction varies from year to year.

## EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS:

**Operation Education – University of Idaho** (<http://www.uihome.uidaho.edu/default.aspx?pid=91751>)



The University of Idaho wishes to honor & assist United States military personnel who have sustained severe & permanent injury while serving our nation since September 11, 2001, by providing the opportunity to attain a college degree. Our vision is to create a high quality, caring, learning environment & a sense of community for returning Veterans &/or their spouses.

**Purpose of the scholarship:** The Operation Idaho Scholarship is designed to financially assist severely injured U.S. military personnel &/or their spouses with continuing education. The program will provide needed resources & support to empower returning Veterans &/or their spouses to pursue a degree program at the University of Idaho.

**Resources the program can provide:** In addition to assistance with direct educational costs such as fees, tuition & textbooks, support may be provided for on-campus housing needs, transportation, adaptive equipment, child care, tutoring & accommodative services. When appropriate & given available funding, the program will assist with out-of-pocket medical expenses or other requirements to accommodate the special needs of the recipient. Internships & job placement also will be sought by partnering with America's corporations.

For further information & how to apply, please contact **John Sawyer at the University of Idaho: (208) 885-7979, or email [johns@uidaho.edu](mailto:johns@uidaho.edu).**

**MIA/POW:** Scholarship for children of MIA/POW service member. The service member must be listed as MIA/POW at the time the application is made. For information contact Dept. of Veterans Affairs, 805 W. Franklin St. Boise, ID 83702-5560. Toll Free 1-800-827-1000

**PURPLE HEART:** Scholarship available for a child, step-child, grandchild or great grandchild who is a direct descendant of either (1) A member of the MOPH or (2) A Veteran killed in action or a Veteran who died of wounds, but did not have the opportunity to join MOPH. Application available at [www.purpleheart.org](http://www.purpleheart.org)

**IN-STATE TUITION:** Idaho provides Guardsmen and Reservists who live outside the State of Idaho, but whom serve with an Idaho unit in-state college tuition; resident student status to veterans (and in some circumstances their dependents) who move to Idaho for the purpose of establishing domicile within Idaho; and a scholarship for dependents of Idaho's members of the military service who are disabled (totally and permanently from any employment) as a result of injuries incurred while engaged in the conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan.