

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS SERVICES DIVISION

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California Veteran Reintegration Program Fact Sheet Veteran's License Plate Program

The California's Veterans' License Plate Program allows current service members, veterans, family members, and supporters of veterans the opportunity to proudly display their support for those men and woman that served in the United States Armed Forces. The program has over 100 different emblems and logos to choose from and place on the automobile's license plate.

"Honoring Veterans" License Plate



Available to all California motorists, this special California license plate may be ordered with the branch of service, unit, or veteran's service organization logo/emblem of choice. Over 100 insignias are available, and the logo will be prominently displayed to the left of a six number/letter combination. Original sequential plates are \$50 (this may be a tax-deductible contribution and is in addition to normal DMV license fees). "Personalized" license plates (choice of up to 6 characters) are available for \$78. The renewal fees for sequential and personalized are the same-- \$40 for auto, truck or motorcycle. All proceeds from the sale of veteran's plates are used to expand veteran services statewide.

California also offers special license plates to honor the service of the following veterans:

Gold Star License Plates



"Gold Star Family" license plates are available to families free of charge who want to honor loved ones lost during service to their country.

Note: The plates must be assigned to a California-registered vehicle owned by the qualified

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family member. Gold Star Family License Plates are only available as sequential plates through DMV headquarters.

Disabled Veterans (DV)



Service-connected disabled veterans with any of the conditions listed below may receive, free of charge, a set of special "DV" plates which permit free parking at all parking meters in the state with no time limit and allows for parking in handicapped zones. VA proof of service connection is required, and the service-connected disability must, according to California Vehicle Code Section 295.7, be identified as one of the following:

- Rated at 100% disabled due to a diagnosed disease or disorder which substantially impairs or interferes with mobility; or,
- Limits movement without the aid of an assistive device; or,
- Due to loss of, or lost the use of, one or more limbs; or,
- Due to permanent blindness as defined in Section 19153 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

Purple Heart



Any veteran who is a Purple Heart recipient is eligible for special Purple Heart license plates.

Medal of Honor



Medal of Honor recipients are eligible for one set of free commemorative license plates.

Legion of Valor



Veterans who are Medal of Honor recipients, Army Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, or the Air Force Cross are eligible for special Legion of Valor license plates.

Former Prisoners of War



Former American Prisoners of War are eligible for one set of free commemorative license plates.

Pearl Harbor Veterans



An honorably discharged veteran who was stationed at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, is eligible for special Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates.

Note: Those veterans with a Medal of Honor, Legion of Valor, Former Prisoner of War, Pearl Harbor, or Purple Heart license plate may park his or her motor vehicle, weighing not more than 6,000 pounds gross weight, without charge, in a metered parking space. This does not exempt a vehicle with the aforementioned license plates from complying with any other state law or ordinance.

How to Apply:

Complete a Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Form [REG 17A](#) and provide proof of aforementioned medal award or evidence of being stationed at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Former POWs must complete DMV Form [REG 17](#).

Mail completed application and necessary documentation to:

Department of Motor Vehicles
P.O. Box 932345
Sacramento, CA 94232

For more information, call the DMV at (800) 777-0133 or go to www.dmv.ca.gov