



## VETERANS LIAISON

- Each of our facilities has an assigned Facility Veterans Liaison who can be a staff member from any correctional discipline: Guidance, Security, Educational, Medical, or Administration. The Liaison does not have to be a veteran (Directive 4401).

### Liaisons Duties

- Facility point of contact for the VA Re-entry Specialists and Pension and Compensation exams
- Ensure veterans obtain their Military records
- Veterans Residential Therapeutic Program referrals
- Ensure the veterans video is being presented during the facility orientation

### Guidance Specialist for Veterans Affairs Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Office of Guidance and Counseling  
Central Office  
518-402-1813  
Doccs.sm.VeteransCO

*Our goal is to assist veterans in our custody to understand how their ideas and attitudes affect their thinking and ultimately, their decision-making process.*

*We believe by assisting them to actively change their ideas and attitudes, the veterans, their families, and our communities can all benefit.*



State of New York  
Kathy Hochul, Governor

Corrections and Community Supervision  
Anthony J. Annucci, Acting Commissioner

The Harriman State Campus  
1220 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12226-2050  
[www.doccs.ny.gov](http://www.doccs.ny.gov)

# INCARCERATED VETERANS PROGRAM

*November 2021*

## DESCRIPTION

The Incarcerated Veterans Program is designed to address the readjustment and re-entry needs of veterans returning to our communities following a period of incarceration.

- Each individual that enters into our custody is asked during their initial interview at one of our Reception Centers if they have ever served in a United States Armed Service or a foreign armed service.
- Preferred facility placement for veterans:
  - Maximum Security  
Attica CF, Auburn CF,  
and Clinton CF
  - Medium Security  
Groveland CF, Gouverneur CF,  
and Mid-State CF

### Level I Facilities

- All correctional facilities provide level I services. Level I services ensure that veterans obtain a copy of their Military Records (DD214), and that appropriate referrals are made through the Veterans Administration (VA) for ongoing treatment, vocational training, education, housing, and employment when a veteran is nearing release.

### Level II Facilities

- Level II facilities have a Veterans Organization or a Veterans Education Group that meets on a regular basis providing education, camaraderie and support to each other. There is often a

community group involved, such as a local American Legion or Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter. Level II facilities often hold a Veterans Day Recognition Ceremony and banquet to honor their military service.

### Level III Facilities

- Level III facilities provide the [Veterans Residential Therapeutic Program](#). The residential program is a six-month program that addresses readjustment issues with a focus on continuing recovery from substance abuse, anger and aggression management, post-traumatic stress disorders, personal enhancement and contact with community providers. Nearing release from incarceration, referrals are made through the Veterans Administration for appropriate levels of care.

## VETERANS RESIDENTIAL THERAPEUTIC PROGRAM

### OBJECTIVE

*To help incarcerated veterans become aware of their entitlements, benefits, and available community resources. To assist them in verifying their veteran status and to provide a healing and peaceful environment so they can address their service-related problems.*

### Admission Requirements

- Must be a veteran and be able to produce a copy of their military records.

- Must be willing to actively participate in all of the program activities and groups.
- Must sign the [Veterans Residential Therapeutic Program Participation Contract](#).
- Information regarding the referral process is available on the Program Services/Guidance and Counseling/Veterans section on our DOCCS training icon.

## VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

- There is a strong history of collaboration between DOCCS and the VA to provide coordinated re-entry planning and services to veterans as they transition from incarceration back to our communities.
- In 2007, Congress started to provide funding for each Veterans Administration Network to formalize the VA's outreach to our incarcerated veterans and optimize their successful reintegration.
- VA Re-entry Specialists will participate in re-entry planning for veterans who are within six months of release.

For more information regarding Programming Services, visit [www.doccs.ny.gov](http://www.doccs.ny.gov)