# Benefits for Veterans and their Family Members

## Are you a Veteran?
- **PAST Service:** Served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force, or Full Time National Guard Duty
  - **Wartime Service:** Served for at least 90 days, with at least 1 day being during a war.
  - **Honorable Discharge:** Was discharged under honorable conditions or a service-connected disability, Purple heart, or died in service.
- **ACTIVE Service:** Served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Air Force
  - **Length of Service:** Served for at least 180 days
    - **UNLESS:** Person was awarded a service-connected disability or who died in such service
  - **Honorable Discharge:** Was discharged from active service under honorable conditions

## I’m not a Veteran. How might I be eligible?
- **Dependents of veterans can be eligible.** Dependents include:
  - **Spouse** of a veteran
    - May include ex-spouses in some situations
  - **Widow** of a veteran
  - **Parent** of a veteran
  - **Child** of a veteran
    - Under 18, OR
    - Attending school to complete a high school degree or GED, OR
    - Is mentally/physically unable to support him/herself, OR
    - Is under 23 years old and a full-time student at an educational institution

## What Benefits Would I Receive?
- If you qualify, you can receive necessary financial assistance for:
  - Food
  - Shelter
  - Clothing
  - Housing supplies
  - Medical care

For details on benefits you may be eligible for, go to [www.massvetsadvisor.org](http://www.massvetsadvisor.org)

## Do I Qualify?
- Income eligibility
- Veteran must reside in Massachusetts (for state benefits)
- Correct documentation of veteran/dependent status – see below for list of documentation

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*Information compiled by [ROSIE’S PLACE]*
Veteran Benefits

How Do I Apply?

- **Every Veteran and His/Her Dependents Have the Right to Apply!**
  - Dependents have the INDEPENDENT right to apply: you can apply on your own, the veteran does not need to be present.
- **Bring correct documentation.** Here is a list of what you may need to bring:
  - Income verification (pay stubs)
  - Shelter verification (if applicable)
  - Documentation of discharge – DD214
- **Documentation of connection to veteran:**
  - Spouse, Ex-Spouse, or Widow: Marriage Certificate (for spouse or widow/widower of a veteran)
  - Widow, Child of Deceased Veteran: Death certificate
  - Child: Birth certificate or adoption record with name of eligible veteran as parent
  - Parent: Birth certificate for veteran with name of parent

• **Where do I go? Find your local Veteran Service Office.**
  City of Boston Veterans’ Services
  43 Hawkins Street, 3rd Floor
  Boston, MA 02114
  617.635.3026
  Veterans@cityofboston.gov

• **Additional questions or for more information:**
  - Contact Shelter Legal Services and ask for Veterans’ Legal Services: 617-552-0623

**KNOW YOUR RIGHTS**

*The Veteran Service Office cannot refuse to take your application.*

For help appealing a case where you have been denied, or for other legal questions regarding Veteran status or benefits, contact the Veterans Legal Clinic at the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law: 617-390-2525. The clinic is located at 122 Boylston Street in Jamaica Plain, right next to the Stony Brook T Station.