Past Issues

RSS 3



The PACT Act: What Does It Mean for Veterans?





The Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act, known as the PACT Act, is a new law that expands <u>Department of Veterans Affairs</u> healthcare and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. The most significant expansion of Veterans' benefits and services in more than 30 years, this historic bill provides generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they have earned and deserve.

The PACT Act means quicker access to healthcare services for millions of Veterans exposed to toxins during their military service. The law expands healthcare eligibility to certain Veterans who may not have been eligible before and requires the VA to furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care for any illness to three new categories of Veterans:

- Category 1: Veterans who participated in a toxic exposure risk activity (as
 defined by law) while serving on active duty, active duty for training, or
 inactive duty training
- Category 2: Veterans assigned to a duty station in certain locations (including airspace) on or after: August 2, 1990, in Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, or United Arab Emirates and September 11, 2001, in Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Uzbekistan, Yemen, or any other country determined relevant by the VA
- Category 3: Veterans who deployed in support of: Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Freedom's Sentinel; Operation Iraqi Freedom,

Operation New Dawn, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Resolute Support Mission.

The VA encourages Veterans and survivors to apply now for the PACT Actrelated benefits and care they have earned. All Veterans and survivors can go to <u>VA.gov/PACT</u> or call the VA at 1-800-MYVA411 to learn more about what this landmark legislation means for them.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month: NYC Resources for Domestic Violence



October is designated as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This a time to raise awareness about violence, hold accountable those who commit acts of abuse, and support survivors of domestic violence.

Domestic violence affects individuals in every community regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality.

The Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence notes that domestic violence is considered one of the most under-reported crimes, saying that in 2021 there were 260,084 domestic violence incident reports filed by the NYPD – an average of 700 a day. In 2021, there were 93,735 calls to New York City's 24-hour Domestic Violence hotline at 1-800-621-HOPE (4673), with 6,970 unduplicated requests for shelters. The NYC Hope website of survivor

resources had 50,100 visits – an average of almost 140 visits a day.

Everyone deserves a relationship free from domestic violence.

NYC is committed to helping survivors heal, gain independence, and safely rebuild their lives.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, help is available.

Call <u>311</u> and ask to be connected to the nearest <u>NYC Family Justice Center</u> (<u>FJC</u>) or walk in to one of their locations between Monday and Friday, 9 am-5 pm.

Survivors can get connected to organizations that provide economic empowerment, counseling, civil, legal, and criminal legal assistance. Located in all five boroughs, FJCs are safe and caring environments that give survivors one-stop services and support.

You can seek help by calling NYC's 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-621-HOPE (4673).

NYC Veterans Advisory Board Meeting -October 19

NYC VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD PUBLIC SESSION

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 - 6 PM



IN-PERSON:

David N. Dinkins Municipal Building 1 Centre Street, 22nd Floor New York, NY 10007

RSVP: https://tinyurl.com/NYCVAB

ZOOM:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86113259398? pwd=R1d2dk1BUWpLUVVIOXBsbHo1ZFhRUT09

Meeting ID: 861 1325 9398

Passcode: 355418

Questions? nycveteransadvisoryboard@gmail.com

The NYC Veterans Advisory Board (VAB), made up of 11 NYC Veterans who have been appointed by either the Mayor of NYC or the Speaker of the NYC Council, advises the NYC Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) on all matters concerning NYC Veterans and their families. The members represent the five boroughs of NYC.

Holding regular public meetings, this diverse group of NYC Veterans keeps an

open line of communication with the public. VAB offers NYC Veterans a place to grow by engaging Veterans in meaningful dialogue.

DVS welcomes the public at our VAB meetings. Please <u>RSVP</u> to the VAB public meeting on October 19 at 6:00 pm at 1 Centre Street (David N. Dinkins Municipal Building).

Join Our Team! Be Part of the Mission!



Being part of our team is a great way to continue to serve. The <u>NYC</u> <u>Department of Veterans' Services (DVS)</u> empowers communities with Veteran talent, skills, and preparedness. Join us in serving again - your community.

See below for current job openings at DVS:

Current DVS Job Openings

<u>Visit NYC.gov/jobs and select "Veterans' Services" from the agency menu to learn more about and apply to any of the jobs below.</u>

Community Outreach Coordinator

Procurement Analyst

Director of Housing & Support Services

Director of Mental Health & Care Coordination Unit

Director of Veteran Benefit Claims Unit

Veteran Benefits Coordinator – Bronx

Veteran Benefits Coordinator – Brooklyn

Veteran Benefits Coordinator - Staten Island

Human Resources Generalist

Burials Care Coordinator

Department of Veteran Services' College Aide

NYC Civil Service Job Openings and Exams



You served your country. Now serve your city!

Do your part to keep the city running! The <u>NYC Department of Citywide</u> <u>Administrative Services (DCAS)</u> makes City government work for all New Yorkers.

There are many diverse career opportunities with NYC DCAS.

Veterans are no longer required to pay application fees for NYC Civil Service examinations.

See below for open competitive NYC Civil Service exam highlights:

Open Competitive Exams

Elevator Mechanic

Do you possess a mechanical aptitude? Applications for the Elevator Mechanic will be processed until October 25. Click <u>here</u> to register for the exam.

Electrician

Do you have technical abilities connected to electrical operation? Applications for the Electrician are being processed until October 25. To sign up for the exam, click <u>here</u>.

Environmental Police Officer

Do you have a passion for the outdoors and want to serve your community? Applications for the Environmental Police Officer are being reviewed until October 25. To apply to take the exam, click here.

VetConnectPro: A First-in-the-Nation Employment Tool



VetConnectPro, is a new employment tool designed to help Veterans find employment within NYC government. The platform features a military skills translator that can match your service experience and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) to City jobs and civil service exams. Upload your resume and get started today:

nyc.gov/vetconnectpro.

Programs and Initiatives

Are You Getting the Benefits You Deserve?

The NYC Department of Veterans'

Services (DVS) represents NYC

Veterans in claims for benefits from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

During a time of economic crisis and high unemployment, we want to ensure that all Veterans get the financial benefits they earned and deserve. To file a claim, fill out the VetConnectNYC.org form and select Benefits Navigation as your preferred service.



To request claims support, visit VetConnectNYC.org.



Our Fight to End Veteran Homelessness



Over the past five years, our <u>Housing</u>
<u>Support Services (HSS)</u> team has found homes for over 1,000 formerly unhoused Veterans. Click <u>here</u> to learn more about DVS's efforts to end chronic homelessness among Veterans in New York City.

VetBizNYC: Supporting Veteran Entrepreneurship

DVS has launched <u>VetBizNYC</u>, an interactive map that identifies Veteranowned businesses across the five boroughs. New Yorkers can use our interactive map to find and support Veteran-owned businesses in their community.



Veterans Voices Project: Changing the Narrative of Veterans



Administered by the <u>NYC Department of Veterans' Services</u>, the <u>Veteran Voices Project (VVP)</u> is an oral history initiative designed to preserve the stories of New York City's Veterans across all military branches and service areas. For more information, visit <u>nyc.gov/vetvoices</u>.

Contact Us

- Complete the services request form at vetconnectnyc.org
- Message the Commissioner
- Partner with DVS
- Press Inquiries

Stay tuned on our website www.nyc.gov/vets and social media platforms @nycveterans.nyc.gov. or via email at connect@veterans.nyc.gov.









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