Most Popular Benefits Available for Former Servicemembers Based on Character of Service*

BENEFITS FOR A DISCHARGE UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS (GENERAL DISCHARGE)

DoD Benefits:

Payments for Unused Accrued Leave
Right to Wear the Uniform
Armed Forces Retirement Home
Pre-Separation Counseling
Dependent Travel and Household Goods Shipment (HHG)
Member Travel Home and HHG
Death Gratuity
DoD Military Funeral Honors
Retired Pay for Non-Regular service
Remission of Indebtedness
Post-service Maternity Care
Transitional Housing
Transitional Assistance Management Program (TRICARE)
Continued Health Care Benefit Program
Excess Leave/Permissive TDY

Non-DoD Benefits:

Naturalization through Armed Forces Service
Civil Service Retirement Credit
Federal Civil Service Hiring Preference
Post-secondary Education Readmission
Department of Education Upward Bound
Rural Housing Loan preference
Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers
DOL Priority of Service employment and training
USERRA Reemployment Rights
Patriot Express Small Business Loans

VA Benefits:

HONORABLE DISCHARGE ONLY: ALL BENEFITS LISTED ELSEWHERE, PLUS:

Education Benefits Transfer (DoD)
Montgomery GI Bill (VA)
Post-9/11 GI Bill (VA)
Troops to Teachers (Non-VA)

**Minimum active service requirements may apply.*

BENEFITS FOR A DISCHARGE UNDER OTHER THAN HONORABLE CONDITIONS

(Entitled to SGLI/VGLI conversion; Other VA Benefits Eligibility to be Adjudicated by VA)

Pre-Separation Counseling
Member Travel Home and OCONUS HHG
Dependent Travel and HHG (w/ approval)
Retired Pay for Non-Regular Service
Department of Education Upward Bound
Higher Education Readmission

BENEFITS FOR A BAD CONDUCT DISCHARGE (SPCM)

(Entitled to SGLI/VGLI conversion; Other VA Benefits Eligibility to be Adjudicated by VA)

Pre-Separation Counseling
Member Travel Home and OCONUS HHG
Dependent Travel and HHG (w/ approval)
Department of Education Upward Bound

OTH and BCD (SPCM): Is discharge considered dishonorable based on a bar to VA benefits?

STATUTORY BARS TO VA BENEFITS 38 U.S.C. 5103(a) AND 38 C.F.R. 3.12(c)

1. Discharge by sentence of a GCM;
2. Discharge as conscientious objector who refused to perform duty, wear uniform, or comply with authority;
3. A deserter;
4. Officer resignation for good of service;
5. Discharged as alien during hostilities;
6. AWOL in excess of 180 days unless VA determines compelling circumstances.

OTHER THAN HONORABLE OR BCD (SCM) SERVICE ADJUDICATED AS "OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE" OR AN HONORABLE OR GENERAL DISCHARGE

VA BENEFITS:

Service-Connected Disability Compensation
Dependency and Indemnity Compensation
Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance
Vocational Rehabilitation
Automobile Allowance
Clothing Allowance
Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance
Specially Adapted Housing Grants
Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance
Home Loan Guaranty
Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI)
Non-Service Connected Disability Pension
Veterans Retraining Assistance Program
Educational and Vocational Counseling
Burial in VA National Cemeteries
Health Care*
(*Also entitled to limited care with a § 3.12(d) benefits bar; No health care is authorized following any BCD)

Non-VA Benefits:

DoD Death Gratuity
Patriot Express Small Business Loans
Rural Housing Loan Preference
DOL Priority of Service for Employment and Training

REGULATORY BARS TO VA BENEFITS 38 C.F.R. 3.12(d)

1. Discharge to evade trial by GCM;
2. Mutiny or spying;
3. Moral turpitude;
4. Willful and persistent misconduct;
5. Homosexual acts involving aggravating circumstances or affecting duty.

BAD CONDUCT DISCHARGE (GCM)

Pre-Separation Counseling
Member Travel Home and OCONUS HHG
Dependent Travel Home and HHG (w/ approval)
Department of Education Upward Bound

NO VA BENEFITS (except for SGLI/VGLI conversion)

DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE

Pre-Separation Counseling
Member Travel Home and OCONUS HHG
Dependent Travel and HHG (w/ approval)