

Refresher and general references.

Do you and others know where your DD 214 (Active Duty) or NGB 22 (National Guard) discharge documents are? Please let someone know where you keep these records. The NDVA may have your discharge on file depending on when and where you entered or separated from service. Use an online DD-214 request form to see if it can be located. <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/dd214>

1. **ID Cards:** See attached.

Old Style ID Cards: Beginning in 2026, the old-style, ID cards of all colors (except the new white ones) will no longer be accepted, regardless of the printed expiration date. Visit your nearest DEERS/ID card office to obtain.

- a. Spouses receive an indefinite card at age 65.
- b. When turning 60 you may get an updated ID up to 90 days prior.
- c. When turning 65 and covered under Medicare A&B to return TRICARE For Life (TFL) you will need your Medicare card as proof and get a new ID card.
- d. Outside the locations on the attached listing the site is <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco>. Recommend a zip code to find a location.

ARNG ID Services: For an appointment contact phone #'s on the attached.

ANG ID Services: For the FSS site to schedule an appointment. Go to: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco>.

Select "NE" for state, "Lincoln" for city, then "155 ARW HQ," then day/time.

Call 402-309-1452 for same day appointment, or need assistance

On-Line ID Card Renewal only:

This could be an advantage for those not located near a DEERS/Rapids ID location.

Website and need a DS Login to access: <https://www.cac.mil/Next-Generation-Uniformed-Services-ID-Card/Renewing-Online>

2. **Nebraska Tax:**

LB 387 & LB 64: Military Retirement Benefits: For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, LB 387 amended Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-2716(14) to allow all military retirees to exclude 100% of the military retirement benefits from income subject to Nebraska income tax to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income. Military retirement benefits attributable to service in the uniformed services include military retirement benefits reported on the IRS Form 1099-R, issued by either the U.S. Department of Defense or the U.S. Office of Personnel.

Tax under LB 387 for widow/widower: If a beneficiary is authorized to receive payment, it is exempt from Nebraska State income tax, provided it is reported on the taxpayer's Form 1099-R issued by the DOD or OPM

Social Security: For taxable years on or after January 1, 2021, federal adjusted gross income (AGI) is reduced by a percentage of the social security benefits that are received and included in federal AGI. The applicable percentage: 100% for taxable year 2024 and beyond.

Social Security Fairness Act was passed. This Act eliminates two provisions of current law: Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO).

Information for those who may be affected as government or public service jobs (CSRS retirees, CSRS retiree, widow/widowers, Teachers, Firefighters, Police Officers, etc.).

[Program Explainer: Windfall Elimination Provision](#)

[Program Explainer: Government Pension Offset](#)

Changed by LB 1317: Retired Federal Employees under CSRS: Federal Employees hired prior to 1984 in the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and unable to participate in Social Security was the reason for the repeal of language in the law. Nebraska Income Tax Year 2024. Nebraska Revised Statute 77-2716(20): <https://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=77-2716>. "(20): For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2024, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, an individual may reduce his or her federal adjusted gross income by the amounts received as annuities under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) which were earned for being employed by the federal government, to the extent such amounts are included in federal adjusted gross income."

Guard Relief LB 1394: Exempts members of the Nebraska National Guard from paying income taxes on their service-related earnings. The intent of the bill is to help incentivize recruiting and retention of members of the Nebraska National Guard by exempting from Nebraska income taxes only the pay and allowances received by members just for their weekend drill pay and two-week annual training pay. https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=55590

" For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2025, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, an individual who is a member of the Nebraska National Guard may exclude one hundred percent of the income received from any of the following sources to the extent such income is included in the individual's federal adjusted gross income:

- (a) Serving in a 32 U.S.C. duty status such as members attending drills, annual training, and military schools and members who are serving in a 32 U.S.C. active guard reserve or active duty for operational support duty status;

- (b) Employment as a 32 U.S.C. federal dual-status technician with the Nebraska National Guard; or
- (c) Serving in a state active duty status."

3. **Retiree Information and Publications:**

- a. Army Echoes: Covers topics for everyone. Retirees enrolled in DFAS receive this publication. Updates about changes to laws, policies, programs, and benefits.
<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement> and <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Documents/echoes/latest.pdf>
- b. Air Force Afterburner: <https://www.retirees.af.mil/library/afterburner/>
- c. U.S. Army Retiree Handbook 2024: Information for all military retirees:
https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Documents/static/Post/Retired_Soldier_Handbook.pdf
- d. NNG Public Affairs stories and pictures "post on Facebook."
<https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaNationalGuard/>
- e. The Nebraska National Guard's public website: <https://ne.ng.mil>
- f. USAF Connect App(Android and Apple). Find 155th Air Refueling Wing and save as a favorite.
https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.m360connect.usaf&hl=en_US&gl=US and
<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/usaf-connect/id1403806821>
- g. Space A Travel: <https://www.amc.af.mil/AMC-Travel-Site/AMC-Space-Available-Travel-Page>
Hotline for 155th ARG: 402-309-1248. Slides available from NMRC and Retirement briefing upon request.
- h. Nebraska National Guard Military Funeral Honors: [Military Funeral Honors](#)
- i. Fact Sheets for Federal Benefits available. Eligibility for any benefit or service is based on current Army, DoD and/or VA regulation. Therefore, additional categories of non-Army personnel (from sister services or other federal agencies, for example) may be eligible for such benefits.
- j. ID.me and Login.gov: You will need at least one of these to gain access to many government sites (IRS, VA, SS). Both are used but serve different purposes. ID.me is widely used by federal and state agencies and healthcare organization. Login.gov is government-operated used primarily for federal services.

4. **DFAS (Pay):** <https://www.dfas.mil/>

Check and update your military pay account. View/print your pay statements, 1099's, update taxes, email address or change personal information by logging into MyPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/#/>

Find out how: <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/manage/mypay/>

Gray Area Retirees (not receiving retired pay yet): DFAS has a way to stay informed between the time you stop drilling and when you receive retired pay. <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/newsevents/newsletter/Gray-Area-Retirees-New-Avenue-to-Stay-Connected/>

Report the loss of a Retiree or survivor: <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/survivors/Retiree-Death/>

DFAS Newsletters: <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/newsevents/newsletter/>

5. **Applying for Retirement:**

ARNG: "Gray Area" retirees that filing for your Age 60 retirement (or earlier due to deployments) does not come automatically. Retirement applications should be submitted around 9 months but not less than 90 days prior to your 60th birthday. Contact the NG Retirement NCO, SFC Leah Olsen, 402-309-8162 or email: leah.m.olsen2.mil@army.mil

ANG: Administered through the Air Reserve Personnel Center (ARPC) located in Denver. The toll-free number is 800-525-0102 . The retirement division on website: <http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/Home.aspx>

ANG Gray Area retirees: Beginning 17 April 2023, AF Reserve and Air National Guard Gray Area Retirees must submit applications to begin retirement pay through the new platform.

Applying for retirement: The retirement packet is to be completed by the individual.

No earlier than 12 months and no later than 6 months in advance of pay effective date, you must apply by logging into myFSS.

- Click on "myRetirements";
- Click on "ARC Retirements";
- Click on "+Begin Application Process";
- Review/Acknowledge Pre-Application Information (knowledge articles will have detailed information);
- Click "Start Application." You will be prompted to enter contact information and upload the required pay document (DD Form 2656) and any additional documents if needed.

Once the application is received and processed at ARPC, the packet will be forwarded to DFAS for pay processing. Only then will DFAS track and advise the customer of the status. <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/plan/Gray-Area-Retirees/Air-Force-Gray-Area-Retirees/>

For those deployed after 28 Jan 2008: Early Retirement Benefits Tracking. You can start receiving retired pay sooner than age 60. The 2008 NDAA authorized Reserve Component personnel to receive retired pay 3 months earlier than age 60 for each 90 days of

service performed during a fiscal year in support of operations such as OEF/OIF. In 2013, Congress expanded the criteria to count activations for national emergencies. The 2015 NDAA removed the 90 day requirement in the same fiscal year, starting with activations in FY15.

New retirees applying for retirement and DFAS Pay: Be aware you will not have access to MyPay to view account statements and make changes until after 2 regular pay cycles have passed. New accounts are added to MyPay on the 2nd of each month. In the interim, you can speak with a representative with any pay inquiries, change your mailing address or banking by calling 888-332-7411 between 0700 and 1600 CST Monday through Friday."

Survivor Benefit Plan: Under the law, SBP coverage ends with a divorce unless certain actions are taken: (a) the retiree must voluntarily request coverage be continued to the former spouse, or (b) the former spouse must request coverage (but he or she may only do so if a court order requires coverage, usually, stated in a divorce decree and settlement. It can get complicated and retirees need to be aware and should consult an attorney familiar with SBP and its requirements.

6. **Reviewing your military documents:** Sites are available to review some of your military documents.

a. MILCONNECT: Will need a DS Login. <https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>

b. Army/ARNG IPERMS: Will need a DS Login: <https://iperms.hrc.army.mil/login/>

7. **Parks & Recreation:**

a. Camp Ashland Lodging. See attached: Plan ahead for reservations: Cabins 300, 301, 302 & 450 are spacious. Campgrounds include electricity, concrete pad, and water during the summer. For reservations: (402) 309-7267 or campashlandlodging@gmail.com

b. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission offers special permits to members of the military, veterans, and disabled veterans at reduced or no cost. <http://outdoornebraska.gov/veteransandmilitarypermits>

c. The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass: Entrance fees for the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and standard amenity recreation fees will be waived for veterans and Gold Star Families. Must be able to present identification confirming an individual's status as a veteran. <https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm> Check your options: <https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/veterans-and-gold-star-families-free-access.htm>

d. Parks & Campgrounds from VA: <https://news.va.gov/121728/summer-fun-save-parks-campgrounds-country/>

e. Lincoln Veterans Memorial Garden website: Events, programs and brick dedication.

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks-Facilities/Public-Gardens/Veterans-Memorial-Garden>.

f. Kearney Veterans Park: <https://visitkearney.org/places/central-nebraska-veterans-memorial/>

g. Patriotic Productions: Dates and places touring. Flights of Honor: <https://www.patrioticproductions.org>

h. UNL Veterans's Tribute: <https://veterantribute.unl.edu/> In Lincoln view the glass walls dedicated in 2022.

8. **Nebraska military related sites and Legislative Bill Hearings:**

a. Status of legislation being proposed "tracker" <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/legislative-issues> . "Click" on the bill number and the document will be available.

b. Search bills and laws: <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/>

c. Find your Senator https://nebraskalegislature.gov/senators/senator_find.php

d. Nebraska veterans' affairs: <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/commission-military-and-veteran-affairs>

e. Contacts for NE Dept of Veterans Affairs County Veterans Service Offices: <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/cvso>

9 **Nebraska Honor Plates:** Website references.

Site of LB#45: http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=30919

Info for registration: <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/benefits>

Info on plates: <https://dmv.nebraska.gov/dvr/military-license-plates>

10. **Nebraska Veterans Homes & when a service member passes:**

a. Eligibility and locations: <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/homes> or <https://www.cem.va.gov/find-cemetery/index.asp>

b. Eligibility legislation: Search: 80-316 in Laws 2017, LB340, § 5. <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/105/PDF/Slip/LB340.pdf> or <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/eligibility/>

c. Eligibility for burial in a National Cemetery: <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/?from=explore.va.gov>

References:

Omaha National Cemetery: [Omaha National Cemetery - National Cemetery Administration \(va.gov\)](https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/omaha-national-cemetery/)

Fort McPherson Cemetery: [Fort McPherson National Cemetery - National Cemetery Administration \(va.gov\)](https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/fort-mcpherson-national-cemetery/)

Alliance Veterans Cemetery: [Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance | Nebraska Department of](https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/alliance-veterans-cemetery/)

[National Guard eligibility for Veterans Home](https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/alliance-veterans-cemetery/). LB 1300 bill passed on 16 Apr 2024. Full bill at: [Bill Text: NE LB1300 | 2023-2024 | 108th Legislature | Chaptered | LegiScan](https://legis.lsr.ne.gov/bills/2023-2024/108th-legislature/chaptered-legiscan)

11. **TRICARE and Insurance coverage:** All programs you must enroll in. You are not automatically covered. Open season each year is XX Nov- XX Dec.

What type of Tricare do I have? www.tricare.mil

Under 65: West Region: 1.844.866.9378 www.tricare.mil/west www.tricare.mil

65 and over: (TFL): 1-866-773-0404 www.tricare4u.com

Costs and coverage: <https://www.tricare.mil/Costs/Compare>

Handbooks. <https://tricare.mil/Publications>.

TRICARE representative: SPC Richard Piper, State TRICARE Representative, 253-298-9887 at richard.piper@hnfs.com

Tricare Reserve Select (TRS) – current serving NG or reserve - has premium

Tricare Prime – generally, must live near a Military Treatment Facility (MTF) - has premium

Tricare Retired Reserves (TRR) – Gray Area – under age 60 – has premium. For retired National Guard and Reserve members: <https://www.tricare.mil/Plans/HealthPlans/TRR>

Tricare Select (TS) - Retired and reached age 60 - has premium. Enrollment is on line, call or mail in a form. <https://www.tricare.mil/Plans/HealthPlans/TS>

a. First time Eligible for Enrollment in Tricare Select: Age 60-65 and not Medicare eligible you are responsible for signing up. It is not automatic. <https://www.tricare.mil/LifeEvents/Retiring/GuardReserve>

b. You have 90 days from the Qualifying Life Event (QLE) to enroll in TRICARE and DEERS.

c. If you wait past the age of 60 to file for your retirement your QLE is still when you turned 60. You will have to wait until an Open Season or another QLE to have TRICARE coverage.

d. If you have not enrolled and use your ID card for TRICARE at a civilian facility, it will be your responsibility for the bill.

e. If you are covered under Medicare and TRICARE for Life this will not affect you but, if your spouse or family member is not covered under TFL and utilize Tricare they will need to pay the premium.

Example: You are 68 on Medicare and TFL and your spouse is 64 not on Medicare. Your spouse would be on TS with a premium until covered under Medicare and TFL. Cost is waived for a survivor and a medically retired retiree or family member.

Tricare for Life (TFL)– 65 and enrolled in Medicare Part A and Part B - no premium and pays secondary to

Medicare. https://tricare.mil/CoveredServices/BenefitUpdates/Archives/10_01_2020_Got_TRICARE_For_Life_Questions_What_You_Should_Know To Login: www.TRICARE4u.Com

Tricare Prescription Options for Retiree's:

Up-to-date ID Card, age 60+ and member receiving retired pay, families, survivors, widows/widowers and certain former spouses. Retired AGR's continue coverage.

Options for Prescriptions: TRICARE approved pharmacy, TRICARE mail/home delivery service, or Military Installations such as OFFUTT or Warren AFB, WY.

Pharmacy page: [http://www.tricare.mil/Home/CoveredServices/Pharmacy'](http://www.tricare.mil/Home/CoveredServices/Pharmacy)

Pharmacy locations: <http://www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/Pharmacy/FillPrescriptions>

Mail/Home Delivery: <https://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/index.shtml>

State Positions Tricare Incentive Program: Military retirees or seeking employment with the State, using TRICARE and doesn't use Nebraska State offered insurance can get a monetary incentive. The State is providing \$500/individual or \$1000/family each month to join and remain a State of Nebraska employee.

Federal Dental and Vision (FEDVIP): To be eligible to enroll outside the annual open season (xx Nov - xx Dec each year) a newly retired military member has 60 days or if you have a qualifying life event (QLE).

To review, check your eligibility or enroll. <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/dental-vision/>

Long Term Care Insurance: A military retiree or Gray area retiree can apply for the Federal Long Term Care Insurance

Program. Click on <https://www.LTCFEDS.com> to find more information about this program or you can call a Consultant at 1-800-582-3337.

13. **NMRC Membership Form:** Attached. Please consider passing on for others to join. Communication is important for us to share the rights and benefits with all who serve or served.