

Greetings from the Cayuga County Veterans Service Agency (VSA)

95 Genesee Street, Auburn, NY 13021. 315-253-1281. veterans@cayugacounty.us

<https://www.cayugacounty.us/318/> <https://www.facebook.com/cayugaVSA/>

We are here to help Veterans and family members connect to benefits that can help improve quality of life and overall wellness. Please feel free to **contact us** about anything related to Veteran benefits and we will do our best to assist. Our goal is an informed, supported, recognized, energized and well-connected Veteran community.

Check this list for programs/benefits that Veterans and surviving spouses might be able to get. If you don't have or aren't aware of the benefits on the list, we can help you determine eligibility. All benefits do not necessarily apply to all Veterans.

___ Have **"Veteran" printed on your driver's license** for free at the County DMV

<https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/veteran-status-designation-photo-document>

___ **File your DD214** with the County Clerk's Office for safekeeping, and learn about **discounts** at local businesses with the **"Return the Favor" Program**

<https://www.cayugacounty.us/365/>

___ **Free admission to National Parks** and Federal Recreation lands

<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/11-8-2022-lifetime-pass.htm>

___ Ensure that you are getting **Veteran property tax exemptions**, including **new Cold War**, and **additional** exemption for a Veterans Affairs disability rating.

<https://www.cayugacounty.us/459/>

___ **NYSEG credit** for disabled Veterans

<https://www.nyseg.com/w/heap-and-eap-programs>

___ **RG&E credit** for disabled Veterans

<https://www.rge.com/account/waystopay/help-with-bill/eap>

___ **Transportation** to medical appointments <https://www.cayugacounty.us/599/>

___ **Office for the Aging** helps those 60+ with wellness issues

<https://www.cayugacounty.us/507/>

Veteran Affairs benefits at <https://www.va.gov>, 800-827-1000:

___ **Compensation** for current medical conditions that can be connected to military service or if service-connected conditions have gotten worse. **If over 30% rated**, ensure dependents are included <https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/>

___ **Support for surviving spouses** of Veterans who died of service-connected conditions <https://www.va.gov/disability/dependency-indemnity-compensation/>

___ **Low or no cost VA health care** depending on service, medical conditions, and income. <https://www.va.gov/health-care/>

___ **VA Dental Benefits:** <https://www.va.gov/health-care/about-va-health-benefits/dental-care/>

___ **Non-service-connected pensions** for very low-income Veterans and surviving spouses <https://www.va.gov/pension/eligibility/>

___ **Payments for Aid and Attendance** for those who need help with Daily Activities or **Housebound** benefits. <https://www.va.gov/pension/aid-attendance-housebound/>

Potential New York State Veteran Benefits. These and more at <https://veterans.ny.gov/>

- ___ **Low-cost hunting at fishing permits** for Veterans with $\geq 40\%$ rating
- ___ **Free State Park Admission** for Veterans with $\geq 40\%$ compensation rating
- ___ **Veteran License Plates** <https://dmv.ny.gov/plates/military-and-veterans>
- ___ **Various Education Benefits** for Veterans and family members
- ___ **Veteran Employment Assistance** <https://dol.ny.gov/services-veterans>
- ___ **Blind Annuity** <https://veterans.ny.gov/new-york-state-blind-annuity-program>

Programs that can help with housing improvement, energy efficiency and utilities.

- ___ **Low-income energy conservation** assistance: <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/EmPower-New-York-Program> 1-877-NYSMART.
- ___ **Other Energy Conservation Programs:** <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-programs#category=homeowners>
- ___ **Housing Help** <https://www.usa.gov/housing-help>
- ___ **USDA rural home repair loans and grants** <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs>
- ___ **Bishop Sheen Foundation:** <https://sheenhousing.org/services/>
- ___ **Homsite Development:** <https://www.homsite.org/home-improvement>
- ___ **Finger Lakes Community Action:** <https://www.fingerlakescommunityaction.org/programs>
Housing Efficiency Weatherization 315-333-4155
Older Adults Safe Home Modification Program 315-333-4155
- ___ **Low Income Water Assistance:** <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/water-assistance/>
- ___ **NYSEG and RG&E Utilities with disconnect notice** (\$200 grant): 800-599-4327
<https://www.nyseg.com/account/waystopay/helpwithbill/project-share>

Programs that can help with safety, mental health and substance abuse issues.

- ___ **Veterans Suicide Hotline:** 988 press 1 or Text 838255 or chat online through the VA Mental Health Website: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/health-needs-conditions/mental-health/>
- ___ **Confidential Help for Alcohol & Drugs (CHAD)**
<https://www.chadcounseling.org/> (315) 253-9786
- ___ **Homeless Vet Hotline:** 877-424-3838
- ___ **Women Veterans Call Center:** 855-829-6636. <https://www.va.gov/health-care/health-needs-conditions/womens-health-needs/>
- ___ **Domestic Violence Assistance:** 24-hour hotline (315-255-6221)
<https://caphelps.org/programs/>
- ___ **Cayuga County Adult Protective Unit** at (315) 253-1446
- ___ **Legal Resources:** <https://www.va.gov/OGC/LegalServices.asp>
<https://www.nysda.org/page/AboutVDP>

Burial Benefits are available based on each Veterans nature of service:

Veteran Affairs: <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/eligibility/>

New York State: <https://veterans.ny.gov/state-supplemental-burial-allowance>

We offer metal markers with flags (and other support to Veterans), thanks to generous donations to our Veteran Support Fund.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about Veteran Support issues. Our hours are 0830-1630 Monday-Friday. 315-253-1281. We also make house calls! Contact us if you are interested in joining an **AMVETS post** to honor Medal of Honor Awardee, **Robert F. Stryker**. <https://www.cmohs.org/recipients/robert-f-stryker>. Focus is on Throop residents, but anyone can join. We also encourage membership in other Veteran organizations in the area, to support each other and build camaraderie.

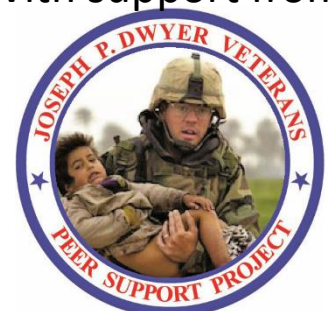
Cayuga County VSA is a partner to help Veterans and families in their endeavors for better lives and to overall strengthen the Veteran Community in Cayuga County. We encourage Veterans to help others by **volunteering** (DAV is always looking for drivers (315) 461-7348). We expect Veterans to **live quality lives** to make our communities great places to live. We are county neighbors who are here to answer questions, encourage and connect people with deserved benefits, in an effort to reduce curmudgeonry.

We are available to address groups interested in Veteran subjects and we meet Veterans one on one. Follow us on Facebook for updates <https://www.facebook.com/cayugaVSA/>

Thank you for your service!



With support from



Veterans in crisis call 988, then press 1