

# SHAWANO COUNTY VETERANS - CORE VA BENEFITS LIST "THE GOLDEN TICKET"

Version Date: 06/21/23

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT: 715-526-9183  
Veterans Crisis Line Dial 988, Press 1 OR Text to 838255 to Get Help NOW  
Join the CVSO Newsletter List: [cvso@shawanocountywi.gov](mailto:cvso@shawanocountywi.gov)

If you are outside of Shawano County call the CVSO Association of WI at 844-WIS-CVSO (947-2876) or [www.wicvso.org](http://www.wicvso.org)

1. **VA Benefits Account:** Sign up for a Federal VA account. [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)
2. **Veteran and Survivor Benefits 1-800-698-2411**
3. **Green Bay Vet Center:** Free counseling for eligible veterans and family members, call 920-435-5650. 1-844-WAR-VETS
4. **My Wis Vets:** Apply for License Identifier and more. <https://dva.wi.gov> 1-800-947-8387
5. **Military Base and Commissary Access:** For eligibility call 1-800-698-2411 or visit <https://tinyurl.com/2fuslrm>
6. **National Parks Pass (Lifetime \$10)** for veterans and disabled veterans. [Entrance Passes \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](https://www.nps.gov/entrance-passes)
7. **WI Parks Pass (Lifetime FREE):** For 70% or higher service-connected veterans. Call CVSO office.
8. **WDVA Aid to Needy Veterans Grants - Income based – for veteran only.** Dentures and Dental work.
9. **WDVA Veterans Assistance Grant - Loss of employment due to illness or disaster up to \$3,000.**
10. **WDVA Retraining Grant - Up to \$3,000 for retraining for unemployed or under-employed veterans.**
11. **Wisconsin Education Benefits**
  - A. WI GI Bill – 100% tuition waiver for veterans and 100% waiver for dependents of veterans who have at least a 30% service-connected disability. **Only UW colleges and UW Technical schools.** Up to 128 credits.
  - B. 5-year rule law CHANGE. Veteran entered from another state and/or 30% service-connected dependents NOW eligible.
  - C. WI Veteran Student Assistant Grant – For certain non-profit schools, same benefits as the WI GI Bill.
12. **Federal Education benefits - Montgomery, Post 9/11, and Forever GI Bills for active duty and reservists.**
13. **Veterans Housing and Recovery Program (VHRP) - Homeless Program** locations Green Bay, Chippewa Falls, Union Grove providing housing, job training, counseling, and rehabilitative services to obtain employment and affordable housing.
14. **Veterans Cemeteries - Spooner, Union Grove, and King, WI, free for veterans, fee for dependents.** National Cemetery Minocqua, WI free for veteran and dependents.
15. **Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP) – Housing, outreach, case management, mental health, and referrals.**
16. **Wisconsin Veterans Homes - Veterans and spouses are eligible.** Located: King, Chippewa Falls, and Union Grove.
17. **WI Property Tax Credit - 100% or Individual Unemployable service-connected veterans or their widowed surviving spouses of widows receiving Dependency Indemnity Compensation are eligible for property tax refund if they meet eligibility.**
18. **Health-care benefits**
  - A. Medical treatment and hospital care for veterans only. Hospice care with less than 6 months to live.
  - B. Medications \$5.00, \$8.00, or \$11.00; If subjected to copay: appointments \$15 for general care or \$50 for specialty care.
  - C. VA Dental Program – private program with monthly premium.
  - D. Group 6 Automatic Enrollment – Exposed to Agent Orange, Radiation, 0% service-connected, Gulf War, Camp Lejeune
  - E. Free counseling, hearing aids, and eyeglasses. If veteran is service connected 50% or higher receives free medications.
  - F. **NEW - FREE health for Gulf War Conditions 10 years post last discharge.**
19. **VA Home Loan - No money down, 15/30-year mortgages, 3/1 & 5/1 ARM.** Spouse may be eligible after death of the veteran.
20. **Pension Program with or without Aid and Attendance**
  - A. Financial support for wartime era veterans with limited income - determined by income, assets, and disabilities.
  - B. Wartime era veteran or widow of wartime era veteran - Veterans are required to have had 90 days of active duty, one day during a wartime period. **NEW: Vietnam wartime era now 11/1/55 to 5/7/1975.**
21. **Disability Compensation**
  - A. A TAX-FREE compensation payment to veterans who are disabled by injury or disease incurred or aggravated during military service; i.e., PTSD, sexual assault, and any physical ailments acquired in the service.
  - B. 100% service connected – Healthcare and Dependent Education Assistance for dependents up to \$40,000 per year.
  - C. 70% and above nursing care covered at VA contracted nursing homes or for serviced connected condition.
  - D. Additional special monthly compensation for Veterans who have a service-connected disability rated at 100%; and/or have additional service-connected disability rated at 60% OR if veteran and/or spouse needs Aid and Attendance.
22. **Veteran Readiness & Employment (VR&E) - Employment assist, training, and education for service-connected disabled veterans.**
23. **Dependency and Indemnity (DIC) Pension – For widows of veterans who died from a service-connected disability, or if the disability contributed to the death of the veteran.** CHAMPVA and VA Dental Program if qualified for DIC.

24. **Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) – NEW – JUNE 7, 2022 EXTENDED TWO YEARS TO JUNE 7, 2024**
- A. 21 cancers are associated with this nuclear exposure.
  - B. Veterans who participated “on-site” or “downwind” during the tests may be eligible for a \$50,000 or \$75,000 payment.
  - C. If the veteran has passed away the surviving spouse, children, grandchildren, parents, and grandparents can apply.
  - D. **NEW BUT NOT RECA Conditions**– Cleanup of Enewetak Atoll, 1/1/77 – 12/31/80. Cleanup of B-52’s with nuclear weapons off the coast of Palomares, Spain 1/17/66 – 3/31/67. Fires on B-52’s with nuclear weapons Thule AB 1/21/68 – 9/25/68.
25. **Agent Orange (AO) Exposure – Presumptive Conditions: If you were in the areas below, you were exposed to AO.**
- A. Vietnam – 1/9/1962 and 5/7/1975 in-country Vietnam, inland waterways, and Territorial Waters within 12 nautical miles. Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in Korea used between the dates of 4/1/1968 to 8/31/1971.
  - B. **NEW** - Any U.S. or Royal Thai Bases in Thailand 1/9/62 – 6/30/76, Laos 12/1/65 – 9/30/69, Cambodia at Mimot, Krek, Kamont Cham Province 4/16/69 – 4/30/69, Guam and American Samoa and territorial waters 1/9/62 – 7/30/80. Johnston Atoll or ship harbored at Johnston Atoll 1/1/72 – 9/30/77.
  - C. Thailand - Air Force veterans on Royal Thai Air Force bases at U-Tapao, Ubon, Nakhon Phanom, Udorn, Takhli, Korat, and Don Muang, near the air base perimeter – 2/28/1961 and 5/7/1975. **U.S. Army Veterans** on these bases or on some small installations performing perimeter security or Military Police duties – 2/28/1961 and 5/7/1975.
  - D. **Surviving Spouses** can apply if the veteran died from one of the diseases caused by Agent Orange.
  - E. **Over 54 presumptive conditions and cancers with AO exposure; NEW-Hypertension, Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance (MGUS), Diabetes Type II, Heart Disease, Parkinson’s, Hypothyroidism, Bladder Cancer, Prostate Cancer, secondary conditions and more...** AGENT ORANGE REGISTRY: <https://tinyurl.com/yxcb3jva>
26. **Camp Lejeune Contaminated Water**
- A. Eight new presumptive conditions for **Active duty (veterans), Reserve and National Guard** members who served at Camp Lejeune due to exposure to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune, N.C., MCAS New River and including satellite camps and housing areas during the dates of 8/1/53 to 12/31/1987.
  - B. **Eight Presumptive Conditions include:** Adult Leukemia, Aplastic Anemia and other myelodysplastic Syndromes, Bladder Cancer, Kidney Cancer, Liver Cancer, Multiple Myeloma, Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma and Parkinson’s disease.
  - C. **Health Care** is being offered to Active-Duty Veterans who served during January 1, 1957 to December 31, 1987 for 15 Conditions: Bladder cancer, Miscarriage, Breast cancer, Multiple Myeloma, Esophageal cancer, Myelodysplastic syndromes ,Female Infertility, Neurobehavioral effects, Hepatic steatosis, Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, Kidney cancer, Renal toxicity, Leukemia, Scleroderma, Lung cancer. **CAMP LEJEUNE REGISTRY:** <https://clnr.hqi.usmc.mil/>
27. **Burn Pits and Oil Fires – Toxic Air in Southeast Asia, Gulf War Afghanistan, Djibouti, Syria, and Uzbekistan from 8/2/90 to Present – NEW Presumptive Conditions** are Asthma, Rhinitis, and Sinusitis, Bronchitis, COPD, Constrictive and Obliterative Bronchiolitis, Emphysema, Granulomatous, Interstitial Lung Disease, Pleuritis, Pulmonary Fibrosis, Sarcoidosis, Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Larynx, Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Trachea, Adenocarcinoma of Trachea, Salivary gland-type tumors of the Trachea, Adenosquamous Carcinoma of the Lung, Large Cell Carcinoma of the Lung, Salivary gland-type tumor of the Lung, Sarcomatoid Carcinoma of the Lung, Typical, Atypical Carcinoid of the Lung, Cancers; Brain, Gastrointestinal, Head, Kidney, Lymphatic, Lymphoma, Melanoma, Neck Pancreatic, Reproductive, Respiratory, and Glioblastoma. CVSO will assist with eligibility rules for the above conditions. While on active duty, veterans may have been exposed to a variety of airborne hazards including: Smoke and fumes from open burn pits and oil well fires, sand, dust, and particulate matter, general air pollution common in certain countries, fuel fumes, aircraft exhaust, and other mechanical fumes. **BURN PIT REGISTRY:** <https://tinyurl.com/mr2ver34>
28. **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) “Lou Gehrig's Disease”** – Service-connected disability for all veterans with 90 days or more of continuous active service are eligible to apply.
29. **VA Caregiver Program** – Caregivers can receive a monthly payment and support services for rendering care to **eligible** veterans with a combined rating of 70% or higher. Support Services Hotline 1-855-260-3274 or apply here: <https://tinyurl.com/hjba4yww>
30. **Asbestos Exposure** - Veterans who were exposed to asbestos while in service and developed a disease related to asbestos exposure such as Asbestosis, Pleural Plaque, **Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma** may receive service-connected compensation.
31. **Gulf War Illnesses**
- A. Veterans may be eligible to receive a service-connected compensation if they served in the Southwest Asia Theater of military operations from August 2, 1990 to present or served in Afghanistan on or after September 19, 2001.
  - B. Conditions: Chronic Fatigue, Fibromyalgia, Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Multi Symptom Undiagnosed Illness.
32. **Burial Benefits**
- A. Free bronze marker, flag, Presidential Memorial Certificate, and military rites to eligible veterans.
  - B. Burial/Plot Allowance – Available for service-connected veterans, veterans receiving VA Pension or death in a VA facility
33. **Shawano County ADRC** – Services and support for elderly and disabled individuals call today 855-492-2372.

**“Call your CVSO office annually to stay updated on VA Benefit Changes”**