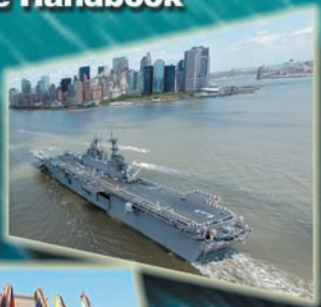


The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs



# BUREAU FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

## Reference Handbook



**Benefits and Services for Veterans  
and their Beneficiaries in Pennsylvania**

## INTRODUCTION

### YOU SERVED YOUR STATE AND COUNTRY WITH HONOR...

The Bureau for Veterans Affairs' mission is to provide world-class advice and assistance to Pennsylvania's 1.12 million veterans; to provide the highest quality care to aging veterans; to create responsible citizens and develop life-long learning skills in the students who reside at Scotland School for Veterans' Children.

### What the Bureau for Veterans Affairs Offers

#### Major State VA Benefits and Services:

- Veterans Emergency Assistance Program
- Disabled Veterans Real Estate Tax Exemption Program
- Educational Gratuity
- Blind Veterans Pension
- Paralyzed Veterans Pension
- Veterans Service Officer Support
- Scotland School for Veterans' Children
- 6 Veterans Homes
- Pennsylvania Veterans Memorial
- DD214/215 Program
- Customer Service



#### Other Programs & Services:

- State Retirement
- Veterans Preference
- Veterans Employment Service
- Educational Grants
- Free Fishing, Furtrapper & Hunting Licenses
- Vehicle Registration
- Birth & Death Records
- Parking Placards

Bureau For Veterans Affairs Website: [www.dmva.state.pa.us/dmvanew/cwp/view.asp?a=1132&Q=440247&dmvanewNav=|29762|](http://www.dmva.state.pa.us/dmvanew/cwp/view.asp?a=1132&Q=440247&dmvanewNav=|29762|)

## STATE BENEFITS

### STATE BENEFITS

#### VETERANS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

- Provides financial aid in an emergency and on a temporary basis (not to exceed three months in a 12-month period) to veterans, their widows, infant children or dependents who reside in Pennsylvania for the necessities of life (food, dairy, shelter, fuel and clothing).

##### **Eligibility:**

- ✓ An honorably discharged veteran.
- ✓ Loss of income within 180 days of application.
- ✓ Served during established war service dates as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- ✓ Upon the recent death of a veteran, their spouse or orphaned children are eligible provided the veteran would have qualified prior to his/her death.

See your county Director of Veterans Affairs for an application & assistance.

#### EDUCATIONAL GRATUITY

- Educational gratuities (up to \$500.00 per semester/term) are for children of honorably discharged veterans who have wartime service-connected disabilities or children of veterans who die or died in service during a period of war or armed conflict.

##### **Eligibility:**

- ✓ Death during a period of war or armed conflict or,
- ✓ War service-connected disabilities.
- ✓ Rated as totally and permanently disabled by U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- ✓ Children must be between the ages of 16 and 23, living within the Commonwealth five years prior to application and must attend a school within the Commonwealth.

See your county Director of Veterans Affairs for an application & assistance.

## **REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION**

- Any honorably discharged veteran who is a resident of the Commonwealth shall be exempt from the payment of all real estate taxes levied upon any building, including the land upon which it stands, occupied by him/her as his principal dwelling, provided that all eligibility criteria is met.

### **Eligibility:**

- ✓ Veteran must be a resident of the Commonwealth.
- ✓ Veteran must be honorably discharged or released under honorable conditions from the armed forces of the U.S. for service in a war or armed conflict in which the U.S. was engaged.
- ✓ Veteran must have a 100% permanent and total service-connected disability rating by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- ✓ Veteran must occupy the real estate as his/her principal dwelling.
- ✓ Dwelling is owned solely by the veteran or as an estate in the entirety.
- ✓ Veteran must prove financial need according to the criteria established by the State Veterans Commission.
- ✓ Upon the death of a qualified veteran, tax exemption may pass on to the unmarried surviving spouse if financial need can be shown.

### **How Do I Apply?**

You may apply through any County Veterans' Affairs office, usually located at the County Court House.

### **How Is Financial Need Established?**

An applicant will be considered to have a financial need for the exemption when the applicant's allowable expenses exceed the applicant's household income. The applicant's monthly household expenses will be calculated to include a cost of living allowance and dependent's allowance.

### **What Happens after Eligibility Criteria Has Been Verified and Certification of Need for Tax Exemption Has Been Approved?**

The Board for the Assessment and Revision of Taxes will grant the tax exemption. Cases that have been granted tax exemption will be reviewed periodically to determine continued need for exemption from certain real property taxes.

See your county Director of Veterans Affairs for an application & assistance.

**BLIND VETERANS PENSION**

- Provides for a pension of \$150.00 per month.

**Eligibility:**

- ✓ Served in the military honorably.
- ✓ Resident of PA upon entering the military.
- ✓ Suffered a service-related injury or incurred a disease which resulted in loss of vision:
  - Visual acuity with correcting lens is 3/60 or 10/200 or equivalent, or less normal vision in the better eye or,
  - Includes circumstances where the widest diameter of the visual field of the better eye has contracted to an angular distance of not greater than 2°.

See your county  
Director of Veterans  
Affairs for an  
application &  
assistance.

**PARALYZED VETERANS PENSION**

- Provides for a pension of \$150.00 per month.

**Eligibility:**

- ✓ Served in the military honorably during an established period of war or armed conflict or during hostilities occurring in peacetime.
- ✓ Resident of PA upon entering the military.
- ✓ Suffered an injury or disease resulting in the loss or loss of use of two or more extremities (arms/hands or legs/feet)
- ✓ Rated 100% disabled by VA.

**EDUCATIONAL GRANTS FOR VETERANS  
AND POW/MIA DEPENDENTS**

Qualified veterans of the U.S. Armed Services are eligible for consideration for state grants while they are full-time undergraduate students. Veterans must comply with Pennsylvania's residency (domicile) requirements and other PHEAA eligibility requirements.

Dependent children of members or former members of the U.S. Armed Services who served on active duty after January 31, 1955, who are or have been listed as missing in action or prisoners of war who were (domiciliary) residents of Pennsylvania for at least 12 months preceding service on active duty are eligible for undergraduate state grants. For more information call 1-800-692-7392. [www.pheaa.org/specialprograms/ChildrenOfSoldiersDeclaredPOWMIA.shtml](http://www.pheaa.org/specialprograms/ChildrenOfSoldiersDeclaredPOWMIA.shtml).

## **CIVIL SERVICE PREFERENCE**

Honorably discharged veterans receiving a **PASSING** score on a state Civil Service examination are given an additional 10 points on initial appointment only. Widows of veterans and wives of disabled service-connected veterans are also extended the same preference rating. Civil Service Commission, P.O. Box 569, Harrisburg, PA 17120 or call (717) 787-6039. Pamphlet: [www.scsc.state.pa.us/scsc/lib/scsc/pamphlets/veteranspreference.pdf](http://www.scsc.state.pa.us/scsc/lib/scsc/pamphlets/veteranspreference.pdf). State Management Directive: [www.oa.state.pa.us/oac/cwp/view.asp?a=12&q=130672](http://www.oa.state.pa.us/oac/cwp/view.asp?a=12&q=130672).

## **BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS**

Certified copies of birth and death records are issued to veterans and their dependents without cost.

Division of Vital Records,

Central Bldg., Suite 401, 101 S. Mercer Street

New Castle, PA 16103

Phone (724) 656-3100

[www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/cwp/view.asp?a=168&Q=229939](http://www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/cwp/view.asp?a=168&Q=229939).

## **VETERANS LICENSE PLATES/PLACARDS:**

- 1) Person with Disability Parking Placard Application (MV-145A (09-04)) can be obtained at the following website:  
[www.dot10.state.pa.us/pdotforms/mv\\_forms/mv-145a.pdf](http://www.dot10.state.pa.us/pdotforms/mv_forms/mv-145a.pdf)
- 2) Application for Disabled Veteran, Severely Disabled Veteran Registration Plate or Severely Disabled Veterans Motorcycle Plate Decal (MV-145V (02-02)) can be obtained at the following website:  
[www.dot10.state.pa.us/pdotforms/mv\\_forms/mv-145v.pdf](http://www.dot10.state.pa.us/pdotforms/mv_forms/mv-145v.pdf)
- 3) Application for Special U.S. Military Veteran Registration Plates (MV-150 (9-05)) can be obtained at the following website:  
[www.dot10.state.pa.us/pdotforms/mv\\_forms/mv-150.pdf](http://www.dot10.state.pa.us/pdotforms/mv_forms/mv-150.pdf)

Department of Transportation

Bureau of Motor Vehicles

1101 South Front Street

Harrisburg, PA 17104-2516

Phone: 1-800-932-4600

## STATE RETIREMENT

Honorably discharged veterans employed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a period of at least three years may be eligible to purchase credit for active military duty time. However, you must meet certain conditions:

- You must have an Armed Forces discharge that is not characterized as other than honorable, bad conduct or dishonorable discharge.
- You must not have received credit for the same military service in the Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement System.
- You must not have received, be receiving or be entitled to receive, now or in the future, benefits for such service under a retirement system administered and wholly or partially paid for by any other governmental agency or by any private employer or a retirement program approved by the employer. However, a member who is or will be receiving a federal pension under Title 10, Chapter 1223, Sections 12731-12737 of the United States Code may purchase active military credit if the member is otherwise eligible to do so.

You should contact a State Employees' Retirement System (SERS) Counselor to determine your eligibility. If you call the SERS toll-free number (1-800-633-5461) from a location in Pennsylvania, you will be automatically connected to the Retirement Counseling Center serving the county from which you are calling.

## VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

Veterans' employment Representatives at all Pennsylvania CareerLink offices or participating agencies provide free job counseling, training referrals, and placement services to veterans. Employment offices also assist veterans by providing information about unemployment compensation, job marts, and on-the-job and apprenticeship opportunities. Please contact the Veterans Services Representative in your area for further information. Career Link website: [www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us/homeframe.asp?nocache=3%2F7%2F2006+1%3A05%3A01+PM](http://www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us/homeframe.asp?nocache=3%2F7%2F2006+1%3A05%3A01+PM).

## **FREE FISHING LICENSE FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS**

A resident of Pennsylvania who has a disability incurred in war or armed conflict consisting of a loss or loss of use of one or more limbs, total blindness or who is certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as being 100% disabled as a result of service in a war or armed conflict may be entitled to a free resident fishing license upon application to a county treasurer or the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's Harrisburg office or the six regional law enforcement offices. Applicants should have VA certification, discharge papers, and proof of wartime service. Physician's certificates of disability are not acceptable.

Qualifications can be found at the following website:  
[sites.state.pa.us/PA\\_Exec/Fish\\_Boat/fact\\_disabled\\_lic.htm](http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/Fish_Boat/fact_disabled_lic.htm)

## **FREE HUNTING/FUR TRAPPER LICENSE CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS**

A resident disabled veteran of any war whose disability consists of the loss or loss of use of one or more limbs or who is certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as being 100% disabled as a result of service in a war or armed conflict may be entitled to a free hunting license upon application to a county treasurer. Applicants need physician's certificate, discharge papers and proof of wartime service.

## **ANTLERLESS DEER LICENSE**

Qualifying disabled veterans who are residents of Pennsylvania can receive an antlerless deer license upon application to the county (county treasurer) of their choice, regardless of the county allocation. The fee for this guaranteed disabled veteran antlerless deer license is the same as the regular or military antlerless license.

## ***Free Resident Disabled Veteran Licenses, Prisoner of War Reduced-Fee Hunting Licenses and Antlerless Deer Licenses***

These licenses are available through the County Treasurer's Office. Qualifications can be found at the following website:  
[www.pgc.state.pa.us/pgc/cwp/view.asp?a=511&q=159001](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us/pgc/cwp/view.asp?a=511&q=159001)



## VETERANS HOMES ELIGIBILITY

### VETERANS HOMES ELIGIBILITY

1. An applicant shall be an eligible veteran, spouse or surviving spouse of an eligible veteran. An “eligible veteran” is an individual who (a) served in the United States Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania Military Forces, (b) was honorably discharged, and (c) is a current resident of Pennsylvania or listed Pennsylvania as his/her home of record upon entry into the United States Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania Military Forces. Pennsylvania residents have priority in admission.
2. No applicant is denied admission to a state veterans’ home because of lack of income or assets. Residents of state veterans’ homes and their estates are expected to pay for the costs of their care within their ability to pay. Residents pay monthly maintenance fees, based on available income, to off-set all or part of the total costs of their care. In most cases, the monthly maintenance fee payments represent only a fraction of the costs of care. When a resident passes away, his or her estate is required to pay for any unpaid costs of care from the available assets of the estate.
3. An applicant is admitted in the order the completed application is received at the state veterans’ home, subject to the available services at the desired home and limitations on the percentage of non-veterans in any home.
4. Applicants ineligible for admission:
  - a. An applicant whose physical or mental condition requires treatment, care or custody at levels not available at the home except when the home approves a plan of care where alternative treatment services are readily available in the immediate vicinity of the home.
  - b. An applicant whose behavior creates a reasonable threat to the health, safety or welfare of himself/herself or to others. This exclusion applies to an applicant who is taking medication to control behavior where, in the absence of the medication, the applicant’s behavior would reasonably be expected to create a potential threat to the health, safety or welfare of himself/herself or others.
  - c. An applicant with a history of alcoholism or drug abuse whose history indicates that the applicant may not be responsive to treatment or may not accept or participate in available treatment programs.
  - d. An applicant with a contagious disease.
  - e. An applicant who was convicted of a felony, unless the applicant has demonstrated good character and behavior and has no convictions of crimes or offenses for at least five years subsequent to incarceration.

To obtain an Application for Admission:

- Call Pennsylvania Bureau for Veterans Affairs at 1-800-547-2838.
- Contact your County Director of Veterans Affairs.
- Or visit [www.vets.state.pa.us](http://www.vets.state.pa.us) and click on the Appropriate link under State Veterans Homes.



## LEVELS OF CARE

In **personal care and domiciliary units**, residents receive food and shelter, medical and nursing care, ancillary therapeutic services and recreational activities - all in a supervised, protective environment. Essentially, domiciliary care offers independent living; personal care provides assistance as needed, with eating, bathing and other activities of daily living that do not require constant nursing care.



**Nursing units** provide 24-hour care, seven days a week. Residents receive a complete range of clinical services under the direction of physicians and other licensed health care professionals.

In addition to receiving all other services, residents of **dementia units** benefit from staffing and design features that ensure their safety and security.



LEVELS  
OF  
CARE

VETERANS  
HOME  
SERVICES

## VETERANS HOME SERVICES AND AMENITIES

- ◆ Cheerful, fully furnished rooms.
- ◆ 24-hour professional nursing care.
- ◆ Comprehensive medical care, through in-house medical departments, contracted clinical services and partnerships with federal Veterans Affairs medical centers and other providers.
- ◆ 24-hour pharmacy services.
- ◆ Individualized physical, occupational and speech therapy.
- ◆ Independent and organized recreational programs, both supported by a large group of enthusiastic volunteers.
- ◆ Home-style meals, prepared by qualified cooks under the direction of professional food service managers and clinical dietitians.
- ◆ Licensed social services staff for counseling, problem-solving and referrals to community resources.
- ◆ Spiritual guidance and weekly religious services for all denominations.
- ◆ 24-hour security of buildings and grounds.
- ◆ Free transportation by handicapped-accessible vans to parks, restaurants, shopping centers and other leisure activities.

## YOUR SIX VETERANS HOMES

### **HOLLIDAYSBURG VETERANS HOME**

P.O. Box 319,  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-0319  
Phone (814) 696-5201 Fax (814) 696-5260

#### **514 Beds**

Nursing Care: 270

Dementia: 77

Personal Care: 66

Domiciliary: 66



### **PENNSYLVANIA**

#### **SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME**

560 E. Third Street  
Erie, PA 16512-6239  
Phone (814) 871-4531 Fax (814) 871-4617

#### **207 Beds**

Nursing Care: 75

Dementia: 32

Personal Care: 80

Domiciliary: 20



### **SOUTHEASTERN VETERANS CENTER**

One Veterans Drive  
Spring City, PA 19475-1230  
Phone (610) 948-2400 Fax (610) 948-2405

#### **304 Beds**

Nursing Care: 160

Dementia: 32

Personal Care: 26

Domiciliary: 86



VETERANS  
HOMES

## **GINO J. MERLI VETERANS CENTER**

401 Penn Avenue

Scranton, PA 18503-1239

Phone (570) 961-4300 Fax (570) 961-4400/4405

### **200 Beds**

Nursing Care: 160

Dementia: 24

Personal Care: 16



## **SOUTHWESTERN VETERANS CENTER**

7060 Highland Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15206-1259

Phone (412) 665-6782 Fax (412) 665-6799

### **236 Beds**

Nursing Care: 160

Dementia: 44

Personal Care: 32



## **DELAWARE VALLEY VETERANS HOME**

2701 Southampton Road

Philadelphia, PA 19154-1205

Phone (215) 965-5900 Fax (215) 965-5917

### **171 Beds**

Nursing Care: 100

Dementia: 30

Personal Care: 41



## **VETERANS HOMES DIVISION**

Bureau for Veterans Affairs Pennsylvania

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Bldg. P-O-47

Fort Indiantown Gap

Annville, PA 17003

Phone (717) 861-8906 Fax (717) 861-8589

[www.vets.state.pa.us](http://www.vets.state.pa.us)



**VETERANS  
HOMES**

## SCOTLAND SCHOOL FOR VETERANS' CHILDREN

Scotland School for Veterans' Children is a unique, state-funded institution offering quality residential education to the children of Commonwealth veterans. Established in 1895, the school has been administered by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs since 1996. Some 350 students in grades 3 through 12 live on its 186-acre campus, located in southern Franklin County, near Chambersburg. Here, in a geographic setting far removed from the hectic life of the city and the pressures of growing up, Scotland School has created a loving, caring, safe environment that promotes learning and lifelong achievement.



### MISSION:

Scotland School for Veterans' Children will:

- Provide opportunities for students of Pennsylvania veterans to develop lifelong learning skills.
- Challenge students to achieve full potential as responsible citizens with respect for diversity in a growing global society.
- Offer a quality standards-based education within a safe, caring, residential community.

### VALUES:

**Integrity** – honesty/firm adherence to a code of moral and ethical values.

**Safety** – Actions and attitudes that prevent hurt, injury, or loss.

**Responsibility** – Responsibility and accountability for our own actions in creating a cooperative, independent environment.

**Respect** – Respect for ourselves, the rights and property of others and the environment.

**Kindness** – Kindness exhibited through caring, cooperation, selflessness, and understanding the needs of others.

### **HISTORY:**

For more than 100 years the Commonwealth has provided a home and education for the needy children of Pennsylvania's veterans. In 1866, a pledge which Governor Andrew Curtin had made to two orphans of Civil War soldiers became a reality when the legislature agreed to provide funds for the care and education of children who had lost their parents during the conflict. From the close of the Civil War until 1895, more than 15,000 children were enrolled in 44 child-care institutions across the state. However, seeing a need to centralize its authority, the state purchased property from State Senator Alexander Stewart in Scotland (Franklin County) for the express purpose of building the Pennsylvania Soldiers Orphans Industrial School. In June 1895, 239 children were transferred from the other soldiers' orphans schools, and Scotland School for Veterans' Children, as it is now known, became a reality.

Since this time more than 10,000 children have matriculated at the school. Each child has been provided with a sound education and a nurturing environment. Many have gone on to distinguish themselves in the fields of medicine, law, education, banking and government, and the vast majority have become successful, productive citizens. This tradition continues today.

### **ACADEMICS:**

Academically, Scotland School is as good as any school in the Commonwealth. Classes are small compared with most public schools; individualized instruction is common among elementary children. Tutoring is available for all students through a cooperative program with Shippensburg University. Math and reading specialists provide assistance for those children who need remediation in the basics. The school's curriculum fulfills the requirements of the Pennsylvania School Code and includes numerous elective courses. Extensive use of computers in the learning environment stimulates interest and helps develop skills that will be essential for a successful future.



The vocational offerings at Scotland provide for hands-on experience. In culinary arts and business education, students spend half-day sessions, in addition to normal academic classes, developing marketable job skills.

Should grades decline or the pressures of growing up become burdensome, counselors are present to listen and advise. A psychologist is available to provide specialized testing and guidance.

At graduation most seniors expand their horizons at four or two-year colleges, universities or trade schools, while a few use the knowledge, discipline and leadership skills gained through the required JROTC program to enter the military.

### **CAMPUS LIFE:**

All students at Scotland School receive a well-rounded education that stretches beyond the walls of the classroom. The Scotland School community is committed to values and helps children develop responsibility for their actions as they strive for excellence in all areas of their lives.

Successful enrollment in Scotland School requires an ongoing commitment from the children and the parent. The first few days may be difficult, as a child is exposed to a new life-style characterized by group living, structure and consistency. During this time, parental support of the school's policies is essential. Phone calls, letters and regular visitation are encouraged to help bridge the gap from home.

All students live in detached "cottages," with 10 to 12 children supervised by a house parent. Meals are eaten both in the cottages and in the dining hall.

A day at Scotland begins at 6 a.m. Beds are made, breakfast is eaten, and chores, referred to as "details," are done. The five-minute walk to school begins at 8:15 a.m., and until 3:15 p.m., the children are with teachers who foster an interest in learning and in caring.

In the evening, after dinner, the television is turned off for a mandatory study hour. Because of the cooperative effort between the school faculty and the homelife staff, homework is completed and extra time for study is made available when needed. As the children prepare for bed, there is usually a snack and a favorite TV program.

A weekend at home every month is used as an incentive for good behavior and academic excellence, and children always look forward to the major holidays.

If a child becomes ill or is injured, the campus Health Services Building provides immediate care. For emergencies, the Chambersburg Hospital is only minutes away.

Because Scotland's students are from military families, it is only appropriate that a Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps be a part of the school's life-style. From the 9th through the 12th grades, students learn the importance of organization, motivation and leadership. Although JROTC is not designed to recruit for the military, students learn valuable lessons of citizenship and patriotism along with a strong sense of self-reliance.

Although academics come first at Scotland, the athletic teams are well known throughout the state. During the 1990s Scotland teams have consistently qualified for district playoffs, with the football, boys' basketball and boys' track teams winning Class A State Championships.

### **ADMISSIONS:**

Scotland School for Veterans' Children is a co-educational residential school for students in grades three through twelve located in Scotland, PA. An education is provided at no-cost to applicants who meet the eligibility requirements.

An applicant shall be the natural or adopted child, grandchild, niece, nephew, or sibling of an "eligible veteran." An "eligible veteran" is defined as an individual who:

1. has served in the U.S. Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania Military Forces,
2. and was honorably discharged from military service.

To be considered for enrollment, the child should be academically capable and have an interest in living in residence at Scotland School. His or her custodial parent or legal guardian is required to have maintained Pennsylvania residency for a minimum of three years prior to admission.

The child must be at least six years of age, entering the third grade and must not have reached their sixteenth birthday as of August 1<sup>st</sup> in the school year in which they are admitted.

Contact us for more information on applying for admission to Scotland School for Veterans' Children or to schedule a campus visit, please call the Admissions Office at (717) 264-7187 ext. 657.

#### **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Scotland School for Veterans' Children not to discriminate on the basis of color, religion, sex, handicap, or national origin in its admissions, educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Educational Amendments. Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to the Superintendent, Scotland School for Veterans' children, Scotland, Pennsylvania 17254 or by phone, 717-264-7187, ext 687.



## **CONTACT US:**

For more information on applying for admission to Scotland School for Veterans' Children or to schedule a campus visit, please call the Admissions Office at (717) 264-7187 ext. 657.

## **DIRECTIONS:**

Scotland School for Veterans' Children is located in the village of Scotland, just four miles north of Chambersburg and one mile west of the intersection of Interstate 81 - Exit 20 and Route 997.

**North/Northeast of Scotland:** Use I-81 South to Exit 20 - Scotland. Take Route 997 north towards Scotland. Turn left onto Main Street, left onto Scotland Road. Turn right onto campus.

**From the East (Philadelphia):** Use Pennsylvania Turnpike (76) Exit 226 - Carlisle. Follow signs to I-81 South. Take I-81 south to Exit 20 - Scotland. Continue as above.

**From the West (Pittsburgh):** Use Pennsylvania Turnpike (76) Exit 201 - Blue Mountain/Shippensburg. Take Route 997 south to Roxbury. Turn left on 997 and continue to Scotland.



## QUICK FACTS ABOUT SCOTLAND SCHOOL:

- Academic Curriculum - Middle States Accreditation
- Academic tutors available through cooperative agreement with Shippensburg University and Wilson College.
- Student-to-faculty ratio (8:1) - average class size is 17 students.
- Focus on college prep with vocational opportunities in Culinary Arts and Computer Networking.
- 90 percent of graduates continue education, enrolling in two or four-year post-secondary programs.
- Many Scotland graduates enlist in the PA National Guard or Reserves, taking advantage of GI Bill to defray college costs.
- Students are issued school uniforms and required to maintain appearance standards.
- Tuition free to those who qualify.
- Community service is emphasized for graduation and promotion.



## **WHAT YOU WILL FIND:**

The Scotland School for Veterans' Children offers a rigorous academic program, a wide range of athletic teams and extracurricular activities, a JROTC program and shows respect for the faith of all the students.

Scotland School boasts a faculty of caring professionals whose primary goal is to academically prepare students for future successes in higher education, the military, and beyond. The atmosphere is one of caring concern with class size enabling students to receive hands-on instruction as well as individualized attention.



### ***Athletics***

Scotland boasts competitive athletic teams and places a high premium on sportsmanship and teamwork. Girls compete in volleyball, basketball and track. Boys compete in football, basketball and track.

Participation is a privilege granted to students who demonstrate academic achievement and behave in accordance with our values. All are encouraged to participate as we see intrinsic values in athletic participation. Several state championship banners hang from rafters of Frey Gym and hundreds of trophies fill our display cases. Still, none are more coveted than recognition for sportsmanship.

### ***Extracurricular Activities***

We offer a wide range of extracurricular activities to include:

outdoor recreation, scouting, drama and theater, band, orchestra, choir (gospel and contemporary music), art, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), skiing, bowling and swimming.



## ***JROTC***

Junior Reserve Officer Training Camp (JROTC) participation instills time management, problem-solving, organization, leadership, and communication skills while fostering citizenship and patriotism. Participation is mandatory for all students, ninth through twelfth grade.



Additionally, JROTC offers extracurricular opportunities for select students participation in drill team, color guard and Raider Challenge Team. Select students compete for leadership experiences in the Corps of Cadets and summer camp programs. The Scotland School family is extremely proud of our frequent and consistent recognition as an honor unit with distinction.

## ***Faith and Tolerance***

At Scotland School, respect for the faith of all of our students is central to who we are. All students are encouraged to respect each other's faith. Every weekend, our student body is given an opportunity to attend Protestant or Muslim services held in our non-denominational chapel at the center of our campus. Students of the Roman Catholic or Jewish faiths are taken to their respective services in nearby Chambersburg.



## BUREAU OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FIELD OFFICES

### **Bureau of Veterans Affairs**

Fort Indiantown Gap, Bldg. P-O-47

Annville, PA 17003-5002

(717) 861-8901

(717) 861-8589 fax

Toll Free: 1-800-547-2838

### **The Adjutant General's Office**

Veterans Administration Center,  
Wissahickon Avenue & Manheim Streets

P.O. Box 42938, Philadelphia, PA 19101

(215) 381-3040

(215) 381-3492 fax

Toll Free: 1-866-754-8637

### **The Adjutant General's Office**

Veterans Administration Regional Office,

Suite 1612, 1000 Liberty Avenue,

Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4003

(412) 395-6225

(412) 395-6224 fax

Toll Free: 1-866-754-8636





## COUNTY BENEFITS

*For the following county benefits, see your county Director of Veterans Affairs office.*

### **BURIAL ALLOWANCE**

County burial allowances are provided to veterans and spouses of deceased veterans as indicated in the County Code. The allowance is provided whether or not the person died in the county or was buried in the county. Application for the burial allowance must be made within one year after the date of his or her death.

### **GRAVE MARKERS**

A county grave marker is provided to deceased veterans as indicated in the County Code. The initial grave marker is provided free of charge by the county in which the deceased service person had legal residence at the time of death, whether or not the veteran died in the county or was buried in the county. Future replacements or deteriorated or missing markers may be replaced by the county in which the veteran is buried.

### **GOVERNMENT/PRIVATE HEADSTONES**

County headstone allowances are provided for qualified veterans as indicated in the County Code. The one-time expense shall be borne by the county in which the veteran had legal residence at the time of death, whether or not the veteran died in the county or was buried in the county. There is no time limit to apply for this benefit.

### **MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE RECORDS**

Certified copies of marriage and divorce records are issued without cost to disabled wartime veterans, or members of the armed forces, of any war or armed conflict in which the United States has been, is now or shall be hereafter engaged, or by or on behalf of any dependent of any such veteran or member of the armed forces.

### **DISCHARGE CERTIFICATES**

Honorable discharges are recorded free at the court house of the county seat.

COUNTY  
BENEFITS

COUNTY  
DIRECTORS

## COUNTY DIRECTORS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

<b>Adams</b>	23 Baltimore Street, Suite 103 Gettysburg, PA 17325	(717) 337-9835
<b>Allegheny</b>	Division of Veteran Services 4141 Fifth Avenue, 3rd Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3347	(412) 621-4357
<b>Armstrong</b>	450 E. Market Street, Suite 107 Kittanning, PA 16201-1461	(724) 548-3441
<b>Beaver</b>	810 Third St., Court House, Rm. A100 Beaver, PA 15009-2129	(724) 728-3934 ext 22345
<b>Bedford</b>	204 S. Julian Street Bedford, PA 15522-1767	(814) 623-4848 (814) 623-4849
<b>Berks</b>	1901 Tulpehocken Road, Wyomissing, PA 19610-1000	(610) 378-5601
<b>Blair</b>	423 Allegheny Street, Suite 112 Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-2022	(814) 693-3160 (814) 693-3159
<b>Bradford</b>	Court House Annex 301 Main Street Towanda, PA 18848-1824	(570) 265-1704
<b>Bucks</b>	Department of Veterans Affairs Neshaminy Complex Bldg. K Doylestown, PA 18901	(215) 345-3307
<b>Butler</b>	124 W. Diamond Street, Suite 136 P.O. 1208, Butler, PA 16003	(724) 284-5352 (724) 284-5353
<b>Cambria</b>	Court House 200 S. Center Street Ebensburg, PA 15931-1947	(814) 472-1590
<b>Cameron</b>	24 Carson Street, RR2 Box 321 Emporium, PA 15834-0321	(814) 486-1929
<b>Carbon</b>	Court House, Box 129 Jim Thorpe, PA 18229-0129	(570) 325-3986
<b>Centre</b>	Willowbank Office Bldg420 Holmes Street	(814) 355-6812

<b>Chester</b>	Bellefonte, PA 16823-1488 Govt Services Center, P.O. Box 2747 601 Westtown Road, Suite 385 West Chester, PA 19380-4545	(610) 344-6375
<b>Clarion</b>	Court House, 421 Main Street, Suite 202 Clarion, PA 16214-1024	(814) 226-4000, ext. 2600
<b>Clearfield</b>	650 Leonard Street, Suite 101 Clearfield, PA 16830-3243	(814) 765-4611
<b>Clinton</b>	Clinton County Court House, 230 E. Water St. Lock Haven, PA 17745	(570) 893-4339
<b>Columbia</b>	15 Perry Road, Suite A Bloomsburg, PA 17815-7727	(570) 387-6501, ext. 13
<b>Crawford</b>	903 Diamond Park, Suite B5 Meadville, PA 16335-2613	(814) 333-7314 1-800-982-9019
<b>Cumberland</b>	1 Court House Square East Wing, Suite 110R Carlisle, PA 17013-3387	(717) 240-6178
<b>Dauphin</b>	2 South 2nd Street Harrisburg, PA 17101	(717) 780-6356
<b>Delaware</b>	Court House 201 W. Front Street Media, PA 19063-2708	(610) 891-4646
<b>Elk</b>	300 Center St, Court House Annex Ridgway, PA 15853-1007	(814) 776-5370 (814) 776-5316
<b>Erie</b>	Court House 140 W. Sixth Street, Room 8, Erie, PA 16501-1029	(814) 451-6270 (814) 451-6265
<b>Fayette</b>	22 E. Main Street, Suite 14 Uniontown, PA 15401-3516	(724) 430-1241 (724) 430-1242
<b>Forest</b>	526 Elm Street, No. 3 Tionesta, PA 16353	(814) 755-8842 1-800-222-1706

<b>Franklin</b>	191 Franklin Farm Lane Chambersburg, PA 17201-3064	(717) 263-4326
<b>Fulton</b>	617 Millers Road Three Springs, PA 17264-9504	(814) 685-3932, ext. home
<b>Greene</b>	22 W. High Street, Suite 100 Waynesburg, PA 15370-1536	(724) 852-5275
<b>Huntingdon</b>	Court House 205 Penn Street, Annex 1 Huntingdon, PA 16652-1457	(814) 643-1360
<b>Indiana</b>	Court House 825 Philadelphia Street Indiana, PA 15701-3934	(724) 465-3815
<b>Jefferson</b>	155 Main Street, Suite 210 Brookville, PA 15825-1269	(814) 849-3618
<b>Juniata</b>	Court House Annex P. O. Box 68 Mifflintown, PA 17059	(717) 436-7728 (717) 436-2071
<b>Lackawanna</b>	224 Adams Avenue Scranton, PA 18503-1602	(570) 963-6778, ext. 1891
<b>Lancaster</b>	150 N. Queen Street, Suite 101 Lancaster, PA 17603-3562	(717) 299-7920
<b>Lawrence</b>	430 Court Street New Castle, PA 16101-3593	(724) 656-2180 (724) 656-2172
<b>Lebanon</b>	Municipal Bldg 400 S. Eighth Street Lebanon, PA 17042-6794	(717) 228-4422
<b>Lehigh</b>	17 S. 7th Street Allentown, PA 18101-2400	(610) 782-3295
<b>Luzerne</b>	2009 Wyoming Ave Forty Fort, PA 18704	(570) 718-0448
<b>Lycoming</b>	Court House Annex 48 W. Third Street Williamsport, PA 17701-6514	(570) 327-2365
<b>McKean</b>	500 West Main Street Smethport, PA 16749-1149	(814) 887-3241
<b>Mercer</b>	14 Court House Mercer, PA 16137-0112	(724) 662-3800, ext. 2211 or 2212
<b>Mifflin</b>	20 N. Wayne Street Lewistown, PA 17044-1770	(717) 248-6421
<b>Monroe</b>	1 Quaker Plaza, Room 101 Stroudsburg, PA 18360-2172	(570) 420-3520

<b>Montgomery</b>	Montgomery County Human Services P. O. Box 3111 430 DeKalb Street Norristown, PA 19404-0311	(610) 278-3285
<b>Montour</b>	114 Woodbine Lane, Suite 105 Danville, PA 17821-8120	(570) 271-3061
<b>Northampton</b>	Governor Wolfe Bldg. 45 N. Second Street Easton, PA 18042-7798	(610) 559-3199
<b>Northumberland</b>	399 S. Fifth Street, Room 110 Sunbury, PA 17801-3239	(570) 988-4213
<b>Perry</b>	Court House P.O. Box 37 New Bloomfield, PA 17068	(717) 582-2131 (717) 582-5162
<b>Philadelphia</b>	One City Hall, Room 317 Philadelphia, PA 19107-3200	(215) 686-3256 (215) 686-3257
<b>Pike</b>	Pike County Admin Bldg 506 Broad Street Milford, PA 18337-1596	(570) 296-3563
<b>Potter</b>	1 E. 2nd Street, Room 22, Court House Coudersport, PA 16915-1679	(814) 274-8292 (814) 274-8294
<b>Schuylkill</b>	Court House 410 N. 2nd Street Pottsville, PA 17901-1756	(570) 628-1400
<b>Snyder</b>	9 W. Market St. P.O. Box 217 Middleburg, PA 17842	(570) 837-4277
<b>Somerset</b>	300 N. Center Avenue, Suite 380 Somerset, PA 15501-1497	(814) 445-1551
<b>Sullivan</b>	Main and Muncy Streets P.O. Box 157, Court House LaPorte, PA 18626-0157	(570) 946-5201
<b>Susquehanna</b>	P.O. Box 218331 Public Avenue Montrose, PA 18801-1219	(570) 278-4600, ext. 260

<b>Tioga</b>	Court House Annex 118 Main Street Wellsboro, PA 16901-1444	(570) 723-8141
<b>Union</b>	103 S. Second Street Lewisburg, PA 17837-1996	(570) 524-8676
<b>Venango</b>	1283 Liberty Street, Suite 1 Franklin, PA 16323-1333	(814) 432-9780
<b>Warren</b>	204 Fourth Avenue Warren, PA 16365-2399	(814) 728-3478
<b>Washington</b>	100 W. Beau Street, Suite 703 Washington, PA 15301-4432	(724) 228-6865
<b>Wayne</b>	1 Court House Annex Square 925 Court Street Honesdale, PA 18431-1994	(570) 253-4262 ext 317
<b>Westmoreland</b>	2 N. Main Street, Suite 502 Greensburg, PA 15601-2405	(724) 830-3530 (724) 830-3531
<b>Wyoming</b>	1 Courthouse Square Tunkhannock, PA 18657	(570) 996-2258 (570) 833-4625
<b>York</b>	141 W. Market Street York, PA 17401-1314	(717) 771-9218



## Veterans Service Officers

### Ready to assist Pennsylvania veterans with all benefit questions/concerns

	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
The Adjutant General's Office	215-381-3040	412-395-6226
American Legion	215-381-2032	412-395-6230
American Veterans	215-381-3294	412-395-6248
Disabled American Veterans	215-381-3065	412-395-6241
Military Order of Purple Heart	215-381-3064	412-395-6250
Paralyzed Veterans of America	215-381-3057	412-395-6255
United Spinal Association	215-381-3037	NA
Veterans of Foreign Wars	215-381-3123	412-395-6260

## Veterans Service Organization State Headquarters

American Ex-Prisoners of War:	(717) 737-1345
American Legion:	(717) 730-9100
AMVETS (American Veterans):	(717) 865-9982
Blinded Veterans Association:	(717) 761-4602
Disabled American Veterans:	(717) 761-4060
Keystone Paralyzed Veterans:	(412) 781-2474
Marine Corps League:	(800) 779-7301
Military Order of the Purple Heart:	(724) 437-1220
Veterans of Foreign Wars:	(717) 234-7927
Vietnam Veterans of America:	(610) 356-8524



