

Veteran and Military Driver Laws and Benefits in Arkansas

The state of Arkansas offers a number of benefits and perks for those Americans who have either served in an Armed Forces branch in the past, or are current active military members.

Vehicle registration benefits

Military personnel are exempt from paying assessment and property taxes when renewing their vehicle registration. In order to gain this exemption, you must renew in person at an OMV and provide a current Leave and Earnings Statement. You may also renew by mail or online but you will not be able to claim the tax exemption unless renewing in person.

Gross receipt tax exemption

This benefit applies to veterans who have been deemed by the VA as totally blind due to a service-related injury. Such veterans are exempt from paying sales tax on the purchase of a new car (applies to automobiles and pickup trucks only). The exemption requires an entitlement letter from the VA and may be claimed once every two years.

Driver's license veteran designation

Arkansas veterans are eligible for a military designation on their driver license. In order to qualify for this designation, you must provide the OMV with a DD 214 or other proof of honorable discharge, or "general under honorable conditions".

Military honor plates

Arkansas offers a wide selection of veteran and military plates, including:

- Armed Forces
- Armed Forces Retired
- Cold War Veteran
- Congressional Medal of Honor
- Disabled Veteran
- Distinguished Flying Cross
- Ex-Prisoner of War
- Gold Star Family
- Korean Veteran

Merchant Marine Retired
National Guard
Operation Enduring Freedom Veteran
Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran
Pearl Harbor Survivor
Persian Gulf War Veteran
Purple Heart – Combat Wounded
Support our Troups
Veteran of Foreign Wars
Vietnam War Veteran
World War II Veteran

Documentation of service and/or proof of participation in a specific battle may be required for certain plates.

Military skills test waiver

In 2011 the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration approved the Commercial Learner's Permit rule. Contained within this rule is a provision which authorizes SDLAs (State Driver Licensing Agencies) to allow military personnel and veterans to forego the road-testing portion of obtaining a CDL, instead using their military driving experience as a substitute for this test. The written portion of the test is still required. There are certain violations that can cause your application to be denied – these are specified on the application.

Driver license renewal while deployed

Active military personnel may extend their driver license renewal by mail for up to six years on their first tour of duty. For info call (501) 682-7059.

For more information

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