

NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2017

BENEFITS ISSUE



Exercise Western
Horizon '17 Recap



NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2017

Commander's Corner:

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An entity of the
New York State Division of Military & Naval Affairs



Rear Admiral (LH)
Ten Eyck B. Powell, III NYNM

From the Commander:

At the end of my comments in the spring issue of the New York Naval Militia News, I asked each of you to be ready to run, if the whistle blows. The electronic ink was barely dry on that issue, when a number of whistles began to blow! Let me recap some of the events of the past few months.

In May our spring exercise "Western Horizon" went very well. The intent of this exercise was to practice an expeditionary deployment of our Military Emergency Boat Service (MEBS), and to accurately muster personnel in and out of a militia event. Conducted on the grounds of the Willard State Correctional Facility in Seneca County over a weekend, NYNM again demonstrated the ability to utilize existing resources at low cost to the state, while providing

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Cover photo:
Some of the many benefits
of N.Y. Naval Militia membership.

first class training to our members.

As the spring exercise began to unfold, NYNM was tasked by the Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) to provide manpower to assist with the state response to widespread flooding along the shores of Lake Ontario from the Niagara Frontier in the west, to Oswego in the east. NYNM responded immediately with volunteers coming from all over the state to help their neighbors. Under the command of LT Joe Painter, our detachment working at JTF "Lake Ontario" has included over 140 NYNM personnel and has provided over 12,000 man days of support to our neighbors.

In June, LCDR Matt Busse, the Commanding Officer of NOSC Rochester, and his staff, were gracious hosts for myself and the NYNM staff as we met with the Chief of Navy Reserve, Vice Admiral Luke McCollum. We briefed the admiral on the history and mission of the New York Naval Militia and how we interface with the Navy Reserve. Maintaining strong communications with all of our Federal services is part of my job as Commander, and is invaluable to have in place when emergencies occur.



The fast pace of events continued in July. NYNM embarked the Adjutant General, MG Anthony

German and his staff, as well NOSC New York Commanding Officer, CAPT Kate Standifer on a New York Harbor familiarization aboard PB 440 and PB 400. As you can imagine, one of the best ways to understand the complexities and challenges of providing civil support to New York City is to see the sheer size of the port area. Our boats and crews, under the command of CDR Don McKnight, performed flawlessly that day. Later in the month, the continued flooding on Lake Ontario resulted in the mobilization of two WESTCOM boats in support of maritime safety efforts along the shoreline. It has been a busy season for MEBS!

I note with pride the selection of AM1 Miller to Chief Petty Officer, NYNM and Corporal Vega to Sergeant, NYNM. Both men have distinguished themselves by their efforts on behalf of our organization.

As many of you know, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 452 (VMGR-452), located at Stewart ANGB in Newburgh NY, had a tragic aircraft accident. The aircraft, with 15 Marines and one Sailor aboard, were lost. NYNM has 47 members who are part of VMGR-452; none were on the aircraft that day. Our thoughts and prayers are for their families and for all members of the squadron.

It has been a very busy few months. It is gratifying as a commander to watch our staff plan how we will execute a contingency mission, and then watch as our leaders execute that mission exactly the way it was planned. That does not happen without the concerted effort of our Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen. When the planners plan, they assume that the players will all do their jobs, but in the end, when the mission on the line, it is up to all of us to do our part.

Thanks to all of you who have pitched in this year.

Keep your sea bags packed!

The benefits of being a member of the N.Y. Naval Militia are many. The cover illustration represents just a few of them. This issue of the NEWSLETTER highlights the benefits and how to go about receiving them. Many of the benefits are enacted into New York State Law, as the New York Patriot Plan III. You will find below some of the details of this plan which brings great benefit to both militia members as well as Reservists. Other benefits are found in the education law, vehicle and traffic law, and others. Some of these benefits apply to all members, some only to those that are also drilling Reservists of the U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Corps, or Navy. Some are for New York State residents only. Later in this issue, you can find tables of the various programs that have been made available and how they interact with other programs that are offered by the State. We encourage you to take advantage of these programs to the fullest extent.

From the Chief of Staff:

Perhaps the greatest “Benefit” I believe in being a part of the New York Naval Militia is continuing to “Serve”. Active Drilling Reserve members can continue to serve on State Orders along with former and retired Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard members. People join the Armed Forces of the United States for many varied reasons. Service to our fellow citizens of the United States of America is often cited as a primary reason for joining one of the “Services”. Why else would Military Service be called “Service”? We belong to the New York Naval Militia and we are able to respond to the needs of our fellow New York State residents in a

spirit of “Service”. What greater benefit can there be? Recently I watched the movie “Hacksaw Ridge” that is based on the true story of PVT Desmond Doss. During his trial Private Desmond Doss said: “...I need to serve. I got the energy and the passion to serve...” PVT Doss then went on to become the first Conscientious Objector to earn the Medal of Honor. Thank you to everyone that wears our Uniform and serves our State and our Nation.

SGLI Reimbursement:

As befitting a “Benefits Issue”, the annual SGLI reimbursement cycle is just around the corner. Applications for SGLI reimbursement must be received at Naval Militia headquarters in DMNA Latham by October 31st.

Applicants must be an active member of the NY State organized Militia and on active duty that does not include training. A change this year is that if an individual attended training during their State Active Duty or Title 10 Active Duty those days will be deducted from reimbursement.

Do not send your applications to DMNA office of Human Services or Finance, all applications must go through the Naval Militia Headquarters for verification of Militia status.

Wearing the Uniform:

Another “benefit” I hear from our members is: “The benefit of continuing to wear my military uniform.” This is an outstanding benefit of the New York Naval Militia. Our Uniform Instruction is located on our web site: http://dmna.ny.gov/forms/naval/NYNMINST_102_0.1B_Uniform_Regulations.pdf. Please become familiar with our instruction and ask if you have any questions.

Wearing the Naval Militia Uniform, just as wearing the Uniform of Federal Services, means that you represent the State of New York and are subject to the orders of the Governor of New York. Only wear the Naval Militia Uniform when you are on New York State naval Militia business. You are on Naval Militia business when you have Naval Militia orders. You can wear your Naval Militia uniform at ceremonial events or religious events such as funerals, weddings, military balls, and relief society

events. However, if the event is a public event or ceremony DMNA must be informed prior to the event to ensure there is no conflict with scheduled Public Affairs participation.

Medals and Awards:

DMNA has various awards authorized by New York State for members of the Military and the Militia. DMNA Regulation 672-1 lists many medals and awards available to Naval Militia members. These awards are New York State Awards and can only be worn on your State Uniform and not on your Federal Uniform if you are still serving in the Drilling Reserves. Of particular note are the Conspicuous Service Cross, the Medal for Merit, and the Conspicuous Service Star. These NYS Medals are medals to recognize your achievements in your Federal Career if you received awards such as the Meritorious Unit Commendation, a Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal or a Bronze Star to name a few. Contact your Naval Militia Headquarters if you would like assistance in the application process.

RECENT AWARDS

2017 JOSEPHTHAL TROPHY

Rear Admiral Louis M. Josephthal was Commanding Officer of the New York Naval Militia from 1925 to 1929. He passed away in May 1929.



The last will and testament of Louis M. Josephthal stated that his executors “invest the sum of \$10,000.00 the income thereof to be devoted annually for a trophy for the Naval Militia of the State of New York to be known as the Josephthal Trophy, to be awarded as determined by the Commanding Officer of the said Naval Militia.

The Commander, New York Naval Militia is pleased to announce the awardees:

**New York Naval Militia
Member of the Year:**

CAPT Lawrence Weill, WESTCOM

**New York Naval Militia
Unit of the Year:**

**MEBS Detachments 51 & 52
(Rochester and Buffalo)**

These New York Naval Militia members have distinguished themselves as outstanding representatives of New York and of the State Defense Forces. All New York Naval Militia members join in congratulating these deserving volunteers.

Recent Recruiting Awards:

1st Award

MA2 Robert Gaffner
MASN Nicholas Hannam

5 Recruit Bar

ABECS Charles Dick
MM3 Videsh Mungaroo
CWO2 Art Nolan
BM2 Taotao Ren

10 Recruit Bar

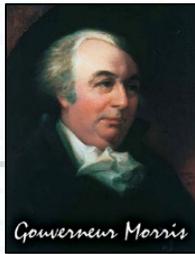
HM1 Marchant DaSilva
SOCM Charles Mach

25 Recruit Bar

CDR William Kempner



**COLONEL GOUVERNEUR
MORRIS CITIZEN SOLDIER
AWARD for 2016.**



MTC Bob Morisseau, of Albany with The Adjutant General.

Selected as the recipient of the Citizen Soldier Award from the nearly 20,000 members of the N.Y. Military Forces; including the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, N.Y. State Guard, and N.Y. Naval Militia.

In his civilian work, Chief Morisseau is an IT/Network Specialist for Albany County. He has contributed broadly as a member of the New York Naval Militia, and various community organizations and activities.

Specific accomplishments that were recognized with this award include:

-As a past member of the NY Naval Militia Personnel Action Team, he was the critical

person for keeping the database up to speed for Operation SANDY, where he was awarded the NYS Military Commendation Medal for his service.

-He was the only member of the Naval Militia to hold the critical VOLAC card allowing him access to DMNA and NYNM networks. The degree of involvement, training, and qualification that he had to complete to earn the VOLAC was exceptional.

-Particularly active in the Military Emergency Boat Service, he serves as the department head for communications and information technology. In this past year, he has been a spearhead to the development of the new MEBS Command Post trailer broad spectrum of communications capability. As a result of his efforts, the CP trailer boasts not only VHF and CB frequencies, but also internet, HF, and satellite phone capability.

-He is a qualified MEBS boat coxswain and is instrumental in the teaching and mentoring of younger members. He also has completed all required instruction and training in FEMA courses, Information Assurance, and JRSOI.

-He also participates in numerous Naval Militia command events, training, and conferences; all on a voluntary no-pay basis.

Particularly active in the community, he recently completed a two-year commitment as County Commander of the American Legion, for Albany County. In that role, he was responsible for 17 American Legion posts and approximately 3,000 Legionnaires. Stepping down as County Commander in June 2016, he currently serves as County Membership Chair, and the Veterans Day ceremony organizer.

Along with the Capital District Chief Petty Officer Association, he participated in the August 2016 dedication of Medal of the Honor recipient Peter Van Hoesen, in Coeymans.

He taught U.S. Navy Sea Cadets about the NY Naval Militia.

As a member of the Albany-Saratoga Submarine Veterans, he participated in the dedication of 40 miles of Route 9 in Saratoga County as the U.S. Submarine Veterans Highway.

- He is also a member in good standing with:
- Albany-Saratoga Submarine Veterans
 - Albany County Vietnam Veterans of America
 - Capital District Chief Petty Officer Association

**NEW YORK STATE
MEDAL FOR MERIT**

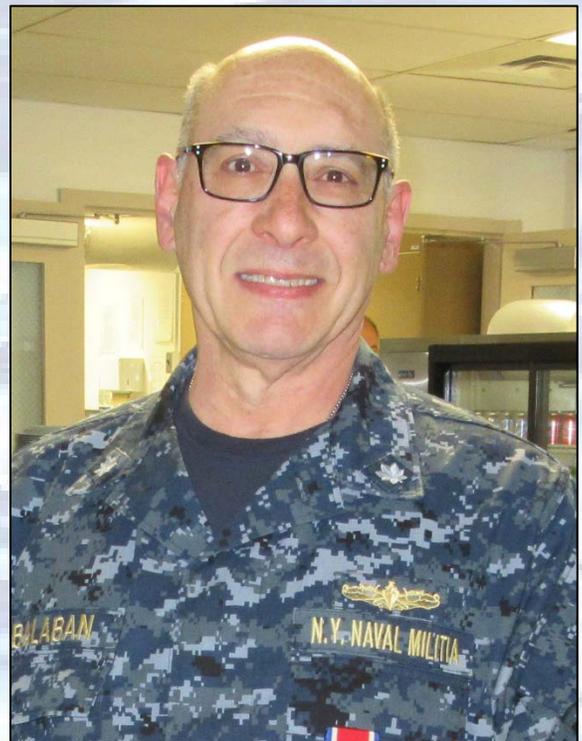


GySGT Peter Brennan receives the NYS Medal for Merit during the Leadership Conference at Camp Smith on 21APR17

**NEW YORK STATE
MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE**



CDR Jay Dutcher, Canandaigua



CDR Ed Balaban received the NYS Medal for Merit and Conspicuous Service Cross, at Willard on 20MAY17.

PROMOTION BOARD RESULTS

Results of the 2017 New York Naval Militia Promotion Board:

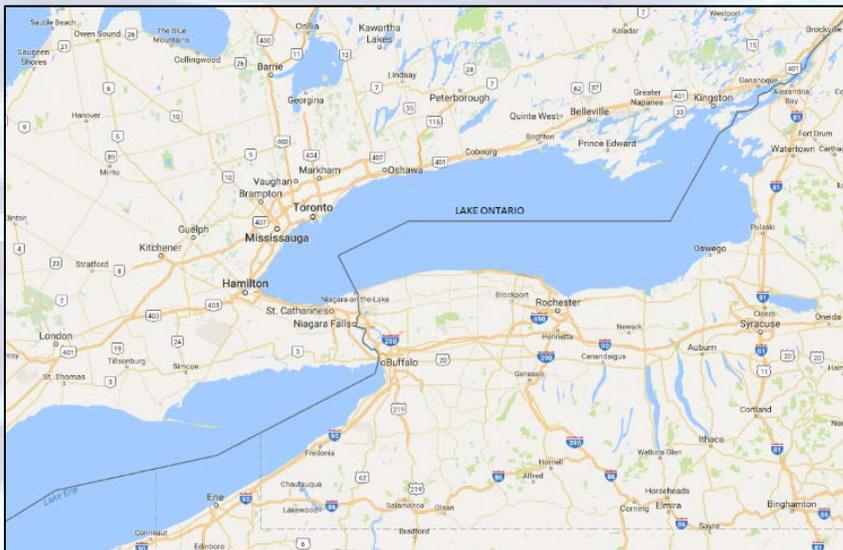
AM1 James Miller, (Mountain Dale) to Chief Petty Officer, NYNM

CPL Christopher Vega, (Peekskill) to Sergeant, NYNM

OPERATION LAKE ONTARIO FLOODING '17

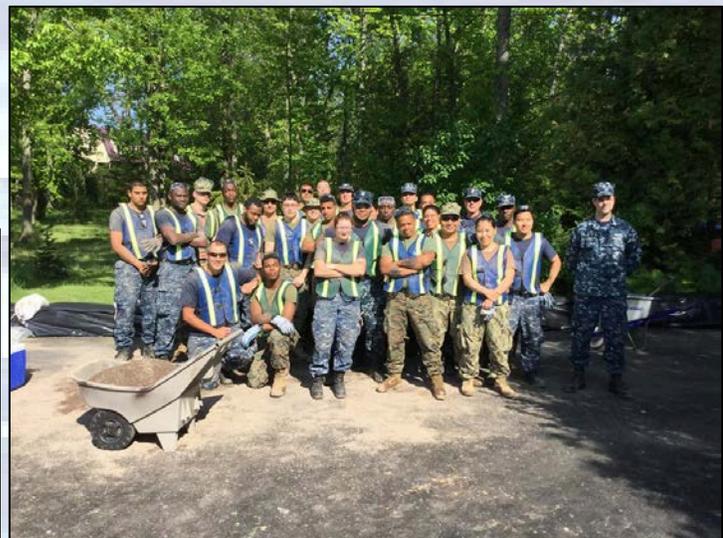
Lake Ontario receives the outflow from the other four Great Lakes. The outflow for Lake Ontario is the Saint Lawrence River which passes through Canada, including Montreal.

As a result of excessive rain and snow melt in the Midwest and Northeast, the water level of the Great Lakes, and especially Lake Ontario reached historic flood stages starting in April 2017.



sand-bagging operations along the southern coastline of the lake. On May 18th, an additional call-up was made that included the N.Y. Naval Militia. Since that time, over 140 Naval Militia personnel have been placed under paid State Active Duty orders in response to the emergency.

Operating out of the Patriot Way Armory in Rochester, the joint task force responded to numerous sites including Sodus Point, Hilton, and Greece, N.Y.



Commencing 2 July, Operation Lake Ontario Flooding added a MEBS component. Due to the high water levels on Lake Ontario, the state imposed a strict no-wake zone within 600 feet of the shoreline to minimize damage to property. Due to violations of this rule, two MEBS teams formed Contingency Det 5, operating out of Rochester and Olcott. The two teams have been providing daily coverage of the waters off Monroe and Niagara Counties since then.

Exercise Western Horizon '17 19-20 May 2017

Exercise WESTERN HORIZON 2017 was a new event undertaken by the New York Naval Militia to test the force structure and capabilities of the organization to respond to a scenario within a given geographic region. WESTERN COMMAND (WESTCOM) is comprised primarily of Reserve Navy and Marine SELRES from the NOSCs located in Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse. Exercise WESTERN HORIZON 2017 was intended to utilize a crew that was primarily composed of WESTCOM Region members.

The entire exercise scenario was being designed as a one-day event, with participants arriving on Friday, May 19 and departing by 1700 on Saturday May 20. The new PAT Team members arrived earlier on Friday in order to receive training on JRSOI procedures and other administrative training. This group included three new PAT Team members plus those designated to provide the training.

In addition to the primary goal of mobilizing an entirely Regional force for the exercise, a secondary goal was the formation, training, and utilization of an entirely new Regional PAT (Personnel Action Team) Team. The formation of this Regional unit would not only support local operations, but be available to travel to remote sites for exercise or emergency response activities.

The MEBS detachment used the ramp at the marina located at Sampson State Park to put boats into the water, and then used the waterfront pier at the Willard State Training Facility as a Base of Operations. This served as good experience for operating on the Finger Lakes, and Seneca Lake in particular.

The MEBS Command Post trailer was parked at the pier on the waterfront of the Willard Training Facility. Communications, including HF were tested in support of the exercise.





Exercise Western Horizon Images



BENEFITS

As a member of the N.Y. Naval Militia, you have earned benefits from the State of New York and other organizations.

This information is good not only for general Naval Militia members, but also NYS Veterans. This section is broken down into three parts and reflect similar, but not necessarily the same benefits. You should read each section based on your status to determine the applicable benefits. The four sections are:

- 1) Free passage on NYS/ NYC Toll Roads, Bridges and Tunnels.
- 2) Recruitment and Retention Incentive Program. Applies to eligible college-bound NYS residents working on a degree program up to their first bachelor's degree. Currently, the program offers up to \$6470 per year for the Fall and Spring semesters at approved NYS colleges. <http://dmna.ny.gov/nynm/?id=education>.
- 3) NYS Patriot Plan III. Applies to all members of the active list of the N.Y. Naval Militia.
- 4) State Active Duty Benefits. Applies to all members serving on State Active Duty orders. Some orders are under NYS Military Law Section 6, and others are under Section 46. The difference is important when it comes to benefits.
- 5) NYS Veterans Benefits. Applies to all Veterans in NYS.

**FREE PASSAGE ON NYS/ NYC
TOLL ROADS, BRIDGES AND
TUNNELS.**

militia shall, together with the conveyance in his charge and property of the state or of the United States in his charge, be allowed to pass free through all toll-gates and tunnels and over all toll-bridges and also over all ferries if he is in uniform or presents an order for duty or certificate of an order for duty.

The methods authorized to allow free passage include:

Thruway and Upstate toll bridges: Use DMNA TAG 9 for free passage instead of EZ Pass. For State or Federal drills only.

NYC Bridges and Tunnels under the Triborough Bridge Tunnel Authority. Use TBTA tickets instead of EZ Pass. For State or Federal drills only.

With the advent of electronic tolling, primarily in NYC, we realize that providing a toll pass to a ticket-taker in a toll booth is often no longer available. DMNA is working with other agencies to determine a suitable solution.

Recruitment and Retention Incentive Program

The Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (RIRP) is a New York State program designed to recruit and retain quality members for the New York National Guard and the Naval Militia. Any New York State resident active member of the Naval Militia, in good standing, is eligible to apply to receive tuition assistance, up to the cost of the State University of New York's (SUNY) maximum in-state undergraduate tuition, at any college, university, or community-technical college in the State of New York recognized and approved by the New York State Board of Regents or State University of New York.

The following are the basic eligibility requirements. In addition, see DMNA REG 621-1:

- Be in good standing with your parent service and the Naval Militia;
- Be accepted and enrolled in college in an undergraduate, degree-producing program for a minimum of six (6) credit hours per semester or four (4) credit hours per quarter;

- Maintain eligibility for the entire period of your application;

- Be a resident of the State of New York for a period of 186 days prior to using the program for the first time and 186 days per year, excluding Active Duty periods.

The New York Patriot Plan III

Introduction: The Patriot Plan is a package of benefits and protections for service members. The majority of the provisions apply only to residents of the State of New York.

Purpose: This outlines the benefits and protections provided under the Patriot Plans I, II and III. It provides general information on eligibility for benefits.

Protections

Freedom From Discrimination Based on Military Service. Any discrimination based on military status constitutes a violation of an individual's civil rights and is actionable under New York State Human Rights Law. All service personnel, state and federal, are covered.

Prohibition Against Soliciting or Requiring Waiver of Civil Relief Act Rights. It is a misdemeanor to solicit, require, demand or otherwise request a waiver of a right provided under the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act ("Civil Relief Act"). All service personnel and their dependents are covered.

Extension of State Civil Relief Act Benefits to Dependents. The protections of the State Civil Relief Act have been extended to include dependents of a person in military service. These benefits include stay of court proceedings, freedom from foreclosure, restraints against eviction, reduced interest rates on loans and the tolling of the Statute of Limitations during the period of military service. All service personnel and their dependents are covered.

Life Insurance Not to Lapse for Non-payment of Premiums. Life insurance policies will not lapse for nonpayment of premiums during a period of State or Federal active duty and for two years thereafter. This applies only to policies covering Reserve Component personnel, including members of the National Guard.

Protection Against Enforcement of Storage Liens on Household Goods. Prohibits the foreclosure or enforcement of any lien for storage of household goods, furniture, or personal effects of a person in military service during such person's period of active duty military service and for three months thereafter. All service personnel and their dependents are covered.

Professional Liability Insurance Protection. Professional liability insurance for persons ordered to active duty is suspended, upon request, for the period of military service plus 30 days. This is applicable to federal and state active duty. It does not encompass Annual Training (AT), drill (IDT), or Active-Guard Reserve (AGR) service.

Prohibition Against Foreclosure of Mortgage. Prohibits the sale, foreclosure, or seizure of property for nonpayment of mortgage during the service member's period of service, or within six months thereafter. The property must have been subject to the mortgage prior to the call to active duty. Applies to personnel on federal or state active duty and their dependents.

Adverse Credit Reporting. Adverse action in future financial transactions, including adverse credit reporting against an individual who has previously obtained a stay, postponement or suspension of obligations under the Civil Relief Act, is prohibited. Applies to personnel on federal or state active duty and their dependents.

Education Benefits (besides Recruitment and Retention Incentive Program, above)

Military Service Recognition Scholarship (MSRS)

(Formerly known as the Merit Program) The Military Service Recognition Scholarship (MSRS) provides financial aid to children, spouses and financial dependents of members of the armed forces of the United States or state organized militia who, at any time on or after Aug. 2, 1990, while New York State residents, died or became severely and permanently disabled while engaged in hostilities or training for hostilities.

Educational Leave of Absence to Perform Military Duty. Students are entitled to a leave of absence from institutions of higher education during periods of military service and for one year after completion of service. During the leave of absence, a student's educational status and financial resources are preserved and the student has the option of requesting a refund or credit of tuition and fees. Applies to federal or state active duty.

Constructive Credit for Military Training Towards Civilian Professional Accreditation. Programs and training offered by the military are to be recognized as equivalent training for the purpose of professional licensing. Applies to training received through both military service with the United States and military service with the state.

Renewal of Temporary Teaching Certificates. Fees waived for the renewal of a temporary teaching certificate or license that lapse while the applicant is deployed. Applies to personnel called to federal active duty if deployed to a combat theater or combat zone of operations.

Right of Dependent Students to Continue to Attend Public School Attended Prior to Relocation Caused by Military Service. A child who is relocated due to a parent or guardian's active military service will be allowed to attend the public school that he/she attended prior to the relocation. Applies to personnel on state or federal active duty, other than for training.

State Tuition Scholarship Assistance. New York Education Law is amended to define two equally privileged classes of "Persian Gulf" veterans: (1) those who served there from 19 Aug 2001 to 10 Sept 2004; and, (2) those who served there from September 11, 2001 through the end of such hostilities; all of whom must have a discharge under other than dishonorable conditions.

Financial benefits

State Active Duty Pay. New York State Military Law has been amended to raise the minimum daily pay of service members performing under Military Law in an emergency situation on state

active duty from \$100 to \$125. This provision affects mostly junior enlisted members in the grades of E-1 through E-4.

Exemption from New York State Income Tax, Title 10 Status. New York State Tax Law is amended to exempt from state income taxation for federal military pay received in a Title 10, DoD designated combat zone or contingency operation.

Exemption from New York State Income Tax, State Active Duty. New York State Tax Law is amended to exempt from state income taxation any state military pay received while serving on any "emergency" state active duty under New York State Military Law. Service members who received SAD pay will receive the state tax benefit when they file their New York State Tax Return (Forms IT 201 or IT 203).

Termination of Motor Vehicle Lease Contracts. Permits individuals who enter into a car lease prior to entering active military service to break the lease upon entry into active service. Must have entered state or federal active duty, other than for training, after entering lease. Also applies to spouse as co-signer of lease.

Maximum Rate of Interest. The Patriot Law extends the six (6) percent interest cap on debt incurred prior to entering active duty. This applies to federal active duty, other than for training.

Extension of Deadline to Pay Real Property Taxes. Localities are permitted, at their discretion, to extend the payment period for any tax owed on real property. Eligibility is limited to a person who has been ordered to active military duty, other than for training, for a period beginning with a declaration of war by Congress or during any periods of combat designated by presidential executive order or during hazardous ("imminent danger") duty. This benefit is contingent upon the passage of a resolution by the effected municipality authorizing the extension.

Professional Licensing Benefits

Waiver of Professional Continuing Education Requirements and Extension of Professional Licenses. Any professional license, certificate, or registration that expires while the holder is engaged in active military service shall be automatically extended for the period of active service plus 12 months after the end of the service. Applies to federal and state active duty, other than for training.

Extension of Certification for Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Other First Responders. Certifications for EMTs, advanced EMTs and certified first responders who have been ordered to active military duty, other than for training, may be extended by the Department of Health. The period of extended certification is the entire period of active duty, plus 12 months. Applies to state and federal active duty, other than for training.

Waiver of Professional Licensing Benefit Clarification. When military service is partially within a licensing, registration or certification period, applicable continuing education requirements shall be reduced proportionately so that the individual is not required to complete those requirements while in military service. This shall not apply to limited permits or other credentials issued for a period of two months or less and shall not extend the terms of a limited permit that expires for reasons other than the passage of time.

Other Benefits

Free Hunting and Fishing Licenses. Free hunting and fishing licenses may be issued to all active (e.g., drilling) New York resident members of the state organized militia or the reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces. A fishing license normally costs \$25 per year, and a basic hunting license cost \$22 per year. For a Naval Militia member that cost is \$0.

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6097.html>

Free Empire Passports to New York State Parks.

A service member who is currently serving on active duty in support of the war on terrorism is eligible for one free Empire Passport for use by his or her immediate family during deployment and/or his or her own use when returning home. Normally, costs \$65, it is available for free to all members of the New York State Militia or any branch of the New York State National Guard or military reserves who are currently serving on active duty in support of the war on terrorism. They are eligible for one free Empire Pass Card for use by immediate family during deployment and/or for own use when returning home.

Free Access to Video-Teleconferencing Centers (VTC). For use between deployed service members and their families. Service member must be on federal active duty.

Free Internet Access At Public Libraries. To be used for communication between deployed active duty military personnel and their families. The deployed service member must be a resident of the State of New York and must be deployed to a combat theater or combat zone of operations.

Extension of Driver's Licenses and Motor Vehicle Registrations. Driver's licenses and motor vehicle registrations that would otherwise expire during period of active duty may be extended. Applies to federal or state active duty relating to the war on terrorism and military action in Iraq.

Veteran's Health Care Information Program. An automated health care information line that provides key phone numbers and points of contact for healthcare issues, benefits and resources.

Supplemental Burial Allowance. This allowance is a state allotment of not more than \$6,000 paid to the surviving spouse, domestic partner, adult children, parents, or other family member of the deceased, depending on who paid the cost of the funeral and burial. To receive the benefit, the deceased must have been killed on federal active duty in combat or duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger.

Recognizing Employers and Businesses. The Empire State Development Corporation administers two programs, the NY-USA Proud Employer of Distinction Award and the Patriot Support and Discount Program, aimed at recognizing employers and retailers in New York State who show extra support to members of the military.

Benefits Granted to Dependents. New York State Military Law is amended to state that a dependent seeking a benefit given by statute to a service member may first apply to the agency, private party, business, etc. for the statutory benefit (e.g., interest rate reduction) and that the benefit shall be granted unless it can be shown that the dependent is not materially impaired (e.g., economically) by the deployment of the service member (and loss of the service member's civilian compensation). The amendment makes it unnecessary for a dependent to apply for a court order first. The amendment permits applying for a court order if necessary.

State Active Duty Entitlements, Protections and Benefits

The following State Active Duty benefits related to service on State Active Duty (SAD) are provided to assist New York Naval Militia members and their families.

Life Insurance. A service member can qualify to have SGLI life insurance premium paid by NYS.

Family Separation Allowance. After 60 continuous days on SAD, if qualified, will receive federal rate.

Disability for Service Connected Injuries or Illness. State evaluation and payment for medical treatment. Incapacitation pay may be given if eligible. Disability benefits may be given if eligible.

Legal Assistance. Yes

Basic Pay.

For Service Members under Mil Law Section 6 - Basic Pay will be adjusted to at least \$125 per day to include BAS and BAH I or II. Will not be less than federal base rate for rank and years of service. If federal base rate is higher, federal rate will be paid.

For Service Members under Mil Law Section 46 - Pay and allowances are paid at federal rates.

Basic Allowance for Housing II (BAHII). Short term basic allowance for housing is included in pay at onset of SAD. Allowance amount is based on yearly federal rates.

Basic Allowance for Housing I (BAHI). Long term basic allowance for housing after 31 days of continuous duty on SAD and if qualified. Allowance amount is based on yearly federal rates.

Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS). Basic Allowance for Subsistence is included in pay at onset of SAD. Allowance amount is based on yearly federal rates.

State Tax Exemption.

For Service Members under Mil Law Section 6 - SAD pay is exempt from state income tax. Allowances are exempt from all income tax.

For Service Members under Mil Law Section 46 - Pay is not exempt from state income taxes, however, allowances are exempt from all income taxes.

Medical Care. Service member medical costs, if approved through the LOD process, can be paid for if disease or injury is related to SAD. If SAD is over 90 days, family members can enroll in Empire Plan with co-pay.

New York State Veteran's Benefits & Discounts

The State of New York provides several veteran benefits. This section offers a brief description of each of the following benefits.



Governor Andrew M. Cuomo created a new Lifetime Liberty Pass to permit qualified New York State veterans with disabilities discounted use of state parks, historic sites, and recreational facilities operated by the Office Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) and the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Once issued, the Lifetime Liberty Pass will never have to be renewed!

The Lifetime Liberty Pass benefits includes free vehicle entry to state parks and DEC-operated day-use areas, as well as numerous state boat launch sites, historic sites, arboretums and park preserves; free golf at 28 State Park golf courses; free swimming pool entrance at 36 State Park pools, and discounted camping and cabin rentals at all 119 State Park and DEC campgrounds.

To qualify for the pass, the veteran must be a resident of New York State and provide State Parks with written certification from the United States Veterans Administration or the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs that the applicant is a war veteran with a 40% or greater service connected disability as certified by the United States Veterans Administration, or who has at any time been awarded by the Federal government an allowance towards the purchase of an automobile or who is eligible for such an award.

State Veterans Home.

New York Veteran Housing Programs

A 242 bed veterans home is operated by the State Department of Health at Oxford, Chenango County, for veterans, spouses and certain parents.

The Department of Health also operates a 250-bed facility at St. Albans, Queens, a 126-bed facility adjacent to the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Batavia, Genesee County and a 250-bed facility in Montrose, Westchester County.

A 350-bed Veterans Home is located on the campus of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Long Island, and is operated by the university's Health Sciences Center. Health related care and skilled nursing services are available at all facilities. Admission preference is based on severity of illness or disability and need for care.

New York State Homes For Veterans Program Homes for Veterans Program offers fixed-rate mortgages with interest rates 0.5% below the already low interest rates charged on SONYMA mortgages with closing cost assistance. Visit the New York Division of Veterans Services website <http://veterans.ny.gov> for contact information and benefits assistance.

New York Financial Assistance Benefits

Property Tax Exemption Partial exemption from real property taxes is based on condition of service, with additional benefits based upon degree of service-connected disability. Applications must be filed before Taxable Status Day. Qualifying widow(er)s may file for benefit based on their spouse's service. Exemption applies to local and county property taxes.

Supplemental Burial Allowance A supplemental burial allowance of up to \$6,000 is authorized for certain military personnel killed in combat or while on active duty in hostile or imminent danger locations on or after September 29, 2003.

New York State Blind Annuity A New York State Blind Annuity is available to visually impaired wartime veterans and certain un-remarried spouses. For More Information, Call 1-888-838-7697 or 518-486-3602.

New York State Gold Star Annuity Gold Star Parent Annuity authorizes an annuity payment of up to \$500 per Gold Star parent of a deceased veteran. Visit the New York Division of Veterans Services website for contact information and benefits assistance.

New York Employment Benefits

Disabled Veterans Civil Service Preference Qualified handicapped disabled veterans eligible for appointment to non-competitive State employment positions under Sections 55-b and 55-c of the New York State Civil Service Law.

Civil Service Credit Preference Ten-point additional credit preference toward original appointment for disabled wartime veterans; five-points for wartime service; and two and a half points for competitive promotional exams. Job retention rights applicable to veterans and spouses of to-

New York Education Benefits (besides Recruitment and Retention Incentive Program above)

tally disabled veterans. Visit the New York Division of Veterans Services website <http://veterans.ny.gov> for contact information and benefits assistance.

Veterans Tuition Awards Veterans Tuition Awards (VTA) are awards for full-time study and part-time study for eligible veterans matriculated at an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting institution or in an approved vocational training program in New York State.

NOTE: Students previously approved for this award must apply for payment each year. Those students attending a vocational school or who are attending an approved undergraduate or graduate program part-time may apply for payment for the current academic year by completing the supplement.

Award Amounts:

- For full-time study, a recipient shall receive an award of up to the full cost of undergraduate tuition for New York state residents at the State University of New York, or actual tuition charged, whichever is less. Full-time study is defined as twelve or more credits per semester (or the equivalent) at a degree-granting institution, or twenty-four or more hours per week in a vocational training program.
- For part-time study, awards will be prorated by credit hour. Part-time study is defined as at least three but fewer than twelve credits per semester (or the equivalent) at a degree-granting institution, or six to twenty-three hours per week in a vocational training program.

Duration:

Full-time Study

- Undergraduate Degree-Granting Programs - Awards are available for up to eight semesters (four years) of undergraduate study. Awards can be made available for up to semesters of undergraduate study for enrollment in an approved five-year program or for enrollment in an approved program of remedial study.
- Graduate Degree-Granting Programs - Awards are available for up to six semesters (three years) of graduate study.
- Vocational Training Programs - Awards are available for up to a maximum of four semesters (two years) of study in an approved vocational training program.

Part-time Study

- Undergraduate Degree-Granting Programs - Awards are available for up to the equivalent of eight semesters (four years) of full-time undergraduate study in a four-year program. Awards can be made available for up to the equivalent of ten semesters (five years) of full-time study for enrollment in an approved five-year undergraduate program which normally requires five academic years of full-time study.
- Graduate Degree-Granting Programs - Awards are available for up to the equivalent of six semesters (three years) of part-time graduate study.
- Vocational Training Programs - Awards are available for up to a maximum of eight semesters (four years) of part-time study in an approved vocational training program.

Approved programs are defined as undergraduate degree, graduate degree, diploma, and certificate programs at degree-granting institutions, or noncredit vocational training programs of at least 320 clock hours specifically approved by the New York State Division of Veteran's Affairs' Bureau of Veterans Education. Eligible Veterans Eligible students are those who are New York State residents discharged under honorable conditions from the U.S. Armed forces and who are:

- Vietnam Veterans who served in Indochina between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975.

- Persian Gulf Veterans who served in the Persian Gulf on or after August 2, 1990.
- Afghanistan Veterans who served in Afghanistan during hostilities on or after September 11, 2001.
- Veterans of the armed forces of the United States who served in hostilities that occurred after February 28, 1961 as evidenced by receipt of an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal or a Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal.

These students must also:

- Establish eligibility by applying to HESC.
- Be New York State residents.
- Be US Citizens or eligible noncitizens.
- Be matriculated full or part-time at an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting institution in New York State or in an approved vocational training program in New York State.
- Have applied for the Tuition Assistance Program for full-time undergraduate or graduate study.

How to Establish Eligibility Complete the New York State Veterans Tuition Award Supplement or contact HESC. Be sure to print the Web Supplement Confirmation, sign and return it along with the required documentation according to the instructions.

Questions regarding eligible service or how to document service should be directed to the HESC Scholarship Unit at 1-888-697-4372.

How to Apply for Payment Once you have established your eligibility, you must apply for payment. While you need only establish your eligibility once, you must apply for payment each year.

Apply for payment as follows:

- Undergraduate and Graduate Full-time Study - Apply for payment by doing one of the following:
 - Apply online by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) -- the form used by virtually all colleges, universities and vocational schools for awarding federal student aid and most state and college aid -- and then linking to the TAP on the Web application, or 2. For veterans who do not anticipate filing a FAFSA, complete a Scholarship Grant Payment Application. For a copy of the application call HESC at 1-888-697-4372.
- Undergraduate Part-time Study - Complete only the Veterans Tuition Award Supplement.
- Graduate Part-time Study - Complete only the Veterans Tuition Award Supplement.
- Vocational Training Program - Complete only the Veterans Tuition Award Supplement.
- Visit the New York Division of Veterans Services website <http://veterans.ny.gov> for contact information and benefits assistance.
- New York State Regents Awards (for Children) Regents Awards for Children of Deceased & Disabled Veterans provide up to \$450 per year to students whose parent(s) served in the US Armed Forces during specified times of national emergency.
- Military Service Recognition Scholarship Available to certain dependents of military personnel killed, severely and permanently disabled or missing in combat or a combat zone of operation since August 2, 1990.

- Operation Recognition - High School Diplomas Operation Recognition allows certain veterans to earn high school diplomas if they left school without graduating.

Other New York State Veteran Benefits

Hunting Licenses & Permits Veterans with a 40-percent or greater disability rating are eligible for low-cost hunting and fishing licenses, and free use of state parks, historic sites and recreation sites.

Customized Military and Veteran License Plates In addition to the N.Y. Naval Militia custom plates, specialty plates for veterans and military members are also available. All vehicles that are registered in NYS as a passenger class vehicle or as a commercial class vehicle are eligible. Certain custom plates are available for Motorcycles also.

Military Discounts in New York

- MVDC has over 12,000 business locations in New York that have discounts for military personnel and veterans. In addition to businesses providing discounts, the state of New York also provides discounts for those that have served. To find business discounts, enter your zip code and category in the search box at <http://militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/location/new-york.html>.
- Veterans Designation on drivers license: Yes. Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed the bill on 3 Oct 2012 which went into effect as of 3 Oct 2013.
- Property tax and Financial Benefits
- Partial exemption on real property taxes to certain veterans or their family members.
- Military pay received in Title 10 status is exempt from state income taxation.
- Any state military pay received while serving on any emergency state active duty is exempted from state income taxation.
- Fixed-rate mortgages for veterans with interest rates .5% below the interest rates charged on SONYMA mortgages with closing cost assistance.
- Annuity payment of up to \$500 per Gold Star Parent of deceased veteran
- Education Discounts
- Veteran tuition awards provide up to 98% of tuition cost of a SUNY undergraduate tuition to eligible veterans in an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting institution or vocational training in NYS.
- Combat service scholarships equal to annual in-state tuition for SUNY for eligible qualified applicants.
- Refund or credit for tuition during military leave of absence.
- Regents Awards for Children of Veterans provide up to \$450 a year to students whose parent served in the US Armed Forces during specified times of national emergency and is deceased or disabled.

Education News:

The next eligible semester for RIRP education benefits is Fall, 2017.

The deadline for submission of benefit applications is 15 August 2017.

Note that RIRP applications MUST be signed using CAC signature from now on. All eligible applicants will have a CAC. Applicant must sign DMNA FORM 96-1, Block 3f electronically using a CAC.

New York Naval Militia by the Numbers

10-Jul-17	SOUTH	NORTH	WEST	TOTAL
OFFICER	161	33	39	233
WARRANT	14	4	5	23
ENLISTED	2002	282	388	2672
TOTAL	2177	319	432	2928
NAVY	1034	149	244	1427
MARINE	830	119	153	1102
COAST GUARD	113	3	4	120
STATE ACTIVE LIST (5%)	14	7	3	24
FEDERAL COMPONENT LIST (Retired)	34	38	20	92
PENDING ACTION	151	4	8	163

SHIP'S STORE INFORMATION

The New York Naval Militia provides this information for the benefit of our members. The NYNM does not endorse any of the vendors' products:

NAMETAPES
1800NAMETAPE.COM




**NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA
LICENSE PLATES**

<https://dmv.ny.gov/custom-plates/naval-militia>



**NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA
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(ONLY REQUIRED FOR NON-DRILLING MEMBERS)
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