

“I enjoy going online and being able to talk to my doctor. I can email back and forth, and it makes it so much easier where I don’t have the hassle of coming into an actual building.”

— **Harold**, a retired U.S. Marine



VA Serves Veterans Living in Rural Communities

Did You Know ...

- Nearly one-quarter of all Veterans—more than 5 million—live in rural areas.
- More than one-third of enrolled Veterans with a service-connected disability live in rural communities.
- Through rural outreach, community clinics, and other activities, VA strives to make sure that no matter where you live, you can access the benefits you’ve earned.

VA Serves Rural Veterans

In gratitude for your honorable service to our nation, VA provides benefits to help you take care of your family; buy, retain, or modify a home; earn a degree; start a career; stay healthy; and do so much more in life after the military.

Here are a few ways that VA can help Veterans who live in rural communities:

- **We come to you.** For many Veterans, VA isn’t right around the corner. That’s why we send people out to your communities and use outpatient and mobile clinics to make sure that you’re aware of and have access to VA benefits and health services. VA representatives can enroll you in VA health care, set up your medical records, and help you get an appointment.
- **We connect you to VA.** If you need a ride to a VA facility, you may be able to use the Veterans Transportation Service, which serves 45 VA medical centers. Some beneficiaries may be entitled to travel-related cost reimbursements in connection with obtaining VA health care services.
- **We’re dedicated to getting you access to the care you need when you need it.** VA is using innovative technologies to improve rural Veterans’ access to care. We do this through telemedicine; with Secure Messaging, mobile apps, and online medical records, Veterans can communicate with VA and access their health information at any time.
- **We bring care closer to where you live.** VA improves access to primary, mental health, and specialty care by bringing services closer to rural Veterans through new clinical facilities, home-based primary care, and other improved models of health care delivery. VA is expanding our network of community clinics to better serve you. We’re also providing immediate improvements to access through the Veterans Choice Program, which allows Veterans to see non-VA health care providers in rural areas.

Find Out How You Can Benefit

Explore VA Benefits at **VA.gov**



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