

# ***VETERANS BENEFITS***

Did you know that Illinois is one of only seven states with a veteran population of one million or more? Veterans in Illinois are a vital and thriving part of our community, but many are unaware of the veterans benefits that may be available to them, a spouse, a surviving spouse, or a dependent. The agencies listed below can answer questions or provide additional information.

## **Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA)**

833 S. Spring Street  
P.O. Box 19432  
Springfield, IL 62794-9432  
**(217) 782-6641**  
**[www.state.il.us/agency/dva](http://www.state.il.us/agency/dva)**



**Wheaton Office:** 421 N. County Farm Road  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
**(630) 690-9449**

Provides a wide variety of benefits to veterans and their families. VA benefits include pensions for wartime veterans; compensation for service related and non-service related disabilities; education and training; home mortgage loans; specially adapted homes, clothing, autos for disabled veterans; life and mortgage insurance; burial fees; survivors' financial assistance; various forms of employment assistance; and medical care. This office can also assist veterans in obtaining military separation/discharge papers and fishing licenses.

## **DuPage County Veterans Assistance Commission (VAC)**

421 N. County Farm Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor North/Atrium  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
**(630) 407-5655**  
**[www.co.dupage.il.us/vac](http://www.co.dupage.il.us/vac)**

Provides emergency financial assistance to veterans in DuPage County and their families, during difficult economic times, such as mortgage/rent payments, utility payments, emergency essentials, and advocacy. This office can also assist veterans in obtaining military separation/discharge papers and provide contact information for local veterans organizations.

**Military One Source (MOS)**  
**1-800-342-9647**  
**www.militaryonesource.com**

A Department of Defense contracted resource to provide help to any military member or one of their families, whether on Active Duty, National Guard or Reserve. Via phone call or Internet, questions will be answered or resources provided on just about everything from maintaining a budget to issues of deployment. MOS also provides short term counseling for military members and their families. MOS can be contacted 24 hours a day, 7 days per week with 150 languages available.

### **Illinois Veterans Care**

Offers affordable, comprehensive healthcare for Illinois veterans providing medical, dental and vision coverage. Veterans who enroll will not be required to pay the \$40 premium for the first 2 months of coverage. To pre-register stop by one of the 50 veteran service offices, call **1-877-4VETSRX (483-8779)** or visit the web site **www.illinoisveteranscare.com**.

### **AID AND ATTENDANCE PENSION BENEFIT**

A little know benefit, the Aid and Attendance Pension Benefit may be available to help pay for services for wartime veterans and surviving spouses who have in-home care or who live in nursing homes or assisted living facilities. To qualify, applicants must be 65 years of age or older, have served during specific periods of conflict, need assistance with activities of daily living and meet financial eligibility criteria. For additional information and assistance in applying, call **1-800-827-1000** or visit on-line at **www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov**.

### **CLINICS**

Offer primary care services and outpatient pharmacy services.

**Aurora Veterans Outpatient Clinic**  
1700 N. Landmark Road, Aurora, IL 60506  
**(630) 859-2504**

**Elgin Veterans Outpatient Clinic**  
450 Dundee Avenue, Suite 100, Elgin 60120  
**(847) 742-5920**



## LONG TERM CARE - ILLINOIS VETERANS HOMES

Each **Illinois Veterans Home** provides quality long term care services to the residents living there. Volunteers from local community and veterans' organizations provide many additional supporting services and activities. Illinois law and Department rules determine specific eligibility for admission to one of the Veterans Homes.

**Illinois Veterans Home Anna**  
792 N. Main Street  
Anna, IL 62906  
**(618) 833-6302**

**Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno**  
1 Veterans Drive  
Manteno, IL 60950  
**(815) 468-6581**

**Illinois Veterans Home in LaSalle**  
1015 O'Connor Avenue  
LaSalle, IL 61301  
**(815) 223-0303 Ext. 210**

**Illinois Veterans Home in Quincy**  
1707 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Quincy, IL 62301  
**(217) 222-8641**

Several local long term care facilities within DuPage County also have contracts with the Veterans Administration to provide long term care services to veterans. See Long Term Care Facilities on page 95 for additional information.

## MEDICAL CENTERS

Eligible veterans can access services through the VA Medical Center or VA outpatient clinic nearest their home. Once enrolled, veterans may use services at any one of the 1,200 VA locations nationwide.

**Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital**  
5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Roosevelt Road, Hines, IL 60141-5000  
**(708) 202-8387**

Services provided include specialized clinical programs in areas such as Blind Rehabilitation, Spinal Cord Injury, Cardiovascular Surgery and Residential Care.

**Jesse Brown VA Medical Center**  
820 S. Damen Avenue, Chicago, IL 60612  
**(312) 569-8387**

The center consists of a 188-bed acute care facility, and four community based outpatient clinics. Jesse Brown VAMC provides care to approximately 62,000 veterans who reside in the City of Chicago and Cook County Illinois, and in six counties in northwestern Indiana.

**North Chicago VA Medical Center**

30001 Green Bay Road, North Chicago, IL 60064

**(847) 688-1900**

Services provided include comprehensive mental health services, extended and primary care, a homeless domiciliary, and a drug and alcohol program.

**TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMS**  
**AND SHELTERS FOR VETERANS**

**Cathedral Shelters of Chicago**

**(312) 997-2222**

**[www.catholiccharities.net/services/veterans](http://www.catholiccharities.net/services/veterans)**

**Cathedral Shelters**

1668 W. Ogden Avenue

Chicago, IL 60612

**Higgins House**

207 S. Ashland Avenue

Chicago, IL 60607

Residential short and long term living and treatment centers for those with co-occurring Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and substance abuse disorders.

**Eddie Beard Homeless Veterans**

2425 W. Jackson Boulevard

Chicago, IL 60612-2937

**(312) 455-9767**

VA per diem program. Veterans must present with co-occurring Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and substance abuse disorder. (Waiting list)

**Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program**

1639 W. Walnut Street

Chicago, IL 60612-2521

**(312) 226-2730**

Provides direct service to veterans, assisting with employment and housing.

**Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs**

**The Prince Home at Manteno**

One Veterans Drive

Manteno, IL 60950

**(815) 468-6581, Ext. 316**

Provides housing and support services for disabled homeless veterans, male and female, on the grounds of Manteno Veterans Home.

**Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans**

119 N. West Street

Wheaton, IL 60187

**(630) 871-8387**

**[www.helpaveteran.org](http://www.helpaveteran.org)**

VA per diem program. Veteran must present with co-occurring Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and substance abuse disorder. (Waiting list)

**St. Leo's Residence for Veterans**

7750 S. Emerald

Chicago, IL 60620

**(773) 651-9950**

**[www.stleoveterans.com](http://www.stleoveterans.com)**

Housing with case management services to assist homeless veterans become self-sufficient. VA clinic on site.

**Veterans Administration Medical Center**

5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Roosevelt Road

Hines, IL 60141

**[www.catholiccharities.net](http://www.catholiccharities.net)**

A partnership of the Veterans Administration and Catholic Charities provides the following two housing resources on the grounds at Hines Hospital.

**Bishop Goedert Residence**

**(708) 273-6600**

Veteran housing for those with low-incomes  
Age 62 and older.

**Cook's Manor**

**(708) 373-2873**

Transitional housing for  
homeless veterans.

## VET CENTERS

Offer mental health counseling, job placement assistance, and information and referrals to veterans.

### **Oak Park Veterans Center**

155 S. Oak Park Blvd., Oak Park, IL 60302

**(708) 383-3225**

### **Veterans' Medical Benefits**

Congress appropriates funds each year to provide medical coverage for veterans. The number of veterans who can be served each year is determined by this appropriation. Since funds are limited, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) developed priority groups to insure that the neediest are served. There are no premiums for this coverage but there may be co-payments. For more information contact the VA at **1-800-827-1000**, or visit their website at [www.va.gov/healtheligibility](http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility).

#### **DuPage Veterans Memorial, Inc.**

421 N. County Farm Road

Wheaton, IL 60187

**(630) 407-6434**

**Email: [veterans.memorial@dupageco.org](mailto:veterans.memorial@dupageco.org)**

**[www.dupageco-il-vetsmemorial.org](http://www.dupageco-il-vetsmemorial.org)**



The DuPage Veterans Memorial, Inc. is a not for profit corporation formed by veterans to assist in the maintenance, care, and enhancements to the Veterans Memorial site, which is located on the grounds of the DuPage County Government Center in Wheaton. The corporation also organizes and hosts veteran related ceremonies and activities for presentation to the community.

A web page is dedicated to presenting a positive image of all members of the United States Armed Forces, and promoting patriotism. The web page also provides a variety of Internet links to DuPage County, State, and Federal information and resources specific to the interests and needs of veterans.