



U.S. SENATOR
GARY PETERS

THE CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT

SUPPORT FOR VETERANS

Veterans Benefits: The CARES Act expands resources to the Veterans Benefits Administration to ensure veterans continue to receive the benefits they've earned. Additionally, veterans and their families will remain eligible for pension and other income-dependent benefits, even if an emergency benefit paid by the government would have put them over the eligibility threshold. Veterans seeking to apply for benefits are encouraged to work with an [accredited representative](#) or apply through [eBenefits](#).

Veterans Housing Assistance: Additional funding was authorized for programs that assist homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless veterans. Veterans in need of housing assistance should call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 1-877-4AID-VET.

VA Personnel: Pay caps have been waived for VA staff working overtime to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic, so they can be fully compensated for their hard work. VA has also issued a waiver to rehire retired VA health workers to bolster medical staff during this public health crisis. Retired physicians, nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technicians, respiratory therapists and other medical professionals can [register online](#).

\$14.4 billion for essential medical and protective equipment including the purchase of testing kits, personal protective equipment (PPE), and medical supplies to support growing demand for health care services at VA facilities and through telehealth services. And language to:

- Require VA to provide PPE to all home health care workers serving veterans at home and in the community.
- Waive pay caps for VA staff working overtime during the COVID-19 pandemic, so they can be fully compensated for hours served.
- Enable VA to provide additional support for vulnerable veterans, including through programs to assist homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless veterans, as well as within VA-run nursing homes and community living centers.
- Provide flexibility for veterans and their caregivers in the home-based Veteran Directed Care program, preventing the need for institutional care.

If you have any additional questions about the federal resources available, please go to www.peters.senate.gov/coronavirus.