State Benefits for Mississippi Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors

2019-2020
OUR MISSION

To honor Mississippi Veterans and their dependents through superior service, care, & assistance.
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MISSISSIPPI STATE
Veterans Affairs Board

James H. Garner
CHAIRMAN | BILOXI, FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Mendal G. Kemp
VICE-CHAIRMAN | MADISON, AT LARGE

Deborah Walley Coleman
MADISON, AT LARGE

David H. McElreath
OXFORD, FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

George E. Irvin, Sr.
JACKSON, SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Michael J. McGrevey
DECATUR, THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

James (Max) Fenn, Jr.
SUMMIT, FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Stacey E. Pickering
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dusty Culpepper
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OUTREACH

Joseph Hemleben
CHIEF OF STAFF
For 95 years, Mississippi Veterans Affairs has continued the tradition of connecting our local veterans with the benefits they deserve. As Executive Director, it is an honor to serve alongside a great team who honor our Mississippi heroes through superior service, care, and assistance every day.

Mississippi Veterans Affairs was established to care for the nearly 196,000 veterans currently living in our state. Last year, our agency connected over 30,000 veterans statewide with service-related benefits.

We are working to grow and expand our digital services to help veterans gain better and faster access to information. We also continue to support our veteran business owners as they grow and prosper in their local communities.

The hallmark of our service in Mississippi remains our four state veterans nursing homes, where we currently serve over 600 veterans. I am proud to work with our nursing home staff who provide them with compassionate, specialized care.

Our veterans cemeteries, located in Newton and Kilmichael, are also points of pride. It is an honor for Mississippi Veterans Affairs to have provided over 1,000 veterans and their families a resting place of peace, dignity, and respect.

As a chaplain in the Mississippi Air National Guard, I am committed to providing our veterans and their families with the support they deserve. After 95 years of service, Mississippi Veterans Affairs aims to continue moving veteran care forward. And on behalf of the 600 men and women of the MSVA, we say thank you to all who served.

Stacey E. Pickering
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
In 1924 the Mississippi Legislature recognized that World War I Veterans needed assistance to obtain Veterans’ benefits. This resulted in legislation which created and funded the office of State Service Commissioner. The duties and functions of the office were to aid all residents of Mississippi who served in the military forces of the United States during any war and their dependents and beneficiaries so that they would receive all benefits to which they were entitled under the laws of the United States.

The State Service Commissioner’s office was not adequately staffed to provide the level of case work assistance necessary for the five-fold increase in the population of Veterans brought on by World War II. In 1948, the Legislature changed the State Service Commission to the State Veterans Affairs Board (SVAB) to provide additional manpower and assistance for the increasing number of Veterans and dependents. In 2019, the agency’s name was formally changed to Mississippi Veterans Affairs.

Mississippi Veterans Affairs (MSVA) is charged with assisting former and current members of the Armed Forces of the United States and their dependents in securing any benefits or privileges to which they are entitled. The agency operates the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery, the four Mississippi State Veterans Nursing Homes, approving programs and institutions of education and training under the GI Bill, and advises the governor and legislature on Veterans’ affairs.

**MILITARY RECORDS**

The MSVA stores copies of military discharge documents (DD214’s & DD215s) when received.

- Recently released military personnel must request that their discharge documents be sent to Mississippi by listing it on their military release.
- WWII draft cards are stored electronically, however the discharges are not. If the necessary information is located in the WWII Discharge Index, the MSVA may issue a MS State Certified Certificate.
- Korean War and Vietnam War records were received and stored electronically depending on personal information that was submitted at time of service.

The MSVA does not have access to all Military Records but will help to obtain records when possible.
**STATE APPROVING AGENCY**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cathy M. Jones</td>
<td>660 North Street • Jackson, MS 39206</td>
<td>(601) 576-4867</td>
<td>(601) 576-4870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Post Office Box 5947 • Pearl, MS 39288-5947</td>
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The State Approving Agency inspects and approves new programs of education and training at Institutions of Higher Learning, Community and Junior Colleges, Vocational-Technical Schools, Flight Schools, On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship programs for GI Bill education eligibility. If you have questions concerning a school or a training program being approved to teach Veterans, Reservists, and Dependents under the GI Bill, please contact the State Approving Agency.

If you have questions concerning eligibility, please contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-888-442-4551.

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**STATE VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERIES**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marcus Lawson</td>
<td>Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery</td>
<td>(601) 683-2959</td>
<td>(601) 683-2958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>248 Honor Circle • Newton, MS 39345</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>North Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery</td>
<td>(662) 262-4232</td>
<td>(662) 262-4241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Legion Road • Kilmichael, MS 39747</td>
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Both Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemeteries are open for in-ground burials and accepts cremains for both in-ground or columbarium interment. The cemetery in Newton is located approximately three (3) miles east of Newton on Highway 80. The cemetery in Kilmichael is located on Highway 82 west. Veterans, their spouses and eligible dependent children can be buried in a Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery at no cost unless the burial involves re-interment from another cemetery. The VA provides a free grave marker and perpetual care is provided at no cost. Contact your funeral director or the office of the cemetery of choice for information.
STATE VETERANS OUTREACH SERVICE OFFICERS

Mississippi Veterans Affairs has placed trained VSO's throughout the state to aid both Veterans, Veteran Service Officers, and Congressional Representatives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Officer</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hernando</td>
<td>Robert Peeler</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rpeeler@msva.ms.gov">rpeeler@msva.ms.gov</a> (662) 449-2811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSU Starkville</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Vacant (662) 325-6867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSU Cleveland</td>
<td>Jerry Wiley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jwiley@msva.ms.gov">jwiley@msva.ms.gov</a> (662) 846-4613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSU Meridian</td>
<td>Tommy Strickland</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tstrickland@msva.ms.gov">tstrickland@msva.ms.gov</a> (601) 484-0205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USM Long Beach</td>
<td>Glenn Robinson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:grobinson@msva.ms.gov">grobinson@msva.ms.gov</a> (228) 214-3362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tupelo</td>
<td>Cathy Adams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cadams@msva.ms.gov">cadams@msva.ms.gov</a> (662) 840-2480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UM Oxford</td>
<td>Will Mobley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wmobley@msva.ms.gov">wmobley@msva.ms.gov</a> (662) 915-2045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USM Hattiesburg</td>
<td>Teddy Reed</td>
<td><a href="mailto:treed@msva.ms.gov">treed@msva.ms.gov</a> (601) 264-4629</td>
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STATE VETERANS CLAIMS DIVISION

Chris Ellis
Director

1600 East Woodrow Wilson, Room 116
Jackson, MS 39216
Post Office Box 55949 • Jackson, MS 39296
Phone: (601) 364-7180 • Fax: (601) 364-7226
Email: cellis@msva.ms.gov

MSVA Claims Department employs Veterans Service Officers to provide free advice and guidance to Veterans and dependents regarding VA claims, casework, hearings, appeals, and discharge upgrades. Claims Division employees with Mississippi Veterans Affairs hold accreditation from the following Veteran Organizations:

› Ex-Prisoners of War
› American Legion
› American Red Cross
› Fleet Reserve Association
› Veterans of Foreign Wars
VA HOSPITAL STATE VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

The MSVA Hospital Service Officers provide free advice and guidance to Veterans and dependents with VA claims, pertaining to VA medical care and treatment problems, hospitalization and nursing home placement issues. Our hospital service officers provide free representation to Veterans on issues of disagreement and at personal hearings held in the VA Hospitals in Biloxi, Jackson and Memphis.

Luis Torres
Biloxi VA Hospital
400 Veterans Avenue • Building 3, Room 146
Biloxi, MS 39351
Phone: (228) 523-5253
Email: ltorres@msva.ms.gov

Vacant
Jackson VA Hospital
1500 E. Woodrow Wilson Drive • D-116, Module A
Jackson, MS 39216
Phone: (601) 364-1451
Email: vacant

Robert Peeler
Memphis VA South Clinic
1056 East Raines Road, Room 173
Memphis, TN 38116
Phone: (901) 523-8990 ext. 5126
Email: rpeeler@msva.ms.gov

STATE VETERANS NURSING HOMES

Mississippi houses four State Veterans Nursing Homes (SVNH) containing 150 beds per home. Each SVNH employs skilled and dedicated professionals to provide care for eligible Veterans and spouses.

Eligibility for admission to the Homes requires each serviceman/woman:

› Should be or have been a Mississippi resident.
› Have qualifying military service.
› Have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.
› Be the spouse of a Veteran who resides in one of the State Veterans Nursing Homes.

Out of state Veterans may be admitted to the Homes if there are no Mississippi residents waiting to accept a bed. Out of state applicants must have a medical need for nursing home care and must be able to pay the applicable daily charge for care in the Home.
## STATE VETERANS NURSING HOME SERVICE OFFICERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Larry Banks</td>
<td>3261 Highway 49 • Collins, MS 39428</td>
<td>(601) 765-0403</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lbanks@msva.ms.gov">lbanks@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterans Home</td>
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<td>Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvey Smith</td>
<td>4607 Lindbergh Drive • Jackson, MS 39209</td>
<td>(601) 353-6142</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hsmith@msva.ms.gov">hsmith@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
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<td>Jackson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Hughes</td>
<td>310 Autumn Ridge Drive • Kosciusko, MS 39090</td>
<td>(662) 289-7044</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ahughes@msva.ms.gov">ahughes@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kosciusko</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regina Tutor</td>
<td>120 Veterans Drive • Oxford, MS 38655</td>
<td>(662) 236-1218</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rtutor@msva.ms.gov">rtutor@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
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## STATE VETERANS NURSING ADMINISTRATORS

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pam Thrash</td>
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<td>(601) 765-0519</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pthrash@msva.ms.gov">pthrash@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Nursing Operations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tommie Carr</td>
<td>3261 Highway 49 • Collins, MS 39428</td>
<td>(601) 765-0519</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tcarr@msva.ms.gov">tcarr@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
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<td>Gerald Reed</td>
<td>4607 Lindbergh Drive • Jackson, MS 39209</td>
<td>(601) 353-6142</td>
<td><a href="mailto:greed@msva.ms.gov">greed@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Allen</td>
<td>310 Autumn Ridge Drive • Kosciusko, MS 39090</td>
<td>(662) 289-7044</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jallen@msva.ms.gov">jallen@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brent Avant</td>
<td>120 Veterans Drive • Oxford, MS 38655</td>
<td>(662) 236-7641</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bavant@msva.ms.gov">bavant@msva.ms.gov</a></td>
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STATE VETERANS NURSING HOME DAILY CHARGE EXEMPTION

There shall be no State Veterans Nursing Home resident daily charge for those residents in need of nursing home care for a VA adjudicated service-connected disability; or who have a singular or combined service-connected rating of seventy percent (70%) or more based on one or more service connected disabilities or rating a total one hundred percent (100%) based on individual unemployability and are in need of nursing home care.
Miss. Code Ann., § 35-1-27

Indigent Veterans can request assistance with the expense of care in the facilities.

Applications for admission to the Veterans Homes can be obtained from any of our offices, from many hospital social work departments, or by visiting our website at www.msva.ms.gov.

MISSISSIPPI VETERANS HOME PURCHASE BOARD

Address: Postal: Phone: Website:
3466 Highway 80 Post Office Box 54411 (601) 576-4800 www.vhpb.state.ms.us
Pearl, MS 39208 Pearl, MS 39288-4411

The Veterans Home Purchase Board provides low interest mortgage loans in amounts up to $300,000.00 for eligible Veterans and unmarried surviving spouses to purchase an existing single family home or to construct a new home. Eligibility requires that the Veteran be a Mississippi resident prior to entering military service or be a resident for two (2) consecutive years prior to applying for the loan. The Veteran must have or obtain a Certificate of Eligibility for Home Loan Guaranty from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and be discharged from extended active duty under honorable conditions. Contact the Veterans Home Purchase Board for information and applications.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Address: Phone: Website:
200 North State Street (601) 576-6850 www.mdah.state.ms.us
Jackson, MS 39205

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History maintains historical records and a reference library concerning Mississippi residents and units which served during the Civil War, the Spanish American War and World War I, World War II and the Korean War.
Applications for state employment are processed by the State Personnel Board (SPB). The SPB’s website lists state jobs which are currently on recruitment and for which they are accepting applications. The SPB website also provides job descriptions and minimum qualifications for the positions on recruitment.

Veterans seeking assistance regarding employment or unemployment insurance benefits should contact the Mississippi Department of Employment Security for assistance. MS Employment Security offices and WIN Centers are located in many areas of the state and may be listed in your local telephone book. Veterans may also obtain assistance through the MDES website at http://mdes.ms.gov/win-job-centers/ or by calling the call center at 1-888-844-3577.

The Mississippi Department of Employment Security Partners with businesses through its network of WIN Job Centers across the state. Center staff helps with free job postings and saves businesses time and money by providing recruitment, screening, and referral of only qualified candidates.

Information on Work Opportunities, Tax Credits, and On-The-Job Training is also available through the Centers. To find the nearest center and learn more about these programs, call (888) 844-3577 or visit the website at www.mdes.ms.gov.
The Mississippi Military Department maintains personnel and military discharge records for members of the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard. Contact the Mississippi Military Department to request copies of those records.

FUNERAL HONOR DETAIL REQUEST

Families of eligible Veterans should request funeral honors through their Funeral Director. The Funeral Director will contact the appropriate military service branch to arrange for the funeral honors detail. To initiate the request, the family must provide a discharge document showing dates of service and character of discharge to the Funeral Director. Although the Mississippi Veterans Affairs does not have cognizance over the funeral honors process, we are always available to assist in any way possible. Please contact Mississippi Veterans Affairs should you need assistance or help in obtaining discharge documents.

MISSISSIPPI LAWS CONCERNING VETERANS BENEFITS
COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

Counties may employ a County Veterans Service Officer who shall be (a) honorably discharged or honorably released Veteran of any war or police action in which the Armed Forces of the United States have been, are or shall be committed for action; (b) the surviving spouse or child of any such deceased Veteran; or (c) any person employed as a County Veterans Service Officer in any county of the State of Mississippi on March 30, 1990.

County Veterans Service Officers must be certified by Mississippi Veterans Affairs which requires that they (a) attend at least one (1) of the two (2) annual training programs provided each year and successfully complete a written examination each year on the duties and responsibilities of and assistance available to such officers and Veterans. No County Veterans Service Officer shall be entitled to any compensation for their service unless they are annually certified by Mississippi Veterans Affairs.

Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-21
AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION

Any Veteran having a service-connected, total disability and who has been honorably discharged from military service shall be exempt from all Ad Valorem taxes on the assessed value of homestead property and to extend such exemption to un-remarried surviving spouses of such Veterans.
Miss. Code Ann., §27-33-75 and §27-33-67

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES

Veterans who have a total service-connected disability from the Veterans Administration are not required to purchase hunting or fishing license, but must have on their person proof of age, residency and disability status while engaged in hunting or fishing.
Miss. Code Ann., §49-7-5

PRIVILEGE TAX

Persons who are 65 or older, blind, deaf, dumb, or with loss of hand or foot, or loss of use of the hand or foot or who can provide documentation that they are 50% disabled to perform physical labor and whose annual gross income is $900.00 or less are exempt from payment of privilege tax for specified businesses.

STATE RETIREMENT

Members of the State Public Employees Retirement System who served in the Armed Forces of the United States or who served in Maritime Service during periods of hostility in WWII shall be entitled to up to four (4) years credit for active duty in the Armed Forces or in such Maritime Service, provided they entered State Service after discharge from the Armed Forces or after completion of such Maritime Service. Credit may be extended beyond four (4) years for those persons who can provide positive proof that they were retained in the Armed Forces or such Maritime Service during WWII by causes beyond his control and without opportunity for discharge.
Miss. Code Ann., §25-11-109
RECORDING AND RETRIEVING DOCUMENTATION

The Mississippi Dept. of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics is to furnish, without charge, copies of birth and death certificates when they are needed to establish claims for dependency, disability, or survivors benefits for any Veteran who is a legal residents of the State of Mississippi or their claimants.
Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-9

The State Bureau of Vital Statistics is to furnish, at no expense, and immediately upon application a certified copy of birth certificates for any person volunteering for service in one of the Armed Forces of the United States.
Miss. Code Ann., §41-57-25

Chancery and Circuit Clerks are to furnish, without charge, copies of marriage licenses, divorce decrees, adoption decrees and any and all other records when the same are needed to establish claims for dependency, disability or survivors benefits for any Veterans who are legal residents of the State of Mississippi or their claimants.
Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-11

Chancery Clerks shall record, without cost whatsoever to any person of the Armed Forces of the United States residing in the same county, all honorable discharges and all certificates of service of any and all members of the Armed Forces of the United States. Certified copies will be furnished free without cost to the soldier, sailor, marine, coast guardsman, or nurse.
Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-13

ADDITIONAL CERTIFIED COPIES OF DEATH CERTIFICATES

The Office of Vital Records Registration shall furnish up to five (5) certified copies of the death certificate of any deceased person who was an honorably discharged Veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or who was killed or died while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, without charge, to any person or entity that is authorized to receive death certificates. The applicant for a copy of the death certificate must furnish such written evidence of the deceased person's service in the Armed Forces of the United States as required by the office. Copies of death certificates furnished under the authority under this section shall be in addition to any copies of death certificates furnished without charge under the authority of Section §35-3-9.
Miss. Code Ann., §41-57-26
HONORARY HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

The school board of a local school district may award an honorary high school diploma in a form prescribed and supplied to school districts by the State Board of Education to Veterans of World War II, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam Conflict who were unable to complete their education due to their military service. The honorary diploma is available to any honorably discharged Veterans residing in Mississippi who was (a) scheduled to graduate between 1941 and 1955 but was inducted into military service before completing the necessary graduation requirements, or (b) was scheduled to graduate between 1963 and 1973 but volunteered for military service and received the Vietnam Service Ribbon. Family members of deceased eligible Veterans may apply for the diploma to be awarded posthumously.

Miss. Code Ann., § 37-16-13

CONCEALED WEAPON TRAINING, STATE RESIDENCY EXEMPTION

Concealed-carry permit qualification requirements have been revised to authorize any member, honorably retired member or Veterans of any active or reserve component branch of the United States of America Armed Forces having completed law enforcement or combat training with pistols or other handguns as recognized by such branch after submitting an affidavit attesting to have read, understand and agree to comply with all provisions of the enhanced carry law.


CONCEALED WEAPON PERMIT FEE EXEMPTION FOR SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITIES

Any Veterans having a service-connected disability shall be exempted from concealed weapon permit fees and renewal fees. The Veteran must be a resident of the state for 12 months or longer immediately preceding the filing of the application. However, this residency requirement may be waived, provided the applicant possesses a valid permit from another state, is active military personnel stationed in Mississippi, or is a retired law enforcement officer establishing residency in the state.

Miss. Code Ann., §45-9-101

CONCEALED WEAPON PERMIT FEE EXEMPTION FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States shall be exempt from the payment of concealed weapon permit fees and renewal fees.

Miss. Code Ann., § 45-9-101
AUTHORIZATION OF IN-STATE TUITION FOR NONRESIDENT STUDENTS WHO ARE UNITED STATES VETERANS OR PERSONS ENTITLED FOR VETERANS’ EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Any Veteran, as defined by Title 38 of the United States Code, or a person entitled to education benefits under Title 38 of the United States Code is authorized in-state tuition.
Miss. Code Ann., § 37-103-25

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Children of any member of the armed services whose official home of record and residence is within the State of Mississippi and who is officially reported as being either a prisoner of war or missing in action can receive an eight semester scholarship, without cost, exclusive of books, food, school supplies, materials and dues or fees for extracurricular activities at any state supported college or university within the State.
Miss. Code Ann., §37-108-1

The Adjutant General of Mississippi is authorized to pay the tuition for certain members of the active Mississippi National Guard who are enrolled within the State of Mississippi in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational education school or junior college.
Miss. Code Ann., §33-7-405 and §33-7-407

Military personnel stationed in Mississippi are classified as state residents for the purposes of payment of tuition at state colleges and universities.
Miss. Code Ann., §37-103-17

CREDIT FOR TAXPAYERS THAT EMPLOY CERTAIN VETERANS

Any taxpayer that employs a person who is a new hire employed after January 1, 2015, who is an honorably discharged Veteran, as defined in Title 38 of the United States Code, who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, and who has been unemployed for six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to being employed by the taxpayer, shall be allowed an annual credit against the taxes imposed.
EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE

The State Personnel Board designates the Veteran or disabled Veteran status of applicants on the lists of eligible applicants for job vacancies within state service. These lists are sent to the agencies seeking to fill vacancies.

In state layoffs, Veterans are granted preference and additional preference is given to disabled Veterans.

Miss. Code Ann., §25-0-303

RE-EMPLOYMENT

Any person who is a member of any reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States who, in order to perform duties or receive training with the Armed Forces of the United States or of the State of Mississippi leaves a position, other than a temporary position, in the employ of any employer, and who shall give evidence of the Satisfactory completion of such duty or training, and who is still qualified to perform the duties of such position, shall be entitled to be restored to his previous or a similar position, in the same status, pay, and seniority. Such period of absence for military duty or training shall be construed as an absence with leave but may be without pay.

Miss. Code Ann., §33-1-19

PROFESSIONAL LICENSE RECIPROCITY

As passed by the Mississippi Legislature (2013 Regular Session) and Signed into law by the Governor: Senate Bill 2419 provides that Military and Military Spouses who are moving or have moved to Mississippi due to an active duty transfer may more quickly obtain licenses for many professions such as teaching, accounting, cosmetology, engineering and real estate brokerage. Licenses for physicians, nurses, dentists, dieticians, and other medical jobs are also included. The bill also provides that individuals with military training may (subject to guidelines set by licensing boards) count their experience toward requirements for various job licenses, certifications, and registrations. State licensing boards can grant either a permanent or temporary occupational license. People with temporary licenses can start working while applying for permanent ones.

To view the complete bill:
http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2013/html/SB/2400-2499/SB2419PS.htm

Licensing for specific professions is regulated by cognizant Boards/Agencies. Individuals must contact individual licensing boards for information and eligibility.
VETERANS DESIGNATION

The Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety is authorized to provide the new, renewal or duplicate license, temporary driving permit, intermediate license or commercial driver's license to any honorably discharged Veteran as defined by federal law and such license or permit shall exhibit the letters “Vet” or any other mark identifying the person as a Veteran. The Veteran requesting the “Vet” designation shall present his DD 214 or equivalent document that includes a notation from Mississippi Veterans Affairs that the applicant is a Veteran.

Miss. Code Ann., § 45-3-9, §63-1-35, and §45-35-3

Veterans must present a certified (stamped and sealed) copy of discharge document from the Mississippi Veterans Affairs to obtain “VET” designation.

At least two (2) weeks before applying to the MS Department of Public Safety (MS DPS) for Veteran (“VET”) designation on his/her MS driver's license or identification card, the Veteran shall provide to Mississippi Veterans Affairs:

1. A copy of their discharge document (DD 214 or equivalent documentation); AND
2. A written request for verification of Veteran status.

The written request for verification/certification of Veteran status should include the following information:

1. Veteran's full name;
2. Veteran's current mailing address;
3. Veteran's phone number; and
4. Veteran's signature.

Veterans may submit their discharge document and request for verification/certification by:

1. MAIL: Mississippi Veterans Affairs (Vet Driver's License)
   660 North Street  P.O. Box 5947
   Jackson, MS 39206  Pearl, MS 39288

2. FAX: Mississippi Veterans Affairs (Vet Driver's License)
   Fax Number: (601) 576-4870

Applicants must meet the definition of “Veteran” as outlined in Title 38 of the United States Code and be verified/certified by authorized Mississippi Veterans Affairs staff.

Once a Veteran status is verified/certified, the Mississippi Veterans Affairs staff will place an approved stamp (as coordinated with MS DPS) and seal on the copy of the Veteran's discharge document and return the copy to the Veteran.

For Assistance, Veterans may contact Mississippi Veterans Affairs.
MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES

Photos of Mississippi Veteran and military license plates can be viewed on the website for the Mississippi Department of Revenue www.dor.ms.gov.

Once you enter the Dept. of Revenue website click on Tag/Titles, then click on Special Plates and then click on Available License Plates. Color photos of available specialty plates will be displayed.

See inside back cover for additional Mississippi Military License Plates.

HONORING VETERANS

Any owner of a passenger vehicle, pickup truck or noncommercial motor vehicle can purchase the Honoring Veterans license plate. The plate costs an additional thirty dollars ($30.00) over regular license plate fees and $24.00 of that fee goes to support indigent Veterans residing the State Veterans Nursing Homes and the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.140

VETERAN MOTOR VEHICLES

In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by Mississippians who are honorably discharged Veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces, any such person is privileged to obtain distinctive motor vehicle license plates or tags for each motor vehicle registered in his name identifying his status as a Veteran. In addition, decals indicating branch and period of military service are to be affixed to the license tags. An additional annual tag fee of thirty dollars ($30.00) shall be collected for such license plates for the benefit of indigent Veterans who are residents of the State Veterans Nursing Homes. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.12

VETERAN MOTORCYCLES

In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by Mississippians who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces, any such person is privileged to obtain distinctive motorcycle license plates or tags for each motorcycle registered in his name identifying his status as a veteran. In addition, decals indicating branch and period of military service are to be affixed to the license tags. An additional annual tag fee of thirty dollars ($30.00) shall be collected for such license plates for the benefit of indigent Veterans who are residents of the State Veterans Nursing Homes. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.125
GOLD STAR FAMILY
Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi and a family member of a service member who has been killed in action or died in a combat zone while serving in the Armed Forces, and was a resident of Mississippi at the time of death, may purchase a Gold Star license tag for an additional thirty dollars ($30.00), $24.00 of which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Homes. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.162

AFGHANISTAN VETERAN
Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and served in the Afghanistan theater of operations and was awarded either the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, for service in, or in support of operations in Afghanistan may purchase the Afghanistan Veteran license plate for an additional fee of thirty dollars ($30.00), $24.00 of which will benefit the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery and the State Veterans Nursing Homes. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.187

IRAQ VETERAN
Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and served in the Iraq theater of operations and was awarded either the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, for service in, or in support of operations in Iraq may obtain the Iraq Veteran license plate for an additional fee of thirty dollars ($30.00), $24.00 of which will benefit the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery and the State Veterans Nursing Homes. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.186

VIETNAM VETERAN
In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by a legal resident of Mississippi who is an honorably discharged Veteran who served in the United State Armed Forces during the Vietnam Conflict and was awarded a Vietnam Service Ribbon, may obtain the Vietnam Veteran license plate or tag for an additional fee of thirty dollars ($30.00), which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Home. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.85
PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR
Any resident of the State of Mississippi who is an honorably discharged former member of one of the Armed Forces of the United States and while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States was present during the attack on the island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, between the hours of 7:55 AM and 9:45 AM, Hawaii time, is privileged to obtain two distinctive motor vehicle license plate for an additional tag fee of fifteen dollars ($15.00) for use on a private passenger vehicle (to include station wagons, recreational motor vehicles and pickup trucks) registered in the county of his or her legal residence. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.5

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN
Any legal Veteran resident of the State of Mississippi with a service-connected disability (100%) from the Veterans Administration and evaluated as permanent and total by the VA; or a rating of total (100%) based on individual unemployability and evaluated as permanent and total by the VA; and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person, is privileged to purchase annually one (1) motor vehicle license plate or tag for a private passenger motor vehicle or pickup truck in his or her county of residence for the sum of one dollar ($1.00) in total cost. Miss. Code Ann., §27-19-53

PURPLE HEART
Any resident of the State of Mississippi who can provide written proof that while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States he or she was awarded the Purple Heart Medal is privileged to obtain one free distinctive license plate or tag for use on a private passenger vehicle (to include station wagons, recreational motor vehicles and pickup trucks) registered in the county of his or her legal residence.

The unmarried surviving spouse of a deceased person who was issued a Purple Heart Medal license plate or tag may apply for or retain one (1) such license plate or tag which shall be exempt from taxes and fees. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.5
BRONZE STAR
Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and was awarded the Bronze Star medal while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States may obtain special license plates recognizing that award. Applicants must present official written proof of the award of the medal. The applicant must pay an additional thirty dollars ($30.00) tag fee, $24.00 of which benefits indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Homes. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.62

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS & AIR MEDAL
Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross or Air Medal while in military service may purchase a special license plate recognizing that award. The applicant must present Satisfactory proof of award of the medal and pay an additional ($30.00) tag fee. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.13

SILVER STAR
Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and was awarded the Silver Star medal while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States may obtain special license plates recognizing that award. Applicants must present official written proof of the award of the medal. The Silver Star plate is exempt from all fees and taxes and may be retained by the un-remarried surviving spouse of the deceased Veteran recipient. Proof of marital status must be provided for the un-remarried spouse to obtain the Silver Star plate. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.284

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR
Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person is privileged to obtain annually, one (1) motor vehicle license plate or tag for a private passenger motor vehicle or pickup truck in the county of his residence. The CMH license plate or tag is exempt from all motor vehicle registration fees and privilege taxes. Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-54
EX-PRISONER OF WAR
Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who was a prisoner
of war, and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person, is
privileged to obtain annually one (1) motor vehicle license plate
or tag for a private passenger vehicle or pickup truck in the county
of his or her residence. The Ex-POW license plate or tag is exempt
from all motor vehicle registration fees and privilege taxes. Miss.
Code Ann. § 27-19-54

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL
In recognition of the patriotic services rendered by a legal resident
of the State of Mississippi who received the Navy and Marine Corps
Medal, any such Veteran may obtain a Navy and Marine Corps
Medal license plate or tag for an additional thirty dollars ($30.00),
$24.00 of which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing at the

RESERVE, NATIONAL GUARD, MERCHANT MARINE, RETIRED
Any resident of the State of Mississippi who has completed an
active duty career with the Armed Forces of the United States and
active duty and retired members of the Army National Guard, Air
National Guard, United States Reserves and those United States
Merchant Marines in maritime service during the period from
December 7, 1941, to August 15, 1945, and their surviving spouses
may be issued distinctive motor vehicle license plate or tag at no
additional cost in the county of his or her legal residence. Miss.
Code Ann. § 27-19-51

COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE / COMBAT VETERAN
Any resident of the State of Mississippi who received the Combat
Infantryman Badge or other equivalent Badges/Ribbons for the
Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marines from the United States Armed
Forces may be issued a distinctive motor vehicle license plate for
an annual additional fee. The portion retained of the additional
fee will be deposited in the County general fund. Miss. Code Ann.
§ 27-19-56.12
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS
The majority of counties in Mississippi employ a County Veteran Service Officer to assist county residents with VA claims. County Veteran Service Officers can answer questions and provide information, examples listed below:
› Applying for VA Benefits
› Completing forms
› Checking on VA Claim Status
› Providing advice to Veterans and their dependents

ADAMS COUNTY
Sonjagela Johnson
307 Market Street Office: (601) 304-7800
Natchez, MS 39120 Email: veterans@adamscountymgs.gov

ALCORN COUNTY
DeAnna Carter Office: (662) 286-7744
Stephanie Meeks (Asst) Fax: (662) 284-4922
Court House Email: dcarte@co.alcorn.ms.us
P.O. Box 158 smeeks@co.alcorn.ms.us
Corinth, MS 38835

AMITE COUNTY
Jim Sterling Office: (601) 657-4197
185 Irene Street Email: amitevso@bellsouth.net
P.O. Box 103
Liberty, MS 39645

ATTALA COUNTY
Mervin Foster Office: (662) 287-6045
Janie Wallace (Asst.) Fax: (662) 289-0111
715 Fairground Road Email: attalavso@attalacounty.net
P.O. Box 421 verserocf@att.net
Kosciusko, MS 39090

BENTON COUNTY
Donald Jeffers Office: (662) 224-6325
Benton Courthouse Fax: (662) 224-6303
P.O. Box 218 Email: veterans@bentoncountymgs.gov
Ashland, MS 38603
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

BOLIVAR COUNTY

Richard Coleman
113 South Davis Street
Highway 61 • P.O. Box 4067
Cleveland, MS 38732
Office: (662) 843-2471
Fax: (662) 846-5898
Email: bcvso2013@yahoo.com

CALHOUN COUNTY

Robert Gosa
American Legion
496 Veterans Avenue
P.O. Box 534
Calhoun City, MS 38916
Office: (662) 628-1933
Fax: (662) 628-1933
Email: bobgosa@tds.net

CARROLL COUNTY

Greg Wenger
Courthouse
Carrollton, MS • Vaiden, MS
P.O. Box 60
Carrollton, MS 38917
Office: (662) 237-9274
Fax: (662) 237-9642
Email: carrollvso@gmail.com

CHICKASAW COUNTY

Kenneth Nichols
665 North Jefferson Street
Houston, MS 38851
285 County Road 63
Woodland, MS 39776
Office: (662) 456-3652
Email: krnichols@bellsouth.net

Gilbert A. Wise, Jr.
793 Highway 245
South Okolona, MS 38860
Office: (662) 542-3575
Email: wisehouse53@gmail.com

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Michael Bell
583 West Main Street
P.O. Box 250
Ackerman, MS 39735
Fax: (662) 285-3922 (Attn: Michael)
Email: choctawcountymsvets@gmail.com
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

CLAIBORNE COUNTY

James Jackson
1703 Bride Will Lane
Multipurpose Building
P.O. Box 689
Port Gibson, MS 39150
Office: (601) 437-1105
Fax: (601) 437-4431
Email: jjackson@ccmsgov.us

CLARKE COUNTY

Ronald “Ron” Holloway
100 East Church Street
P.O. Box 616
Quitman, MS 39355
Office: (601) 776-2461
Fax: (601) 776-1013
Email: rnholloway@bellsouth.net

CLAY COUNTY

Annie Hines-Goode
218 West Broad Street
Justice Court Building
P.O. Box 1203
West Point, MS 39773
Office: (662) 494-1554
Fax: (662) 494-6141
Email: hines-goode@claycountyms.gov

COAHOMA COUNTY

Vacant
504 2nd Street • P.O. Box 1221
Clarksdale, MS 38614
Office: (662) 624-5201

COPIAH COUNTY

Ronald “Ron” Evans
122 South Lowe Street
Chancery Clerk Office
P.O. Box 507
Hazlehurst, MS 39083
Office: (601) 894-4101
Fax: (601) 894-4081

COVINGTON COUNTY

Roger White
502 South Arrington Ave
P.O. Box 1679
Collins, MS 39428
Office: (601) 765-4004
Fax: (601) 765-0283
Email: vetone@covingtoncountyms.gov
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

DESOТО COUNTY

Michael Reed
Maxwell Bldg. • Suite B
6595 Hwy 305N
Olive Branch, MS 38654
Office: (662) 404-6598
Email: mreed@desotocountyms.gov

FORREST COUNTY

Gerald Britt
1200 Corinne Street
P.O. Box 550
Hattiesburg, MS 39403
Office: (601) 583-4521
Fax: (601) 582-4947
Email: gbritt@co.forrest.ms.us

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Grady Fleming
38 Walnut Street
P.O. Box 294
Meadville, MS 39653
Office: (601) 384-2763
Fax: (601) 384-2763
Email: franklincountyvso@gmail.com

GEORGE COUNTY

Jerry Hite
1st Floor Courthouse
355 Cox Street
Lucedale, MS 39452
Office: (601) 247-2117
Fax: (601) 947-8804
Email: veteranaffairs@georgecountyms.gov

GREENE COUNTY

Bill Harvison
313 Lafayette Avenue
P.O. Box 1244
Leakesville, MS 39451
Office: (601) 394-2442
Email: billyharvisonsr@hughes.net

GRENAĐA COUNTY

Eric Williamson
Grenada County Courthouse
First Floor
2231 McSwine Road
Grenada, MS 38901
Office: (662) 299-8410
Fax: (662) 227-2860
Email: ericso26@yahoo.com
## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

### HANCOCK COUNTY

David Depreo  
854 Highway 90, Suite A  
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520  
Office: (228) 467-2100  
Fax: (228) 467-2691  
Email: david.depreo@co.hancock.ms.us

### HARRISON COUNTY

Julia Encalade  
Biloxi Office  
730 Martin Luther King Blvd.  
Courthouse 1st Floor  
P.O. Box 413  
Biloxi, MS 39533  
Office: (228) 435-8271  
Fax: (228) 436-8649  
Email: vetoff2@co.harrison.ms.us

Gulfport Office  
1801 23RD Avenue  
P.O. Drawer CC  
Gulfport, MS 39502  
Office: (228) 865-4027

### HINDS COUNTY

Mamie Pickett Brown  
316 South President Street  
Jackson, MS 39205  
Office: (601) 968-5408  
Email: mbrown@co.hinds.ms.us

### HOLMES COUNTY

Vacant  
2 Court Square  
Lexington, MS 39095  
P.O. Box 398  
Tchula, MS 39169  
Office: (662) 834-2508  
Fax: (662) 235-4633

### HUMPHREYS COUNTY

Diane Toy  
Belzoni Courthouse  
P.O. Box 234  
Belzoni, MS 3903  
Office: (662) 247-0143  
Fax: (662) 247-0101
## County Veteran Service Officers (Cont.)

### Issaquena County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jessie Short</td>
<td>5490 Glen Allen Road, P.O. Box 343, Glen Allen, MS 38744</td>
<td>(662) 403-0241, (662) 347-9410</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jessieshortjr@yahoo.com">jessieshortjr@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Itawamba County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jason Baker</td>
<td>507 Legion Dr., Mailing: 201 W Main Street, Fulton, MS 38843</td>
<td>(662) 862-2841</td>
<td>(662) 862-2841</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbaker@itawambacom.com">jbaker@itawambacom.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Palmer (Asst.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(662) 862-2841</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dpalmer@itawambacom.com">dpalmer@itawambacom.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Jackson County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Whipple</td>
<td>4111 Amonett, P.O. Box 998, Pascagoula, MS 39568</td>
<td>(228) 769-3228</td>
<td>(228) 769-3075</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bob_whipple@co.jackson.ms.us">bob_whipple@co.jackson.ms.us</a>, <a href="mailto:stephen_chambers@co.jackson.ms.us">stephen_chambers@co.jackson.ms.us</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Jasper County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pat Baughman</td>
<td>37 E West 8th Ave., P.O. Box 191, Bay Springs, MS 39422</td>
<td>(601) 764-2871</td>
<td>(601) 764-2035</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pbaughman@co.jasper.ms.us">pbaughman@co.jasper.ms.us</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Jeff Davis County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joe Bridges</td>
<td>Courthouse, P.O. Box 2121, Prentiss, MS 39474</td>
<td>(601) 792-5939</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bridgesj7@aol.com">bridgesj7@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wellness Center, Bassfield, MS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hours: Wednesday, 8am–12pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Robert McDonald  
1483 Main Street  
P.O. Box 145  
Fayette, MS 39069  
Office: (601) 786-3021  
Fax: (601) 786-6009  
Email: rmcdjcvso@bellsouth.net

JONES COUNTY

Connie Hoover  
Kameye Smith (Asst.)  
515 North 5th Avenue  
P.O. Box 4384  
Laurel, MS 39441  
Office: (601) 428-0467  
Fax: (601) 399-4776  
Email: choover@co.jones.ms.us

KEMPER COUNTY

Marie Wilson  
39 Bell Street  
P.O. Box 252  
Dekalb, MS 39328  
Office: (601) 743-2247  
Email: kvso@att.net

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Chester Starks  
Leona Starks (Asst.)  
101 Veterans Drive  
Oxford, MS 38655  
Mailing: 722 M.L.K. Jr. Drive  
Oxford, MS 38655  
Office: (662) 236-3111  
Email: veterans@lafayettecoms.com

LAMAR COUNTY

Jay Statham  
Grant Hartfield (Asst.)  
12 Veterans Drive  
Purvis, MS 39475  
Office: (601) 794-4218  
Fax: (601) 794-4218  
Email: jstatham@lamarcountyms.gov  
Suzanne Oddo (Admin)  
Oak Grove Senior Center  
5874 West 4th Street  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
Office: (601) 336-5019  
Email: soddo@lamarcountyms.gov  
Robert Robertson (Asst.)  
19 Center Lane  
Sumrall, MS 39482  
Office: (601) 758-0015  
Fax: (601) 758-0015  
Email: rrobertson@lamarcountyms.gov
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

LAUDERDALE COUNTY

Jeff Sibley
Brenda Ethridge (Asst.)
1827 23rd Avenue
Meridian, MS 39302
Office: (601) 482-9811
Email: jsibley@lauderdalecounty.org

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Mikell Sandifer
County Office Building
P.O. Box 1160
Monticello, MS 39654
Office: (601) 587-3006
Fax: (601) 587-0750
Email: veterans@co.lawrence.ms.us

LEAKE COUNTY

Gary Thaggard
101 Court Square, Room 102
Carthage, MS 39051
Office: (601) 267-7200
Fax: (601) 267-7200
Email: gthaggard@co.leake.ms.us

LEE COUNTY

Vacant
300 West Main Street
P.O. Box 1785
Tupelo, MS 38802
Office: (662) 432-2099
Fax: (662) 432-2098

LEFLORE COUNTY

Michael Bland
310 West Market Street
P.O. Box 250
Greenwood, MS 38935
Office: (662) 453-3157
Fax: (662) 451-7324
Email: mbland@leflorecounty.net
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

LINCOLN COUNTY

Dwayne Gill
Courthouse • Room 202
301 South First Street
Brookhaven, MS 39601
Office: (601) 835-3470
Fax: (601) 835-3455
Email: vsolincolin@co.lincoln.ms.us

LOWNDES COUNTY

Sharon Dollarhide
308 Legion Drive
American Legion Building
P.O. Box 9446
Columbus, MS 39705
Office: (662) 327-2005
Fax: (662) 328-5430
Email: sdollarhide@lownderscountymys.com

MADISON COUNTY

Mendel G. Kemp
Gina Kelley (Asst.)
125 W. North St.
Madison, MS 39110
P.O. Box 608
Canton, MS 39046
Office: (601) 855-5518
Fax: (601) 859-5875
Email: mendal.kemp@madison-co.com
gina.kelley@madison-co.com

MADISON COUNTY

Dewey L. Blansett, Jr.
124 McGeehee Dr.
Columbia, MS 39429
Office: (601) 736-0740
Fax: (601) 736-0750
Email: dblansett@marioncountymys.com

MADISON COUNTY

Celestine Tucker
136 Alderson Street
P.O. Box 219
Holly Springs, MS 38635
Office: (662) 252-5508
Fax: (662) 252-5508
Email: c_tucker.cvsomarshall@yahoo.com
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

MONROE COUNTY

Jason Sullivan
American Legion Building
523 Highway 145 North
P.O. Box 813
Aberdeen, MS 39730
Office: (662) 269-4651
Fax: (662) 369-4651
Email: jscott@monroems.com

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Sammie Wilson
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
(Choctaw Reservation)
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Fax: (601) 389-5866
Email: sammie.wilson@choctaw.org
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

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Email: johnnyr1965@yahoo.com

NOXUBEE COUNTY
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158 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
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Fax: (662) 726-5423

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY
Patricia Hopson
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Email: phopson@gtpdd.com

PANOLA COUNTY
Daniel Brown
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Email: daniel.brown77@yahoo.com

PEARL RIVER COUNTY
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Email: cindys@pearlrivercounty.net

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Perry County Courthouse
New Augusta, MS 39462
Office: (601) 964-8214
Fax: (601) 964-8214
Email: perrycovaoffice@ftcweb.net
## COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Officer</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PIKE COUNTY</td>
<td>Jim Coleman</td>
<td>(601) 684-9966</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jim_coleman@bellsouth.net">jim_coleman@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Martha Bailey (Asst.)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1002 Warren Krout Road</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P.O. Box 1111</td>
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<td></td>
<td>McComb, MS 39649</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office: (601) 684-9966</td>
<td>Fax: (601) 684-1810</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:jim_coleman@bellsouth.net">jim_coleman@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<td>Fax: (601) 684-9966</td>
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<tr>
<td>PONTOTOC COUNTY</td>
<td>John (Mack) Huey</td>
<td>(662) 489-3907</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mackhuey@pontotocoms.com">mackhuey@pontotocoms.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 East Washington Street</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pontotoc Courthouse, 1st Floor</td>
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<td>P.O. Box 262</td>
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<td>Pontotoc, MS 38863</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Office: (662) 489-3907</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:mackhuey@pontotocoms.com">mackhuey@pontotocoms.com</a></td>
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<td>Fax: (662) 489-3907</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRENTISS COUNTY</td>
<td>Terry Tolar</td>
<td>(662) 728-5532</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vso.prentissco@yahoo.com">vso.prentissco@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>816 West Chambers Drive</td>
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<td>Booneville, MS 38829</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Office: (662) 728-5532</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:vso.prentissco@yahoo.com">vso.prentissco@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Fax: (662) 728-4610</td>
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<tr>
<td>QUITMAN (TUNICA) COUNTY</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>(662) 326-8800</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1054 Charlie Pride Highway</td>
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<td>Marks, MS 38646</td>
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<td>P.O. Box 326</td>
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<td>Lambert, MS 38643</td>
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<td>Office: (662) 326-8800</td>
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<td>RANKIN COUNTY</td>
<td>Fredrick &quot;Fred&quot; W. Davis</td>
<td>(601) 824-2652</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fdavis@rankincounty.org">fdavis@rankincounty.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>211 East Government St., Suite A</td>
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<td>Brandon, MS 39042</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Office: (601) 824-2652</td>
<td>Fax: (601) 825-9205</td>
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<td>Fax: (601) 824-2652</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:fdavis@rankincounty.org">fdavis@rankincounty.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SCOTT COUNTY</td>
<td>Gary Risher</td>
<td>(601) 469-4477</td>
<td><a href="mailto:garvrisherscottcounty@ms.gov">garvrisherscottcounty@ms.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>521 Airport Road</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Forest, MS 39074</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Office: (601) 469-4477</td>
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<td>COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)</td>
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### SHARKEY COUNTY

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Fax: (662) 746-2023
MISSISSIPPI MILITARY LICENSE PLATES

See pages 19-23 for more information.

- Active Reserve
- Afghanistan Veteran
- Air Medal
- Bronze Star
- Bronze Star (Disabled)
- Combat Veteran
- Disabled American Veteran
- Distinguished Flying Cross Air Medal
- Ex-Prisoner of War
- Gold Star Family
- Honoring Veterans
- Iraq Veteran
- Medal of Honor
- National Guard
- Navy and Marine Corps Medal
- Pearl Harbor Survivor
- Purple Heart
- Retired Armed Forces Air Force
Visit our website for the latest up-to-date information on benefits, service officers, and veterans’ resources.

msva.ms.gov

Mississippi VA (Main Office) .................. 601.576.4850
                                         1.877.203.5632

Veterans Home | Collins ....................... 601.765.0519
Veterans Home | Jackson ......................... 601.353.6142
Veterans Home | Kosciusko ....................... 662.289.7809
Veterans Home | Oxford ......................... 662.236.1218