

# Veterans Day

November 11, 2019  
Teachers Resource Guide

VA



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Veterans Day National Committee are pleased to provide this Teachers Resource Guide. It is our hope that by thanking America’s Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice, we can reward them with the honor they so richly deserve.

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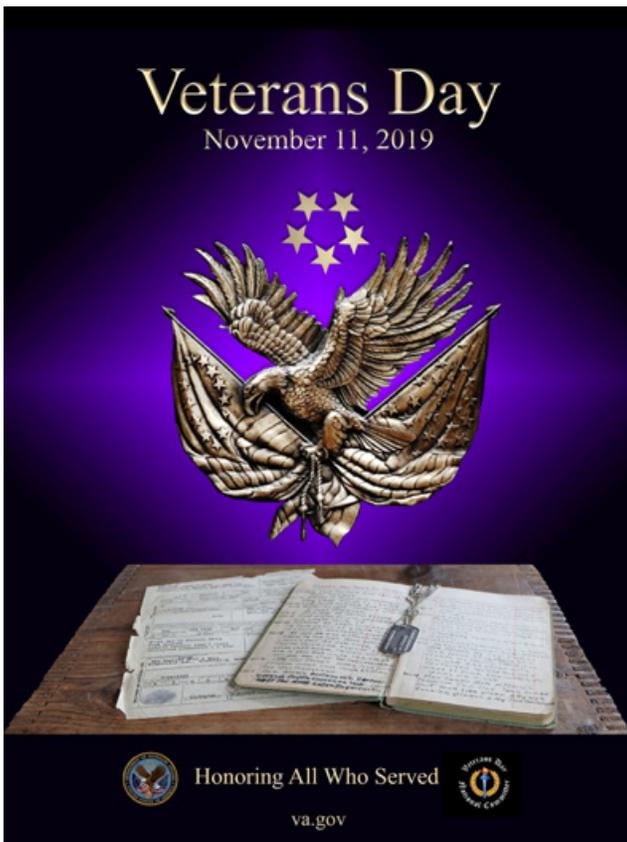
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Each year the Veterans Day National Committee publishes a commemorative Veterans Day poster. The poster is selected from artwork submitted by artists nationwide and is distributed to VA facilities, military installations around the world across cities and town in our nation. It also serves as the cover of the official program for the Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery.

Over the years these posters have illustrated the rich history of our country’s service men and women. The poster clearly reflects our pride and patriotism in saluting Veterans while providing the thematic artistry for the year.

Current and past Veterans Day posters are available for download from VA’s Veterans Day Poster Gallery at <https://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/gallery.asp>.

### Our American Veteran

A Veteran of the United States who someone who served in the armed forces on active duty whether in peacetime or war. The Veteran must have earned any character of discharge other than dishonorable. Our Veteran men and women served in either the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard. Veterans also served as commissioned officers in the U.S Public Health Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or Environmental Science Service. These proud former servicemembers come from generations of Americans representing our diversity of age, race, gender and religion. ***Their service and sacrifice we honor on Veterans Day.***

# Veterans Day

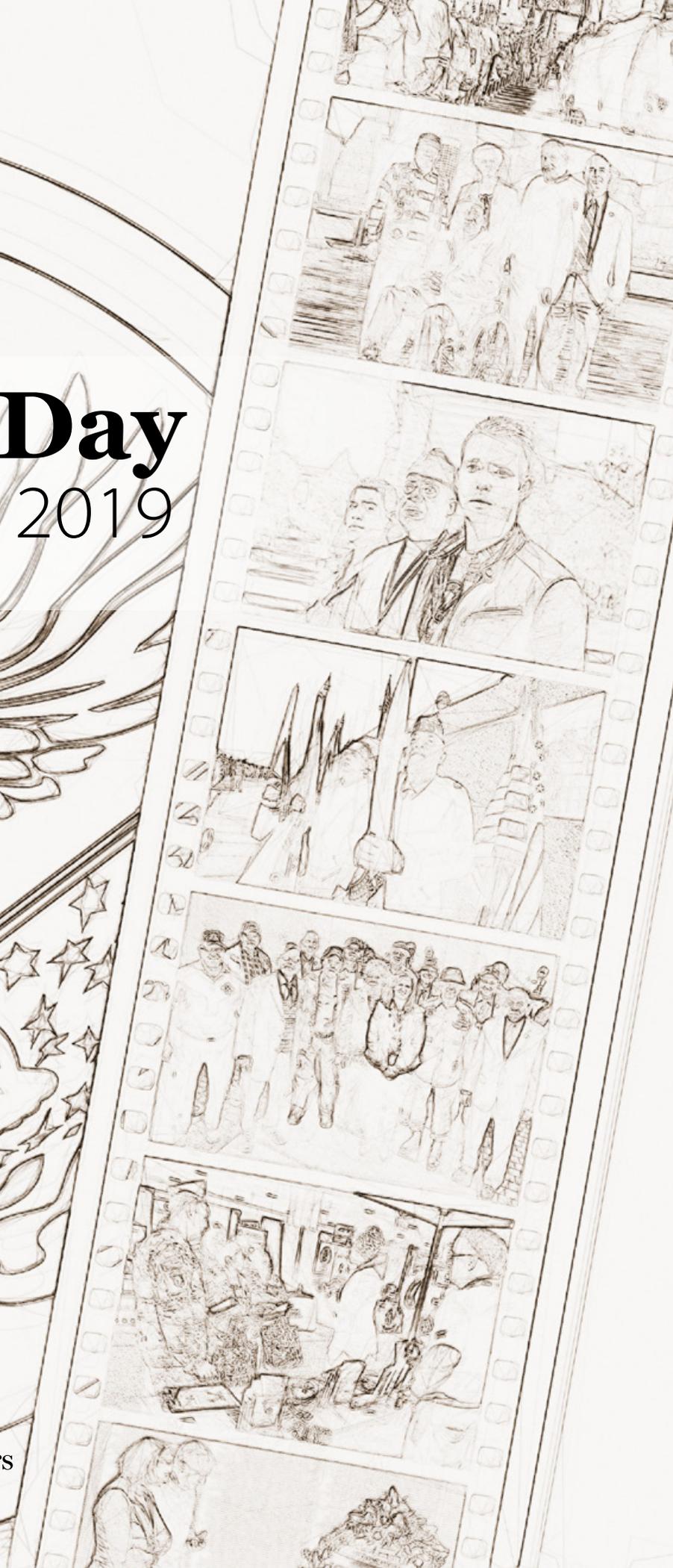
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**W**elcome to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs *2019 Veterans Day School and Teachers Resource Guide*. As Veterans Day approaches, we hope you will help your students connect with the brave servicemembers of our present and past. We can all better value the freedoms we have because of the men and women who have served in defense of our nation.

There are nearly 20 million Veterans living among us, in every state and territory and from every walk of life. Many of the students in your class may be the son, daughter, cousin, or relative of a Veteran or current service member. By engaging in discussion about these crucial members of our society, your students will be able to hear from and about those who helped shape American history. Our hope is that students will be encouraged to learn more of these often unheard stories from those close to them.

This resource guide, along with another group of America's finest — you as Teachers — will allow your students, on Veterans Day, to learn more about the price these brave servicemembers have paid to defend our nation.

***Thanks again and please join us in remembering our Veterans on Veterans Day, November 11, 2019.***

### ***The School Assembly:***

Because the weather can be quite cold in November in many parts of the country, an indoor assembly is far more sensible than one that would take place outside, eliminating the need for foul weather plans.

The scope of such a program may be large enough to permit invitations to the community, to include local Veterans groups. Students can be encouraged to bring family members that are Veterans (especially parents, siblings or grandparents) or currently in the Armed Forces.

### ***Inviting Local Veterans Groups:***

Inviting local Veterans groups makes assembly programs far more exciting and meaningful for students. Students tend to better understand and absorb the significance of Veterans Day when they can attach a human face to it.

In addition, Veterans groups often put on very exciting shows. From stirring renditions of the National Anthem and Taps to thrilling speeches and stories, Veterans, as guests, will both entertain and educate students.

You can find Veterans groups in your area through your local Veterans service organization chapters and VA hospitals. You might be surprised at how many Veterans live in your area. Schools that send out invitations often end up with former generals and admirals, Medal of Honor recipients and other distinguished guests coming to speak. A listing of Veterans organizations appears on page 4 of this guide. Or visit [www.va.gov/vso/](http://www.va.gov/vso/) for an online directory of Veterans' groups.



Nearly 100 Veterans of our nation's wars from World War II to the Global War on Terror join cadets of the Elbert County Comprehensive High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Program in rendering a hand salute in honor of Veterans and those who have fallen in our nation's service during a Veterans Day commemoration Friday. Georgia National Guard photo by Capt. William Carraway

## Program Guide:

Undoubtedly, your school will want to put on a program worthy of all these distinguished guests. The following are some suggestions and a sample program guide that will make this Veterans Day memorable for both students and guests:

**Prelude and Posting of Colors** — As the audience enters to be seated, a school or community musical organization may offer several appropriate selections. A procession and posting of the nation's colors (the U.S. flag) is a stirring event. Local Veterans Service Organizations often participate in such programs with their impressive array of military banners and American flags.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and singing of the National Anthem** — The program chairperson, school principal or student body president, should invite the audience to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

**Introductory Remarks** — Brief introductory remarks set the tone for the program. Consider reading the President's Veterans Day Proclamation, which the White House issues and posts on the internet shortly before Veterans Day. For more information, please visit: [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov).

Additional remarks and suitable quotations for speeches can be found on the Veterans Day Web site [www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/](http://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/) or use those featured in this guide.

**Introduction of Guests** — Introduce any special guests, which might include local government officials, school alumni with distinguished military service, Veterans from the community who represent different periods of service and faculty members who are Veterans.

**Principal Speaker** — Your principal speaker should be invited far enough in advance to allow adequate preparation for your program.

**Student Essay or Reading** — including various presentations by individual pupils in school programs, student body participation may be increased. Selected essays from class or school-wide competitions may be offered by the student author. A reading of a well-known patriotic address by an American President or military hero is also effective. There are a number of published musicals/narratives which can enhance your program. A short play or skit performed by the younger students can be exciting as well.

**Moment of Silence, Taps** — While Veterans Day is primarily a tribute to America's living Veterans, and is typically observed more as a celebration than as a somber remembrance (Memorial Day), it is always appropriate to include a moment of respect for those who gave their lives for our country. The signing of the World War I Armistice took place in a railway coach near the battle zone in France. The bugles sounded cease fire and the hostilities ended, marking a most significant moment in world history. Although 11:00 a.m. remains a traditional hour for this type of tribute, a moment of silence is appropriate at any point in the program. This may be followed by a rendition of "Taps." For more information on the history of Taps please visit [www.tapsbugler.com](http://www.tapsbugler.com).

**Closing** — The Master of Ceremonies announces "Retire the Colors." Accompanied by appropriate music, such as a John Philip Sousa march, the Colors are paraded out of the assembly area. This concludes the ceremony.



November 14, 2016: The Meade High School JROTC Color Guard performs during a Veterans Day Assembly that was held at MacArthur Middle School: The Partners In Education Program, where Soldiers mentor students. Photo by: Daniel Kucin Jr. Baltimore Sun

# Origins of Veterans Day

*“To Honor Veterans of All Wars”*

**R**aymond Weeks of Birmingham, Alabama, organized a Veterans Day parade for that city on November 11, 1947, to honor all of America’s Veterans for their loyal service. Later, U.S. Representative Edward H. Rees of Kansas proposed legislation changing the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day to honor all who have served in America’s Armed Forces.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11th as Veterans Day and called upon Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace. He issued a Presidential Order directing the head of the Veterans Administration, now the Department of Veterans Affairs, to formal Veterans Day National Committee to organize and oversee the national observance of Veterans Day. In addition to fulfilling that mission, the committee oversees the annual production and distribution of the annual Veterans Day poster and this *Teachers Resource Guide*

In 1968, Congress moved Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. However, it became apparent that the November 11th date was historically significant to a great many Americans. As a result, Congress formally returned the observance of Veterans Day to its traditional date in 1978.

The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. At 11 a.m., a color guard, made up of members from each of the military services, renders honors to America’s war dead during a tradition-rich ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

The President or his representative places a wreath at the Tomb and a bugler sounds “Taps.” The balance of the ceremony, including a “Parade of Flags” by numerous Veterans Service Organizations, takes place inside the Memorial Amphitheater, adjacent to the Tomb.

In addition to planning and coordinating the National Veterans Day Ceremony, the Veterans Day National Committee supports a number of Veterans Day Regional Sites. These sites conduct Veterans Day celebrations that provide excellent examples for other communities to follow.



President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs HR7786, June 1, 1954. This ceremony changed Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

# The Difference Between Veterans Day and Memorial Day

**B**oth holidays were established to recognize and honor the men and women who have worn the uniform of the United States Armed Forces. **Memorial Day**, which is observed on the last Monday in May, was originally set aside as a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle.

**Veterans Day** is intended to thank and honor all those who served honorably in the military – living and dead – whether in wartime or peace. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living Veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served - not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty.

To ensure the sacrifices of America’s fallen heroes are never forgotten, in December 2000 the U.S. Congress passed and the president signed into law “The National Moment of Remembrance Act,” P.L. 106-579, creating the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. The commission’s charter is to “encourage the people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity” by encouraging and coordinating commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a two minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation.

On October 7, 2016, President Obama signed the Veterans Day Moment of Silence Act. The law requires that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe a two-minute national moment of silence on Veterans Day at 3:11 p.m. Atlantic standard time, 2:11 p.m. Eastern standard time, 1:11 p.m. Central standard time, 12:11 p.m. Mountain standard time, 11:11 a.m. Pacific standard time, 10:11 a.m. Alaska standard time, and 9:11 a.m. Hawaii-Aleutian standard time.

**Memorial Day** is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country



Sunrise in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, Oct. 25, 2019.  
(U.S. Army photo by Elizabeth Fraser / Arlington National Cemetery)

**Veterans Day** is largely intended to thank living Veterans for their service



Vietnam Veteran salute the American Flag during a Veterans Day celebration at the Memphis VA Medical Center

## Tomb of the Unknowns

In 1921, an American soldier—his name “known but to God”—was buried on a Virginia hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, DC. The burial site of this unknown World War I soldier in Arlington National Cemetery symbolized dignity and reverence for America’s veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an “unknown soldier” of the Great War was buried in each nation’s highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe).

These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I hostilities at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as “Armistice Day.”

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action. If World War I had indeed been “the war to end all wars,” November 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But in 1939, World War II broke out in Europe and shattered that dream. Of the 16 million Americans who served in the Armed Forces during World War II, more than 400,000 died.



Soldiers from the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) support an Army Full Honors Wreath-Laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, Aug. 14, 2019. The wreath-laying was conducted by Peter Newsham, chief of police, Metropolitan Police Department and was hosted by U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Omar Jones IV, commanding general, U.S. Army Military District of Washington. (U.S. Army photo by Elizabeth Fraser / Arlington National Cemetery / released)

National Cemetery Administration

VA



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

# Veterans Legacy Program

## Discover Their Story – Honor Their Sacrifice

### A National Legacy

At VA, we seek to engage educators, students, researchers, and the general public to build an appreciation of what earlier generations have given to the nation and help us understand why this ground is set aside as “national shrines to the gallant dead.”

The Veterans Legacy Program proudly shares the stories of all Americans who served.

### TEACH USING VA NATIONAL CEMETERIES

- As you develop your curriculum for the fall, explore our five new digital lesson plans, Teacher-developed and standards aligned.
- Lesson plans are built on primary sources, contain colorful hand-outs and lesson extensions, and provide ideas for on-site learning!
- Additional lesson plans are being developed to invite learners to explore their local history. Keep checking the website.
- If you are interested in participating in one of NCA's Teachers institutes, please contact us for information.

**Contact the Veterans Legacy Program**

VeteransLegacyProgram@va.gov

Connect with Us



For More Information, tools and resources visit us at <https://www.cem.va.gov/cem/legacy/index.asp>.

# America's Wars



## WORLD WAR I

(1917 - 1918)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	4,734,991
Battle Deaths.....	53,402
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	63,114
Non-mortal Woundings.....	204,002



## KOREAN WAR

(1950 - 1953)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	5,720,000
Battle Deaths.....	33,739
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	2,835
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	7,672
Non-mortal Woundings.....	103,284
Living Veterans.....	1,637,000



## GULF WAR

(1990 - 1991)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	2,225,000
Battle Deaths.....	147
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	235
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	1,565
Non-mortal Woundings.....	467
Living Veterans.....	2,269,000



## WORLD WAR II

(1941 - 1946)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	16,112,566
Battle Deaths.....	291,557
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	113,842
Non-mortal Woundings.....	670,846
Living Veterans.....	771,000



## VIETNAM WAR

(1964 - 1973)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....	8,744,000
Battle Deaths.....	47,434
Other Deaths (in Theater).....	10,786
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....	32,000
Non-mortal Woundings.....	153,303
Living Veterans.....	6,835,000



## WAR ON TERROR

(2001 - PRESENT)

The War on Terror, including Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom are ongoing conflicts. For the most recent statistics, please visit the following Department of Defense Web site: [https://dcas.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/pages/casualties\\_oef.xhtml](https://dcas.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/pages/casualties_oef.xhtml).

# How to Contact Veterans Service Organizations

**V**eterans service organizations are groups of Veterans that meet together to promote and support Veterans' issues. Many organizations consist of members that share a common experience, such as those that served in the same military unit or period of war. The following is a list of organizations that serve on the Veterans Day National Committee. Many of these groups have chapters throughout the country with Veterans who can share their experiences with younger generations.

## Voting Members

Air Force Sergeants Association  
 American G.I. Forum  
 AMVETS  
 Army Navy Union, USA  
 Blinded Veterans Association  
 Catholic War Veterans, USA  
 Commissioned Officers of the US Public Health Service  
 Congressional Medal of Honor Society  
 Disabled American Veterans  
 Fleet Reserve Association  
 Jewish War Veterans of the USA  
 Korean War Veterans Association  
 Legion of Valor of the USA  
 Marine Corps League  
 Military Chaplains Association of the USA  
 Military Officers Association of America  
 Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA, Inc.  
 Military Order of the World Wars  
 Non Commissioned Officers Association  
 Paralyzed Veterans of America  
 Polish Legion of American Veterans, USA  
 The American Legion  
 The Retired Enlisted Association  
 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
 Vietnam Veterans of America

## Associate Members

Air Force Association  
 American Ex-Prisoners of War  
 American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.  
 American Red Cross  
 Association of the United States Navy  
 Blue Star Mothers of America  
 Bowlers to Veterans Link  
 Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association  
 Enlisted Association of the National Guard  
 Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.  
 Japanese American Veterans Association  
 Marine Corps Reserve Association  
 National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs  
 National Association of State Veterans Homes  
 Navy Seabee Veterans of America  
 Reserve Organization of America  
 Student Veterans of America  
 Wounded Warrior Project  
 Women's Army Corps Veterans Association  
*(Emeritus)*  
 Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge *(Emeritus)*

# Scholarships

If you're a Veteran who has served in the United States military, you and your family may qualify for a number of scholarships and grants that will help cover the cost of higher education. As an opportunity to thank the men and women who have served their country, many organizations and schools offer scholarships to help Veterans earn an undergraduate or graduate degree.

Whether you're looking into schools for yourself, a spouse or a family member, you can find the financial support and resources you need regardless of military branch.

The **Survivors & Dependents Assistance Program** offers financial assistance to children, ages 16 – 26, of Army personnel who have been disabled or killed in the line of duty. The program is also open to the children of servicemembers who have been declared missing in action, or who have been detained as a prisoner of war. The program offers up to 45 months of educational benefits to eligible students who are enrolled in approved undergraduate, graduate, or vocational studies. [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/survivor\\_dependent\\_assistance.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/survivor_dependent_assistance.asp)

The **Spouse Education Assistance Program (SEAP)** provides grant money to the eligible spouses of active-duty or retired Army personnel. Applicants must be enrolled at least part-time in an accredited college or university. Scholarship funding is available for fall and spring semesters only. [https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Benefit-Library/Federal-Benefits/Spouse-Education-Assistance-Program-\(SEAP\)-Scholarship](https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Benefit-Library/Federal-Benefits/Spouse-Education-Assistance-Program-(SEAP)-Scholarship)

The **General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program**. The program provides financial assistance to the children of active-duty and retired Air Force personnel. It also provides grants for the children and spouses of deceased service-members. This is a need-based grant, and current awards stand at \$2000. <https://afas.org/general-henry-h-arnold-education-grant/>

The **Scholarship for Air Force Enlisted Member's Dependent Children** is supported by the Air Force Sergeants Association and the Airmen Memorial Foundation. These scholarships are available to the dependent children of active-duty, retired or veteran Air Force personnel. Scholarship awards are determined by academic achievement, service to the community, character and writing ability. Financial need is not a consideration. Award amounts range from \$500 to \$3000. <https://www.hqafsa.org/scholarships.html>

The **Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society** provides financial support to Naval personnel, Marines, and their families. In addition to a number of interest free loans for service-members and their families, the Relief Society offers the following programs for the college-bound dependents of Navy and Marine personnel. <https://www.nmcrs.org/pages/education-loans-and-scholarships>

The **Joseph A. Mcalinden Divers Scholarship Program** is available to the children or spouses of active-duty Navy or Marine divers. Students must be studying oceanography, ocean agriculture or aquaculture in an approved college program. Awards range from \$500 to \$3000, and are determined by financial need. <https://www.nmcrs.org/pages/joseph-a-mcalinden-divers-scholarship-program>

# Respecting the Flag

*"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."*

## Important Things to remember

**T**he Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. If not in uniform, a person should remove his or her hat with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, with the hand over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

Display the U.S. flag every day, but especially on national and state holidays. On Memorial Day, the flag is flown at half-staff in the forenoon (sunrise until noon), then raised to its normal position at the top of the staff. When raising the flag to half-staff, first raise it to the top of the staff, then lower it half-way. When lowering a flag that has been flying at half-staff, first raise it to the top of the staff, then lower it all the way. The U.S. flag should be displayed on or near the main building of every public institution, in or near every school on school days, and in or near every polling place on election days. Always hoist the U.S. flag briskly. Lower it slowly and ceremoniously.

## Things not to do

**Never show disrespect to the U.S. flag.** Never dip (lower quickly and then raise) the U.S. flag to any person or thing. Regimental colors, state flags and organization or institutional flags are dipped as a mark of honor. Never display the U.S. flag with the field of stars at the bottom, except as a distress signal. Never let the U.S. flag touch anything beneath it — ground, floor, water or merchandise. Never carry the U.S. flag horizontally, but always aloft and free.

**Always allow the U.S. flag to fall free** — never use the U.S. flag as drapery, festooned, drawn back or up in folds. For draping platforms and decoration in general, use blue, white and red bunting. Always arrange the bunting with blue above, the white in the middle and the red below. Never fasten, display, use or store the U.S. flag in a manner that will permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged in any way. Never use the U.S. flag as a covering or drape for a ceiling. Never place anything on the U.S. flag and never have placed upon it, or on any part of it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture or drawing of any nature.

The U.S. flag should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, and the like; printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discarded; or used as any portion of a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, fire fighters, police officers and members of patriotic organizations. Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff from which the flag is flown.

Learn more about the "Flag Code" at [www.usflag.org/uscode36.html](http://www.usflag.org/uscode36.html).

Many Marines gave their lives to raise the American flag on Mt. Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima in 1945. Based on a photograph by Joseph Rosenthal, the Marine Corps War Memorial depicts this sacrifice. Located near Arlington National Cemetery, it is a tribute to all the Marines who have fallen in combat.

## Folding the Flag

**W**hen the U.S. flag is no longer in suitable condition for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. Many Veterans groups perform this service with dignified, respectful flag retirement ceremonies.

When your flag isn't on display, fold it into a traditional triangle shape and store in a safe place to show your respect. Here's how to do it.

### What You Need

An American flag, a second person to help fold

### Follow These Steps

Start by holding the flag parallel to the ground, at waist-level, making sure to keep it nice and taut.

Fold it in half, length-wise, so that the Union (that's the part with the stars) faces the ground.

Now fold it in half again. The stars should now face out from both sides of the flag.

*Tip: As you're folding, make sure the crease is perfectly aligned.  
You can also smooth it out with your hand to get rid of any air bubbles.*

Now you're ready to start folding the triangles. While your partner holds the flag taut, take the left-hand corner on the end opposite from the stars and fold it up on top of the flag so that the edge is parallel to the right-hand side. The stripes should now run perpendicular to each other, forming a triangle.

Now take the outermost point of the triangle's edge, and fold it over the flag. Continue to do this until the stripes meet the stars. Try to make the folds as tight as possible.

Tuck the remaining flap into the slot formed between the stars and stripes.

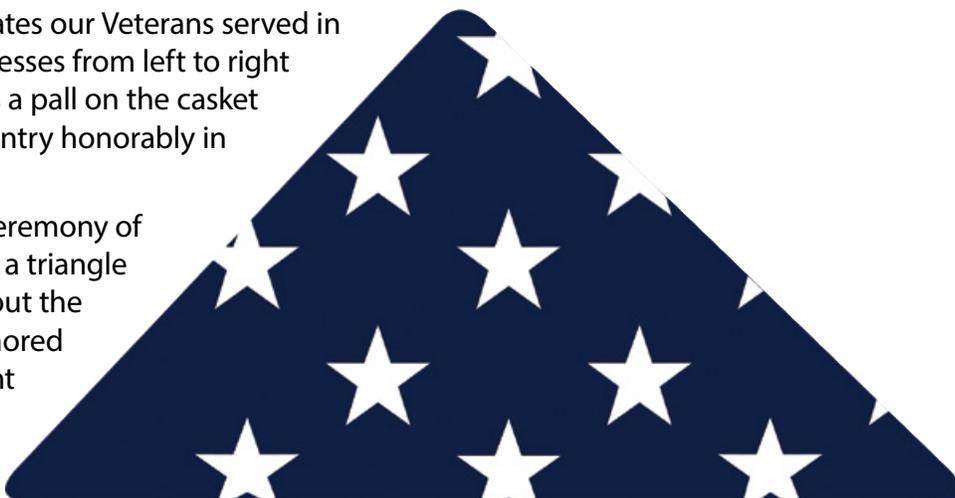
You now have a perfectly folded flag that will fit neatly in any drawer.

### Meaning of Flag-Folding Program

The flag-folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which our great country was originally founded.

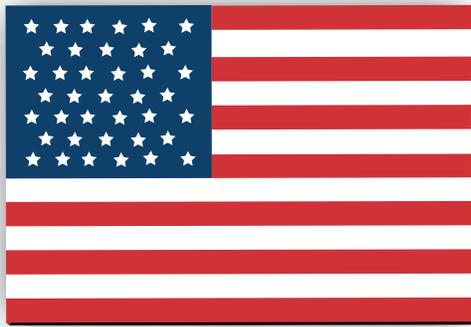
The portion of the flag denoting honor is the canton of blue containing the stars representing states our Veterans served in uniform. The canton field of blue dresses from left to right and is inverted only when draped as a pall on the casket of a veteran who has served our country honorably in uniform.

In the U.S. Armed Forces, at the ceremony of retreat, the flag is lowered, folded in a triangle fold and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nation's honored dead. The next morning it is brought out and, at the ceremony of reveille, run aloft as a symbol of our belief in the resurrection of the body.

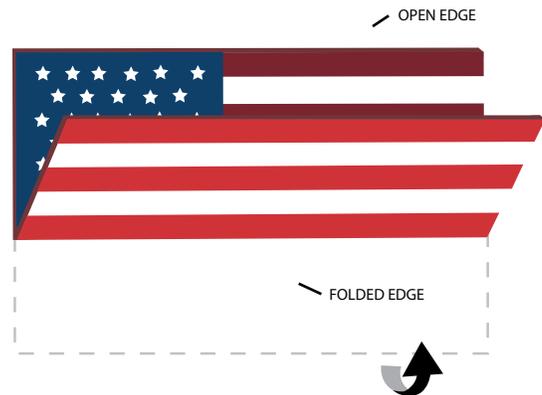


Flag etiquette is an important part of the American tradition that ensures the Stars and Stripes is treated with the dignity it deserves. Established by Congress in 1942, the official [U.S. Flag Code](#) created guidelines for the care and display of the flag. Although it does not describe an official method for folding the flag, the rules do state that you should never store a flag in a way where it can get torn, soiled, or damaged. You should also never let the flag touch anything beneath it, such as the ground or floor.

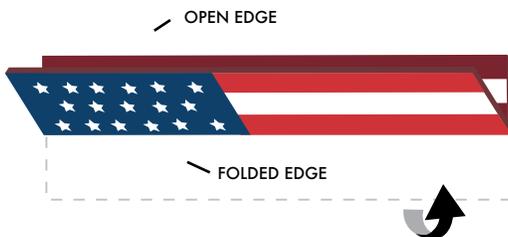
Over time, a triangular shape has become the traditional way to fold the flag and store it in a safe manner. The exact origin of this specific procedure is unknown, but it may trace back to the Gold Star Mothers of America or the United States Air Force Academy.



Hold the flag waist-high with a partner; the flag should be parallel with the ground.



Bring the upper and lower halves of the flag together, folding it lengthwise in half.



Fold the flag lengthwise again, bringing the lower half up to the top. The field of stars should be visible on the left side.



Bring the striped corner of the folded edge up to meet the top edge of the flag, making a small triangle.



Fold the triangle over itself, making the triangle point inward. Continue triangular folding.



The triangular folding continues until the entire length of the flag is folded.

# 2019 Veterans Day National Committee

Honorary Chairman  
The Honorable Donald Trump  
President of the United States

Chairman  
The Honorable Robert Wilkie  
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Vice Chairman  
The Honorable James Hutton  
Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs

## Members

Air Force Sergeants Association

Army Navy Union, USA

Commissioned Officers of the US Public Health Service

Fleet Reserve Association

Legion of Valor of the USA

Military Officers Association of America

Non Commissioned Officers Association

The American Legion

Vietnam Veterans of America

American G.I. Forum

Blinded Veterans Association

Congressional Medal of Honor Society

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Marine Corps League

Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA, Inc.

Paralyzed Veterans of America

The Retired Enlisted Association

AMVETS

Catholic War Veterans, USA

Disabled American Veterans

Korean War Veterans Association

Military Chaplains Association of the USA

Military Order of the World Wars

Polish Legion of American Veterans, USA

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

## Associate Members

Air Force Association

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Association of the United States Navy

Bowlers to Veterans Link

Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.

Marine Corps Reserve Association

Navy Seabee Veterans of America

US Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Association

Student Veterans of America

Wounded Warrior Project

American Ex-Prisoners of War

American Red Cross

Blue Star Mothers of America

Enlisted Association of the National Guard

Japanese American Veterans Association

National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs

National Association of the State Veterans Homes

Reserve Organization of America

Women's Army Corps Veterans Association (*Emeritus*)

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge (*Emeritus*)

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