

Veteran Designation on MD Driver's License and Veteran FAQs

Attention Maryland Veterans:

Effective January 1, 2013, you will be able to have a veteran designation placed on your driver's license. This was authorized by a bill passed by the Maryland General Assembly, and signed into law by Governor O'Malley in May, 2012.

FAQ 1: Why is MVA using a W in restriction code and placing Veteran on the back of the license?

Answer: MVA launched this program utilizing its current driver's license design and software. Over the next year the license is being redesigned and Veteran will appear more prominently on the license after the changes. It will not affect the ability to utilize either form of the Veteran designation.

FAQ 2: Why do I have to pay \$20.00 to have the Veteran designation added to my license?

Answer: The Veteran has a choice in this matter, one will cost you extra, the other is no cost. If you would like to have the veteran designation placed on your driver's license, you have two options:

- 1) Request it the next time your license is up for renewal (no cost to you), or:
- 2) Request it before your license is up for renewal (\$20 fee)

FAQ 3: Why are the forms of proof for Veteran status limited to DD 214, Honorable Discharge Certificate, or Statement/Letter from Personnel Center, S.t Loius?

Answer: Anyone that has dealt with discharge paperwork understands the complicated and different forms involved in the process. As Post Adjutants will tell anyone they receive many documents from prospective members, and verifying honorable service can be confusing. So the MVA has limited the forms of proof to make the process simpler for Veterans and clerks at the MVA to understand. If you need help getting a copy of service records call the local American Legion Post or go online to <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>, or If you do not have any one of these documents and you are a veteran with a discharge that is other than dishonorable, you will need to visit your nearest Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) Service Office to obtain a letter verifying your status as a veteran. To find the location of the MDVA Service Office closest to you, you can call 1-800-446-4926 ext. 6450 or visit the website at <http://www.mdva.state.md.us/about/serviceProgram.html>

Once you obtain this letter, you can then bring it to your local MVA Branch Office to request the veteran designation on your driver's license.

Questions: Call Jerry Boden, MDVA, at 410-260-3841

For Questions about this document call The American Legion, Department of Maryland, Department Adjutant Russell W. Myers Jr at 410-752-1405 or email at Russell@mdlegion.org

Information Source: <http://www.mdva.state.md.us/index.html>