

Checklist for Returning and Recently Separated Servicemembers

Philadelphia Veterans Advisory Commission is happy to provide you with this convenient checklist for your visit with us or one of our regional offices. These documents will help when you are applying for services or benefits.

If you would like assistance gathering these documents, or have questions, please call one of our benefits advisors at **(215) 686-3256**.

Where to Go:

Contact the County Veterans' Affairs Director in the county you reside to set up an appointment. See list included with this checklist.

The Following Documents are Needed:

- [Obtain](#) your Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, also known as your DD214.
- Have your DD214 recorded in the County Recorder's Office to safeguard your records. You will need them again. Visit www.phila.gov/records online, or call 215-686-2261 for more information.
- Make a free appointment with the Veterans Advisory Commission or Accredited Service Organization to receive advice the services you may qualify to receive. Be sure to bring:
 - Service Medical Records
 - Personnel File
 - Dental Record

Healthcare

Register for VA Healthcare benefits [online](#) or by using the [10-10EZ form](#).

Housing and Real Estate

When you are ready to buy a home, be sure to tell your lender that you are a veteran and are interested in using the [VA Home Loan Guaranty](#). You will be asked to provide a copy of your DD214.

Employment

If you need employment assistance, call or visit your local Philadelphia CareerLink office to speak with a Veterans Employment Representative about the following:

- An assessment of your military skills that can be valuable in civilian employment.
- Vocational training and other classes that can enhance your skillset.
- Assistance in connecting with employers seeking veterans.

Education

Review the latest updates to the [G.I. Bill](#) and [Yellow Ribbon Funding](#). When visiting colleges, always identify yourself as a veteran and ask to speak to the college's Veterans Representative. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania always makes an Educational Gratuities available to disabled veterans and their children.



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