

Celebrating VA's 100 Year Anniversary of Providing Healthcare to Women Veterans



Veteran Affairs celebrates 100 years of providing health care for women Veterans.

In 1919 hospitalization and medical care for women who served as Army or Navy nurses during World War I was first authorized. The National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, the predecessor to Veterans Health Administration, approved the first hospital spaces in 1923.

Those who paved the way

Margaret Cochran Corbin (1751-1800)

Margaret Cochran Corbin was a hero of the American Revolution and the first woman to ever receive a military pension. In November 1776, she dressed as a man and joined her husband in the Battle of Washington on Manhattan Island, New York. She helped him load his cannon, and when he was killed, she took over firing the cannon until she was hit by enemy fire. Following her service, she joined the Invalid Regiment at West Point where she aided the wounded. Her service and story are the inspiration for the [VA Campus](#) in New York Harbor.

Susan Mather, M.D.

Susan Mather, M.D. was critical in the development of VA's Office of Women's Health. She became head of the Women Veterans Health Program in 1988. During her tenure, she established eight Women Veterans Comprehensive Health Centers to develop new and enhanced programs focusing on the unique health care needs of women Veterans. The program later expanded to include [sexual trauma](#) programs at all VA facilities, develop guidelines for women's health programs, and hire full-time women Veteran coordinators at VA medical centers. Dr. Mather served as the Designated Federal Official (DFO) for the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans from 1983 until 1995. She continued to serve as an ex officio member on the Committee from 1995 until her retirement in 2006.

Viola Johnson

Viola Johnson became the first Black woman to lead a VA hospital when she was appointed the director of the Battle Creek, Michigan Medical Center in 1984. Before this appointment, Johnson was the assistant director of the VA hospital in Fayetteville, N.C., the first Black woman in this position. Prior to that, she was the chief of diabetic services at Battle Creek.

Resources

- [Reproductive Health](#)
- [Health Benefits Course](#)
- [Maternity and Infertility](#)
- [Military Sexual Trauma](#)
- [Mental Health](#)
- [Environmental Exposures](#)
- [Caregiver Support](#)
- [Whole Health](#)
- [She Wears the Boots Podcast](#)
- [Center for Women Veterans](#)

To learn more about those who have paved the way for VA to provide women Veterans the best care anywhere, visit [VA Women Veterans Health Care](#)

Trailblazers: The Women in Our Ranks Making History Today



U.S Army's First Female Rangers

WASHINGTON (*Army News Service, Aug. 24, 2015*)

For the first time in Army history, two women were among Soldiers who received the coveted Ranger tab Aug. 21.

The two female Ranger School graduates were **1st Lt. Shaye L. Haver** and **Capt. Kristen M. Griest**, both also graduates of the ***U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.***

Haver, 25, an AH-64 Apache pilot, said she wanted to go to Ranger School because she knew it would make her a better leader for her Soldiers. She is assigned to the 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado.

Griest, 26, a military police platoon leader, is assigned to the 716th MP Battalion at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Read more about their experience [here](#).

U.S Army's First African American Female Ranger



Sgt. 1st Class Janina Simmons, a drill sergeant leader with the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy, recently earned the distinction of being the first African-American female to graduate Ranger School.

Ranger School is considered one of the toughest training courses Soldiers can go through. According to Army.mil, "Army Rangers are experts in leading Soldiers on difficult missions -- and to do this, they need rigorous training. For more than two months, Ranger students train to exhaustion, pushing the limits of their minds and bodies."

Read more about this trailblazer's rigorous experience, click [here](#).

FACT SHEET: President Biden's Budget Honors Our Nation's Sacred Commitment to Veterans and Military Families



March 9, 2023

The White House

One of our country's most sacred obligations is to care for America's veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors. Last year, the President delivered on this commitment by signing the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (PACT Act), the most significant bill in American history to address veterans' exposure to burn pits and other toxic substances. Under the law, more than 5 million veterans will be eligible for services, including expanded access to healthcare and disability compensation benefits. Under the President's leadership, the Administration has also taken action to address veteran suicide, advance equity across veterans' services, and expand access to specialized cancer screenings and reproductive health care.

The Budget builds on this progress with proposals to honor America's commitment to veterans and military families:

- **Expands Health Care, Benefits, and Services for Military Environmental Exposures**

- **Prioritizes VA Medical Care**
- **Prioritizes Veterans' Mental Health Services and Suicide Prevention**
- **Create a Housing Voucher Guarantee for Extremely Low-Income Veterans**
- **Honors the Memory of All Veterans**
- **Invests in Critical Veteran Medical Facilities**
- **Invests in Caregivers Support Programs**
- **Supports America's Commitment to Military Families**
- **Expands Employment Protections for Military Spouses**

Read the full fact sheet [here](#).

More Veteran-related Headlines

Washington University School of Medicine: [COVID-19 infections raise risk of long-term gastrointestinal problems](#)

Spectrum News NY1: [Veterans testify of 'catastrophic' impact of Afghan collapse](#)

Dayton Daily News: ['It changes lives.' Montgomery County Veterans Court celebrates 10 years of helping veterans](#)

Pike County Journal: [WWII Veteran Estelle Collins honored on 101st birthday](#)

The Neon Nutrition Kitchen: Veteran-Only Pantry Days





FREE HEALTHY FOODS

WHAT NeON Nutrition Kitchen Veterans Only Day
Free Packaged Groceries, Produce and Dairy

WHEN Every Friday - 10am to 1pm
from March 3 - May 26

WHERE
Staten Island
340 Bay Street



For requests regarding accessibility or language interpretation services please email disabilityfacilitator@probation.nyc.gov or call 212-510-3882.





FREE HEALTHY FOODS

WHAT NeON Nutrition Kitchen Veterans Only Day
Free Packaged Groceries, Produce and Dairy

WHEN Every Monday - 9:30am to 12:30pm
from March 13 - June 6

WHERE
Bronx
198 East 161st 10451



For requests regarding accessibility or language interpretation services please email disabilityfacilitator@probation.nyc.gov or call 212-510-3882.

Attention NYC Veterans! [The NeON Nutrition Kitchen](#) will be hosting Veterans-only Pantry days on Staten Island and The Bronx, providing non-perishable foods as well as a meat/fish to Veterans and their families.

There will also be a Veterans Benefit Coordinator on site to help with claims and benefits.

Staten Island:

 Fridays, March 3 - May 26

 340 Bay Street

 10a-1p

The Bronx:

 Mondays, March 13 - June 6

 198 East 161st

 9:30a-12:30p



We are looking to highlight Veterans in the arts community! Whether it's an upcoming free exhibition, performance, or piece/installation you've created, we want to showcase your work and help spread the word. Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis and promoted at our discretion. We want this to be a space for Veteran artists to express themselves in an authentic way.

Please email submissions to connect@veterans.nyc.gov with a brief write-up describing your piece and your affiliation to the Veteran community.

A Message From Mayor Adams:

Each week DVS will share a short update about how our administration is getting stuff done for New Yorkers.



The Adams administration is dedicated to cutting through the noise and delivering information directly to you and all New Yorkers.

Sign up to "Hear From Eric" and get direct messages from City Hall, tailored to your interests and neighborhood, sent directly to your inbox – at [nyc.gov/hearfromeric!](https://nyc.gov/hearfromeric)

PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans' Support Program Request for Information (RFI)



Attention!

Introducing PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans' Support Program Request for Information (RFI)

Seeking RFI submissions for profit **and** not-for-profit organizations.

The PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Support Program was created to increase social connectivity of U.S. Military Veterans and their families. Organizations looking to submit a response should submit in PASSPort or by email at DVSDwyer@veterans.nyc.gov no later than March 24, 2023. For more information visit nyc.gov/vetdwyer

Some examples of services/programs to be offered to the Veteran community:

- Animal Assisted/Oriented Programs
- Body & Mind-body Exercises or Therapies
- Creative Arts Programs
 - Art, dance, music, film, poetry, etc.
- Culinary Arts
- Community Construction Programs

Upcoming Information Sessions:

- | | |
|------------------|----------|
| • March 8, 2023 | 10:30 AM |
| • March 9, 2023 | 11:30 AM |
| • March 14, 2023 | 2:30 PM |

Meetings will be held virtually through Microsoft Teams. Those interested in attending should email dvsdwyer@veterans.nyc.gov ahead of the information session.

Responses to the Dwyer Support Fund RFI should be submitted in PASSPort or by email at DVSDwyer@veterans.nyc.gov by no later than March 24, 2023.

To view/access the RFI search EPIN: 06323Y0007 in the [PASSPort Procurement Navigator](#).

[Learn More About the PFC Dwyer Veterans' Support Fund](#)

Offshore Wind Ecosystem Fund



The **Offshore Wind Ecosystem Fund** is designed to provide historically marginalized and environmental justice areas and populations in New York City with opportunities to benefit from the emerging offshore wind industry. Throughout the development of this Solicitation, Equinor has worked closely with members of the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) and the Sunset Park Task Force to determine priority areas that will maximize the impact of the Fund by identifying and supporting stakeholders and geographies with critical needs. Awards will range from **\$100,000 to \$900,000** over a three-year period.

Program Goals and Priorities:

- The Fund will support successful grant applicants in proposals in workforce development, and those supporting minority-/women-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned and disadvantaged small businesses in New York

- A significant portion of the fund will be allocated to frontline and environmental justice areas
- Collaborations among larger and smaller organizations will be encouraged to maximize the range of applicants' capabilities
- Develop career pathways in the offshore wind ecosystem through job education and training.
- Support New Yorkers from historically marginalized communities by prioritizing environmental justice and access to workforce and business opportunities.
- Grow the green energy ecosystem in NYC by supporting and fostering innovation by local small, minority-owned, women-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises (S/M/W/SDVOB/DBE).

Who can apply

- Applicant(s) must be based in, and conduct programs and operations in, New York City.
- Applicant(s) must be registered to conduct business in the State of New York.
- All Applicant(s) must undergo Equinor's internal compliance review process, known as Integrity Due Diligence (IDD).
- Applicant(s) can be a single organization, a collaborative venture between more than one organization, or a consortium of multiple organizations. In the case that the Applicant(s) is a collaborative venture or consortium, all parties will undergo the IDD process.
- Both **non-profit** and **for-profit** entities as well as **academic institutions** are eligible to apply.
- Eligibility relating to Applicant(s) organization's size and/or longevity may vary and will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

For additional information regarding the application process and program details, see links below.

Helpful Links:

[Empire Wind Website](#)

[Offshore Wind Ecosystem Fund/ Guide \(PDF\)](#)

[Ecosystem Fund Info Session \(Video\)](#)

NYS DVS Funding Opportunity



New York State Division of Veterans' Services is currently accepting applications for the [state's newly created Veterans' Nonprofit Capital Program](#) which will provide \$5 million in Grant funds for reimbursement for costs related to capital improvements designed to expand and enhance quality services available to the state's veterans, service members and their families. Funding for projects will range between \$25,000 and \$75,000 and be administered by the New York State Division of Veterans' Services.

Applicants are encouraged to submit questions about the Veterans' Nonprofit Capital Program to grants@veterans.ny.gov. Applicants also can find more information on the [New York State Grants Gateway](#) website, which must be used to submit the application for funding.

The deadline for applications is March 31, 2023 at 4:00 PM

**Learn More about the Veterans' Nonprofit Capital Program (VNCP)
Grant Opportunity**

Join Our Team! Be Part of the Mission!

Current DVS Job Openings

Being part of our team is a great way to continue to serve.



[Visit NYC.gov/jobs](https://www.nyc.gov/jobs) and select "Veterans' Services" from the agency menu to learn more about and apply to the job below.

Senior Policy Analyst - Reporting to the External Affairs Unit, the Senior Policy Analyst acts as a liaison between the agency, the Mayor's Office, governmental agencies, non-profit and private veteran advocate stakeholders. The selected candidate will provide project management, analytical assistance for planning, coordinating and implementing inter agency and agency-specific projects. These projects represent critical initiatives, directed by the Commissioner / External Affairs Unit to improve efficiency, effectiveness, coordination, and accessibility of key City, non-profit, and private veteran services.

VA Work Study Positions at DVS

The NYC Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) supports VA Work-Study Positions! Here is a current list of available VA Work-Study openings:

- [Administrative Intern](#)
- [Benefit Intern](#)
- [Care Coordination Intern](#)
- [Data Analyst Intern](#)
- [Information Technology Intern](#)

- [IT Support Intern](#)
- [Legal Intern](#)
- [Outreach Coordinator Intern](#)
- [Veteran Business Promotion Intern](#)

If you are interested in applying for a DVS-specific Work-Study position and meet eligibility requirements, please submit the following to VAWorkStudy@veterans.nyc.gov:

- Resume
- Job Specific Cover Letter
- Supporting Documents found in the Job Description

[Check Here for VA Work-Study Postings](#)

NYC Civil Service Job Openings and Exams



Open Competitive Exams

Congregate Care Specialists: Oversee the care, development, and guidance of dependent, neglected and emotionally disturbed children in a community based home, group residence, diagnostic-reception center or other functional area or the custody of delinquent youths in a non-secure detention facility; and perform related work.

Media Services Technician: Media Services Technicians (CUNY) perform technical work of varying degrees of difficulty in the set-up, operation, training, maintenance and repair of digital, audio-visual, video production, DVD, computer system, digital photography, presentation, recording, projection, duplication, and related broadcast production equipment in a classroom, shop, studio or in the field. Media Services Technicians (CUNY) must have a general knowledge of Windows and Apple-based computers along with pertinent software. They may transport equipment for on-site use or shop repair, as well as operate a motor vehicle for such purposes.

Associate Public Information Specialist: Associate Public Information Specialists perform responsible work in the development and implementation of a public relations program for a City department or agency, and serve as liaison with the general public, news publications, and other public relations officers; perform research and draft correspondence connected to public relations, prepare press releases and answers to press inquiries, and write and/or edit brochures, articles, and other official publications.

To receive monthly updates on upcoming civil service exams click the button below to be directed to the Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter page. On the registration form, select "City Jobs and Civil Service Announcements".

[Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter Here](#)

Programs and Initiatives

Affordable Housing For Veterans



The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) maintains a list of federal, state, and city programs that offers a limited, but selective list of affordable housing options for veterans seeking financial relief for their housing arrangements. Visit our [Affordable Housing for Veterans](#) page to learn more.

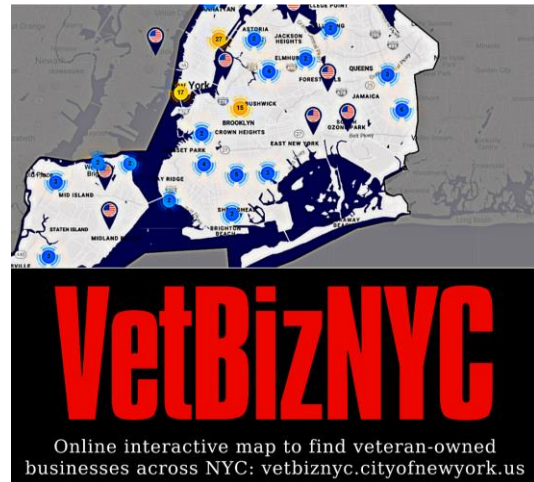
Empowering Veteran Business Owners



The primary mission of the [VBLA](#) is to serve Veterans seeking support and assistance with running a business and in their pursuit of New York City Government contracting opportunities. Our leadership association engages with the private sector, government, advisory board, and local partners to build a consortium that facilitates the growth and development of Veteran Businesses.

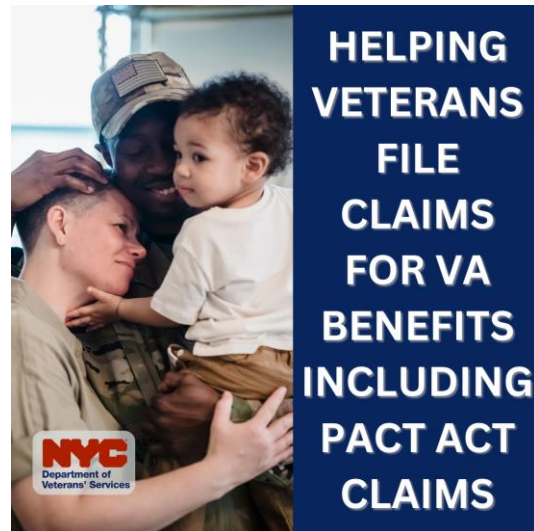
VetBizNYC: Supporting Veteran Entrepreneurship

DVS has launched [VetBizNYC](#), an interactive map that identifies Veteran-owned businesses across the five boroughs. New Yorkers can use our interactive map to find and support Veteran-owned businesses in their community.



Are You Getting the Benefits You Deserve?

The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) represents NYC Veterans in claims for benefits from the [U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs](#). Our team is also qualified to assist with PACT Act related claims. If you had a toxic exposure during your service, time is crucial for you to get the benefits you deserve. To file a claim, fill out the [VetConnectNYC.org](#) form and select **Benefits Navigation** as your preferred service.



VetConnectPro: A First-in-the-Nation Employment Tool



[VetConnectPro](#), is a new employment tool designed to help Veterans find employment within NYC government. The platform features a military skills translator that can match your service experience and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) to City jobs and civil service exams. Upload your resume and get started today: nyc.gov/vetconnectpro.

Newsletter Sign-up

If you received this newsletter by way of a friend or colleague and have yet to sign-up on your own, click [here](#), and stay up-to-date with the latest news impacting the community, updates on city services, info on DVS programs, Veteran-specific resources & more.

Contact Us

- Complete a service request form at vetconnectnyc.org
- [Message the Commissioner](#)
- [Partner with DVS](#)
- [Press Inquiries](#)
- [Event Request Form](#)

Stay tuned on our website www.nyc.gov/vets and social media platforms [@nycveterans](https://twitter.com/nycveterans), or via email at connect@veterans.nyc.gov.