**Disability and Benefits Overview**

The VA may provide a number of benefits to Veterans (*contingent on type of discharge*) including, but not limited to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability Compensation</th>
<th>Support for those with limited incomes</th>
<th>Education and Training</th>
<th>Home Loans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dependent and Survivor Benefits</td>
<td>Medical Insurance</td>
<td>Burial and Memorial Benefits</td>
<td>Vocational Rehabilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Care</td>
<td>Crisis Hotlines</td>
<td>Dental Insurance</td>
<td>Assistance with homelessness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you are service connected or receive benefits from the VA, please consult the VA directly at 303.399-8020. If you need assistance with applying for or understanding your benefits, please review the resources below:

**Colorado Veterans Service Officers**

[http://vets.dmva.state.co.us/?page_id=63](http://vets.dmva.state.co.us/?page_id=63)

The Veterans Service Officer (VSO) assists Veterans who served in the United States Military and/or their dependents in filing valid claims for including those listed above as well as life insurance, discharge upgrades, high school diplomas, and other issues.

The VSO may assist a surviving spouse or other individual with any entitled benefit based on the veteran's service history.

Contact Information for local Veterans Service Officers:

**Jefferson County Service Officer:**
- Peter Mortaro
- 303-271-4205
- [pmortaro@jeffco.us](mailto:pmortaro@jeffco.us)
- 3500 Illinois Street, Suite 1600, Golden, CO 80401

**Clear Creek Service Officer:**
- Troy Erickson
- 303-670-7543
- [terickson@co.clear-creek.co.us](mailto:terickson@co.clear-creek.co.us)
- 1531 Colorado Blvd, Idaho Springs, CO 80452

**Gilpin County Service Officer:**
- 303-582-5444 x1103
- 2960 Dory Hill Road, Suite 100 Black Hawk, CO 80422

**Denver County Service Officer:**
- George Cassidy
- 720-944-350
- [george.cassidy@denvergov.org](mailto:george.cassidy@denvergov.org)
- 1200 Federal Boulevard, Denver, CO 80204
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)
303-914-5570
www.dav.org
155 Van Gordon Street, Box 25126, Denver, CO  80225
- Represent Veterans with claims for benefits by helping Veterans build their cases, prepare claim forms and briefs
- May act as attorneys-in-fact when filing claims for VA disability compensation and pension
- Can present claims before government agencies, boards and other bodies
- Free of charge with no obligation

The Military Order of the Purple Heart
303-914-5410
http://www.purpleheart.org/
155 Van Gordon Street, Lakewood, CO  80228-1709 (VA Regional Office, Room 352)
- Provides direct tailored assistance to Veterans, their dependents, widows and orphans in matters involving the Veterans Administration.
- Assists Veterans whose benefits have been denied at the local office.
- Provides services to Veterans in rural and urban areas.
You do not need to be a member of the Order to request assistance.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States
303-914-5595
http://www.vfw.org/
155 Van Gordon Street #360, P.O. Box 29126, Denver, CO  80225 (VA Regional Office)
- Nationwide network of service officers, both on the Department (state) level and Post level (volunteer advocates)
- Assist with developing disabled Veterans’ cases by reviewing and applying current law, pertinent legislation, regulations, and medical histories.
- Function as attorneys-in-fact for Veterans and families they represent.
Review rating board decisions, informing Veterans and their families of the appeals process and of their appellate rights.