

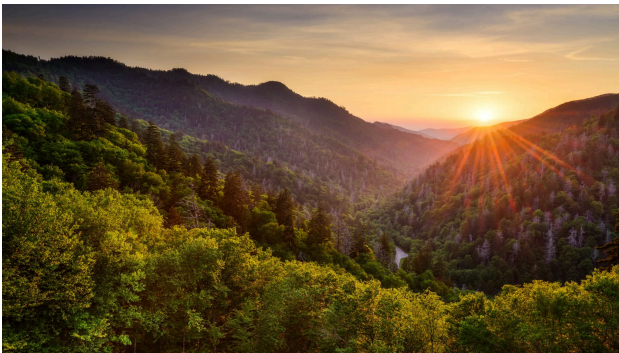
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[Veterans, Gold Star Families get free lifetime pass to national parks, wildlife refuges, other public lands](#)




Veterans, Gold Star Families get free lifetime pass to national parks, wildlife refuges, other public lands

New pass provides free lifetime access and waived recreation fees for Veterans


November 8, 2022


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VR5: Free Lifetime Passes to U.S. National Parks

On Veterans Day 2022, the National Park Service unveiled a lifetime pass providing free entrance to [national parks](#) for Veterans and their families.

The Interagency Military Lifetime Pass waives entrance fees for the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and standard amenity recreation fees for the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sites for current military service members and their dependents, Veterans and Gold Star Families.

Veterans and their families have free access to approximately 2,000 public locations spread out across more than 400 million acres of public lands, which host activities to fit any lifestyle—from serene to high octane, including hiking, fishing, paddling, biking, hunting, stargazing, camping, and much more.

The Military Pass has been expanded to include a pass that does not expire for Veterans and Gold Star Family members. The National Defense Authorization Act of 2022 authorized a free lifetime pass to national parks and other federal recreational lands for eligible Veterans and Gold Star Families. In recent years, they were able to receive annual passes.

Are you eligible?

For purposes of this program, a Veteran is identified as an individual who has served in the United States Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserve, and is able to present one of the following forms of valid (unexpired) identification:

- Department of Defense Identification Card
- [Veteran Health Identification Card \(VHIC\)](#)
- [Veteran ID Card](#)
- Veterans designation on a state-issued U.S. driver's license or identification card

Gold Star Families are next of kin of a member of the United States Armed Forces who lost his or her life in a “qualifying situation,” such as a war, an international terrorist attack, or a military operation outside of the United States while serving with the United States Armed Forces.

The America the Beautiful – the National Parks and Federal Recreational

Lands Pass (Interagency Pass) Program

The Interagency Pass Program includes a free annual pass for active-duty members of the U.S. Military and their dependents. Current Military service members must show a valid (unexpired) Department of Defense ID. Dependents of current service members must show a valid (unexpired) DD Form 1173 AD or DEC.

Other free or discounted passes, including some lifetime passes, are available for persons with permanent disabilities, fourth grade students, volunteers and senior citizens age 62 years or older.

How to get your Interagency Pass

Interagency Passes can be obtained in person while visiting a participating site. Visit [Places to Get Interagency Passes](#) for a searchable list and be sure to contact the site before you go, to make sure they are open and have passes in stock. In

addition, Military passes, as well as those for seniors and persons with permanent disabilities, are available online through the [USGS Online Store](#) with an additional processing fee. Existing passes remain valid. You do not need to obtain a new pass if you already have a Lifetime Senior or Access Pass.

For more information about eligibility and passes, visit [Free Entrance to National Parks for Veterans and Gold Star Families \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#).

The participating agencies also offer several fee-free days for everyone throughout the year to mark days of celebration and commemoration. Examples of fee-free days include the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., National Public Lands Day, Veterans Day and the signing of the Great American Outdoors Act.

Fee-free days and fee policies vary among the agencies, so it's best to check the agency website or contact the site you plan to visit in advance of your trip.

[APPLY FOR A VETERAN ID CARD](#)

[APPLY FOR A VETERAN HEALTH IDENTIFICATION CARD \(VHIC\)](#)

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The comments section is for opinions and feedback on this particular article; this is not a customer support channel. If you are looking for assistance, please visit [Ask VA](#) or call 1-800-698-2411. Please, never put personally identifiable information (SSAN, address, phone number, etc.) or protected health information into the form — it will be deleted for your protection.

Comments are closed.

430 Comments

Troy H December 8, 2022 at 02:39

Hopefully the general public never sees the comments here. If you dont understand how the internet works please have someone who does complete the orocess. If you got a lifetime pass paid for or free and you are still alive, it shouldnt be difficult to figure out if you need to renew a LIFETIME PASS

Troy H December 8, 2022 at 02:32

M Soules hit the bullseye on this one. If you already have one wether paid for or free, no need to point it out just enjoy not having to do it again. All I hear to often is what the VA didnt give out for free, yet given the opportunity to get something for free there are some complaining about a \$10 non mandatory fee. That fee is a convenience fee.

Terry December 6, 2022 at 15:01

I'm a veteran and I have mine for about 20 years. I don't believe I need to renew it, since it is a lifetime pass.

William Loftin December 5, 2022 at 06:51

My FREE pass says it cost \$10?

Kary Bernard Evans December 2, 2022 at 20:26

This was very good information. Thanks for publishing.

Irwin Sater December 1, 2022 at 08:33

Waiting for a nurse to call me appointment with Dr. karatela Carretera.

[Editor: Do NOT publish your sensitive information on the internet. I have removed it from this comment.]

Christopher Bogue November 30, 2022 at 18:17

Gee, I don't have anything but a dd214,. What is wrong with your organization?

Ron November 30, 2022 at 15:47

I've read folks having a lot of confusion were to apply the pass. This is the link I used <https://store.usgs.gov/MilitaryPass> scroll down until you see the green box "Determine Eligibility". Hope this helps.

William Sandstrom November 29, 2022 at 11:14

I went to Red Rock Canyon National Recreation Area in Las Vegas Nevada, Had my DL, Digital Vet ID, (the only form of ID the VA gives out anymore), and My DD Form 214. I was told by the attendant I needed a hard card from the VA to get my Pass. I was also told The National Park Service is administering this. Why is it so difficult to do something that should be so simple? I have only used one thing of my VA benefits in 40 years being a Vet, my Loan on my

house and had to fight to get that. I guess I should have expected this! FUBAR people FUBAR

Ron November 30, 2022 at 15:58

Hi William, try going to the following website <https://store.usgs.gov/MilitaryPass>. Scroll down the page until you see green box “Determine Eligibility”. When you select what applies to you more information will be displayed. If you apply online there is a \$10 processing fee however if you go in person with applicable documentation I believe its free. Hope this helps.

Paul Lally November 28, 2022 at 16:27

Went to Illinois Waterway in Ottawa Illinois and got the pass in five minutes.

Dr. Turner Ray Roberts III, Ph.D. November 27, 2022 at 19:48

Seeing is believing!

raul flores November 27, 2022 at 17:58

I'm in.. Pass

Kathleen Bennett (ROBERT) November 27, 2022 at 13:48

We'd like a Free Lifetime Pass.

Richard F. Garcia November 27, 2022 at 10:34

Yes, I would like to fill something out to qualify for a life time pass for all parks in the US!

Bob November 27, 2022 at 08:15

Could not believe how easy it was to get mine. The content in the paragraphs under the “How to get your Interagency Pass” heading worked great. Able to do via texting credentials. Pass and hangtag arrived on a Sat after texting my credentials on a Thu.

Wylie phelps November 25, 2022 at 18:50

I drove to Holiday Ranch farm at Benbrook Lake, Benbrook and the employee was able to give me a one year pass (she was out of the lifetime passes until next year). It was quick and she was very polite and cheerful. I will go back to get the Lifetime pass at a later time. She also gave me a “look” pass to this COE park.

Easy to get. Just so a search for where these are issued. My DL reflects veteran and so she declined to see my DD214 as a back up. Great experience

Keith Allen November 25, 2022 at 18:37

How to apply?

James Cala November 25, 2022 at 01:47

Sounds good.

David Adams November 24, 2022 at 12:55

I would like to have a pass

Terry E Dean November 23, 2022 at 17:56

All that info but don't see where I can apply for a pass can you update me on getting a pass?

Timothy Schryver November 23, 2022 at 11:56

Can't figure out how to get the free lifetime pass!!!!

richard d bergman November 24, 2022 at 08:14

Go to listed locations, National Parks etc

Carl L Waters November 23, 2022 at 09:00

This says as of Veterans Day 2022 but I've had mine for years. Does this mean that I need to renew mine?

BRENT WATERS November 24, 2022 at 13:50

I think you're good. At least I hope so, I'm in the same boat.

NOT GIVEN November 22, 2022 at 19:18

ONLINE DATA TO SECURE PASS WAS JUST ABOUT IMPOSSIBLE TO USE. I CALLED SOMEONE AND THAT PERSON WAS NOT HELPFUL. I GUESS I WILL NOT HAVE A PASS.

Timothy Clay November 23, 2022 at 17:28

Same here.

Leland D Smith November 22, 2022 at 16:18

I know the answer is here and I'm just missing it but how do I get my pass? I'm a veteran with a VHIC.

Thanks in advance for your help,

Lee Smith

BRENT WATERS November 24, 2022 at 13:49

Your VHIC card will work. Unfortunately, you sometime have a hoop or 2 to go thru but you'll get in free.

Not a Cucumber November 22, 2022 at 13:18

And all it took was being denied Veterans Assistance for the tenth time because every administration in our history seems to refuse to care for the people they send out to fight other country's wars.

Brad Bradford November 22, 2022 at 12:25

I thank you for finally understanding that many of us disabled veterans do not receive info. concerning how to obtain national/state park passes & here we are! I may be able to obtain a permanent national park pass for my country I fought for. I am a 100% disabled veteran of the USCG and reside in Maine for good and I thank whom of you recognized that it would be a great, thoughtful benefit for all retired and/or disabled veterans!

Kwasi F., USN(ret) November 22, 2022 at 10:04

Thank you for these services to veterans!! Every bit counts & is appreciated!

Kwasi F., USN(ret)

Charles Blackburn November 21, 2022 at 22:04

For what it is worth. I do have an access card. I planned to go fishing at Mauldin Park located on Lake Texarkana. I called the park to check and see if it was okay for me to fish from the bank inside the park. I was told I would be required to pay for a campsite before being able to fish. I was told I could get the site for 12 dollars. I explained I would only be fishing for three or four hours. This made no difference. I then asked if I brought my boat and used their boat ramp to launch. I got the same story about the campsite. I then asked why I could launch from Atlanta State Park with no fee. I was told they are different in their regulations. I believe one should be able to bank fish and when needed be able to use the boat ramp without a fee. So as I see it the access card doesn't help.

Darla R staebler November 21, 2022 at 21:15

so this is only for National Parks, and not state? Like Custer state park?

LAWRENCE November 21, 2022 at 15:17

I GOT ONE 10 YEARS AGO. WHY IS THIS COMING UP, AGAIN?

Keith Mandahl November 21, 2022 at 13:46

What of us who have already purchased an “America the Beautiful Lifetime Senior Pass” for \$80.00. Is a reimbursement in order, or S.O.L.?

Greg November 21, 2022 at 13:29

I see a lot of comments below about no path to getting the pass. It is true that it is a little convoluted but if you look in the paragraph that says “How to get your Interagency Pass”. There is a link (indicated by blue text) that says “Places to get Interagency passes”. That link will take you to a page that lets you select which state you are in and will identify all the places that issue the passes. It has another link on that page (also blue text) that is for the “USGS Online Store”. That is where you purchase the pass online. It cost \$10.

Chuck November 21, 2022 at 12:02

Will this cover parking at the boat launch

L. konkus November 20, 2022 at 19:28

Sounds like the free pass cost \$ 10.00. If I go to the park, it”s \$ 15.00 gas. thanks a lot.

Lynn November 20, 2022 at 17:15

Doesn’t tell where and how I get my life time park card.

Spicuzza November 20, 2022 at 17:09

What is the mentality of offering this free lifetime pass to nat’l parks and only offering information on

how to get our military I.D. ? Why isn't there a place to actually get to the free pass sight? Why does all the VA stuff have to be a game with the VA? It does nothing other than frustrate us.
See Cecotti November 18, 2022.

James Francis November 21, 2022 at 18:53

hey brother, it states just go to a park and ask. I got mine at the Arch in St Louis. No problem what so ever. I had purchased a ticket, in advance, to go to the top, they reimbursed me the cost, applied the discount and reissued the ticket. There are still some cost associated with access,

Glenn November 22, 2022 at 18:55

I drove up to the gate pass at Joshua Tree and showed them my VA health card, passed the lady \$10 and got an on the spot Lifetime Pass. I was hoping for reindeers and sparkling Twinklebells but was told they were all on break, so all I got was four days of unbelievable starlight forever.

Suck it up, recruit. That's it. Do it.

michael k loewe November 20, 2022 at 11:40

va sends this with no link and no way of actually getting this pass or instructions

[Editor: There are several links inside the story.
Please click for more information.]

Gary Baker November 20, 2022 at 11:23

does this include for hunting in the National Forests?

Priscilla Sparks November 20, 2022 at 09:41

I think I already have this, is there a way of checking a system to see if I'm listed. I'm retired Air Force, disabled Veteran and VA patient. I have my retired military ID and VA patient ID card.

Chuck Davis November 20, 2022 at 06:29

Thanks VA and National Park Service.
God Bless America

(I already have a free Senior pass – but thanks for recognizing all veterans.)

Roberto A Collado November 19, 2022 at 21:46

How is this card FREE when we are being charged \$80 to get one?

beth congrove November 21, 2022 at 14:39

Go to the bottom for the Veterans Lifetime Pass
.... it's \$10, not free, but it depends on how often you'll use it.

Anton Maichl November 19, 2022 at 16:51

Tried to register and get a pass for veteran but site not working- the dropdown menu for branch of service is not working so it wont ket me go on.

Chris November 19, 2022 at 15:08

There are lots of versions of the Free Access pass. If you are over 60 and like to camp, the Senior Pass, although it costs \$85, is worth it. The Se for pass allows free entry to the National Parks and Monuments AND gives you 50% off on individual campsites. (Yurts, cabins and group sites not included.)

John E. Sellers November 19, 2022 at 14:50

We have a very large veteran community that lives around Military Bases. It would be great if us vets could go to a ticket and tour office on a Base or Post and get the pass.

Charles Harold November 19, 2022 at 13:28

Good News! Vets should have this boon for Vets and their families!

David Soule November 19, 2022 at 12:17

Where is the camping? I called the Forest Service but they say no discounts on camping. It would be excellent if camping is included!

David

David Soule November 19, 2022 at 12:16

“Veterans and their families have free access to approximately 2,000 public locations spread out across more than 400 million acres of public lands, which host activities to fit any lifestyle—from serene to high octane, including hiking, fishing, paddling, biking, hunting, stargazing, camping, and much more.”

Where is the camping? I called the Forest Service but they say no discounts on camping. It would be excellent if camping is included!

David

Glen Matteson November 19, 2022 at 11:46

The way I read this Bill was if you already have a VA ID, then you only have to show that at one of the federal parks etc. to gain entrance. I don't believe you need a special park pass to get in these areas. But you can apply for a VA ID online anytime and you can print it out so you don't have to wait.

Ronald C Howard November 19, 2022 at 11:24

I am a Vietnam Veteran how and where can I get the pass for the Federal Parks, Thank You, Ronald Howard

M Soules November 19, 2022 at 08:49

Frankly, the comments in here scare me. Our country's security was in the hands of people who read a well-written article describing who qualifies and how to get one then ask, “Do I qualify?” and “How do I get one?” or complain that the VA is

playing games. Our recruiting standards must not have included reading comprehension.

Right there in big bold letters: Are you eligible? and How to get your Interagency Pass.

Thanks for your service, but oh, brother.

Edward Torres November 18, 2022 at 23:34

This is great news, my wife and I love U.S.A. National Parks

Thomas Cole November 18, 2022 at 16:49

VA makes everything complicated.

M Soules November 19, 2022 at 08:40

Yeah, that “Go to the park and get one free” is pretty complicated.

Dave November 19, 2022 at 20:09

The VA isn't complicating this. It is the National Park Service that is offering the free pass. The VA is only offering to help vets get a VA identification that will work to obtain a pass from the Parks Service of you don't already have ID that identifies you as a veteran. They are offering you a solution and a service.

Joseph Styczynski November 18, 2022 at 16:32

Here is a url to purchase a lifetime military pass, I contacted a ranger at Acadia National Park, one of

the designated sites. The cost is \$10.00 bucks for processing, if you go to the park with id in hand there is no charge.

<https://store.usgs.gov/MilitaryPass>

This process is how to do it online without having to go to the park

Russ Jobe November 18, 2022 at 15:57

I live in Minnesota and I'm looking forward to getting a pass to the National Park's, I have a 100% disability If you could let me know where to get, the pass!

Cecotti November 18, 2022 at 15:54

What is the mentality of offering this free lifetime pass to nat'l parks and only offering information on how to get our military I.D. ? Why isn't there a place to actually get to the free pass sight? Why does all the VA stuff have to be a game with the VA? It does nothing other than frustrate us.
Well, thanks for nothing (again).

M Soules November 19, 2022 at 08:35

I suppose you didn't read this part? Sheesh. You want them to come to your house? Why expend taxpayer money to fund the infrastructure for a website? Just to the park and get one.

How to get your Interagency Pass
Interagency Passes can be obtained in person

while visiting a participating site. Visit Places to Get Interagency Passes

Dave November 19, 2022 at 20:02

The VA isn't the one offering the free passes. They are reporting that the National Parks Service is offering them. All the VA is saying is that you can get a VA card which is acceptable identification that can be used to obtain the pass from the Parks Service if you lack another method of identification.

Gary Baker November 20, 2022 at 11:25

it isn't difficult, just take your military ID, or veterans ID and present it to the ranger at the entrance to the park. you will get a pass on the spot.

Robert Collins November 18, 2022 at 15:48

I have my Veterans designation on a state-issued U.S. driver's license or identification card and other documents if needed. How do I apply for a lifetime pass to national forests?

Richard A. Seeger November 18, 2022 at 15:32

This is an outstanding program for all Veterans and Gold Satr Families!

Gerald R. Chrastil November 18, 2022 at 14:52

I would like to know where and how I can apply for a free pass to National Parks? I am a 100% service connected veteran and live in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Richard W Loop Sr November 18, 2022 at 13:48

i live in northwest Indiana, where can i go to get the pass

Rodney R Dibble November 18, 2022 at 13:24

I,m a veteran us army and a senior 64 Year old Minnesota

Janice November 18, 2022 at 12:57

My husband was a Veteran and 100% disabled. I am his spouse and my husband pass away 2 years back. Am I eligible to receive the free pass to state parks

Janice

Bobbie Jo Baglin November 19, 2022 at 15:47

I lost my pass card so how do I get a replacement? or do I have to reapply?

Frederick L Eades November 18, 2022 at 07:13

I live in Dyersburg, TN where is the nearest park I can pick-up my pass?

Alfred M Collins November 17, 2022 at 23:19

I would to have more information r: The National
Parks Free Pass

Manuel Canino November 20, 2022 at 21:07

Retired ID ????

Homer Money November 17, 2022 at 22:57

How can I get a VHIC I'm being seen at the VA med
clinic in Searcy,Ar.

ML November 18, 2022 at 14:36

<https://va.gov/health-care/get-health-id-card/>

Eddie Adame November 17, 2022 at 22:29

I'm a disabled veteran and wanted know if I qualify

Daniel Draper November 24, 2022 at 22:50

You qualify. Just goto a National Park and show
your VA medical card and ask for the lifetime
pass

Edward Lopez November 17, 2022 at 22:18

My son is my Caregiver and my question to you is
can he get a card as well ? Reason being is at 99
years old I can't get around by myself anymore.
Hence my son Gabe who not only helps me get
around he actually watches everything I do. So for
me to use a card like this I would have to rely on that

Gabe would want to go as well. Can't go if he doesn't come along.

James Carl November 18, 2022 at 14:43

99 yrs old...wow!! I'd love to hear the stories you must have

Luis Tijerina November 17, 2022 at 21:26

how can I apply online for a pass

Joseph Styczynski November 18, 2022 at 16:56

<https://store.usgs.gov/MilitaryPass>

Go to this address, go down the page and click on military passes, click button that says check eligibility, at that point you will be in the usgs (US government store) you will have to upload a copy of your veteran id, and will cost \$10 bucks for processing, if you go to a national park with id on hand its free

Frank Uhle (FU) November 17, 2022 at 20:35

Screw your whole system!!!!!!

Wade Ray November 17, 2022 at 19:05

Does this mean I do not need a fishing license and or a hunt license?

James Carl November 18, 2022 at 14:46

Wade, if you are at least 50% disabled through the VA you can apply for a hunting/fishing

license through your local VA office. It's a lifetime license & should only be \$100 to \$125 one time. Mine was \$110 here in NC

Raymond Turner November 18, 2022 at 17:46

If u live in Texas and 100% your hunting and fishing license or free

Stefanie Green November 17, 2022 at 18:15

I'm just a vet, but I might be able to clear up some of these questions. This program is new because it is for all veterans, all veterans. The previous life, Time passes were for 100% disabled, Purple Heart, POW, and some other exceptions. Veterans outside of this category were previously allotted one year passes which had to be renewed. They are now offering lifetime passes for all veterans. I think this is wonderful as all veterans should have the use of national parks for free, along with firefighters policeman, and possibly some other public servants. Congratulations veterans we have been heard. !!!

Robert Thompson November 17, 2022 at 18:06

Are family eligible?

Linda Saling November 17, 2022 at 18:01

My husband had a Golden Age Pass but lost it a couple of years ago. He has recently started receiving VA benefits and his VA medical care. But... they say (In Florida VA office) that he has to wait til he gets up to Ohio this coming summer before he

applies for his Free Lifetime Military Pass. His Drivers' License and legal address in in Ohio, even though he lives in Florida for 7 months and in Ohio for 5 months. Is there any way the VA can assist him in getting his pass before this coming summer?

Roger D . Williams November 17, 2022 at 17:54

I would like a card for all parks

Nicholas J Pate November 17, 2022 at 16:38

Is this different than the free lifetime pass I got a couple years ago?? This article makes it sound like something new but I got one years ago....I am not sure what the requirements were when I got it. Maybe it was a free lifetime pass for wounded vets??? I am a purple heart recipient, maybe that was it?? Anyway, they sent me the pass and a decal that is supposed to be hung on your rearview mirror for parking etc (which may answer some of those asking why you just cant show your id when entering)

Bellow Wood November 18, 2022 at 11:25

Yeah, I availed of this program last year, and I 'm just a regular former military no combat no injuries (just the good memories) but I guess last year they didn't have enough cards to issue out, so what you would do is just provide your VA card and or a Drivers License with VETERAN affixed (which you get thru the VA then present to DMV). and you got in for FREE.

Ken November 17, 2022 at 16:29

I'm hearing that if you have service connected disability rating (per VA Health Benefits Card or other verified source) that the ACCESS Pass will give me added benefits, like discount on camping site fees and maybe other park amenities.? Where can I verify & find more info on this?

[National Park Service](#) November 17, 2022 at 16:58

<https://store.usgs.gov/faq#Access-Pass>

Ron M. November 17, 2022 at 17:34

Most federal campgrounds you receive 50% off.

John Goehner November 18, 2022 at 15:29

I was aboard the USS Galveston Navy ship from Nov. 1963-Nov. 1967. My VA records show that we were in Vietnam waters at this time and were exposed to Agent Orange. Can I get this Free Pass to these National Parks? And if so, how do I apply?

Thanks, John

Robert Jordan November 18, 2022 at 08:17

This is GOOD

L W Calhoun, USMC November 17, 2022 at 16:18

I don't have any of the documents listed above.

I can get a copy of my DD-214.

Will that do ?

James Carl November 18, 2022 at 14:49

You can get an ID from your local VA it's free

L W Calhoun, USMC November 17, 2022 at 16:18

I don't have any of the documents listed above.

I can get a copy of my DD-214.

Will that do ?

Ron M November 17, 2022 at 17:56

You can not use the DD-214 but you can go to any VA hospital, walk in the front door, show your DD-214 and drivers license and they'll issue you a picture VA card. With it you can get the pass. I got my pass at a rangers station in a National Forest.

Bill Reid November 17, 2022 at 15:31

I decided to go through the USGS Store. It was easy to get to but a bit of a hassle setting up my account and ordering. Probably due to my lack of computer savvy. Pass will be mailed to me in 7-21 days. Worth the \$10 fee to me.

sr November 17, 2022 at 15:16

Thank you

sr

Arthur M Hibner November 17, 2022 at 14:52

Why not just accept active military or veterans IDs.
KISS!!!

Joe Welcome November 18, 2022 at 11:37

Because it is a federal bureaucracy.

Bob Beaulieu November 17, 2022 at 14:45

I already have the Park Pass as the 62 and older – it was \$10 when I got it and now it's \$80. I have used it to a few places and it's great! If I lost the card, I would need to pay the current price for a new one. This way, I'd get a new one for free! Very cool.

You just need to show your vet card at the park station you're going to and get it there for free with no extra charges. Everyone in your vehicle gets in for free!

Bill November 17, 2022 at 17:09

Absolutely!!!

I had never heard of this pass if not for the woman at the gate I showed my va service connection disability card to I would have never got it !!!

It's shameful how this country goes out of its

way to stick their veterans out of something every chance they get

Thomas Aspinwall November 17, 2022 at 14:45

My husband and I go to Sturgis, bad lands and Custer, National Parks DO NOT HONOR free entrance to the National partks! even with and ID, Military or otherwise!

Stefanie Green November 17, 2022 at 18:08

I go to Sturgis to, and I found out that Custer is a state park not a national park. Therefore it is not covered under the pass and also parking at some venues is not covered, but is for most.

Michael Hafke November 18, 2022 at 07:59

I'm retired military (Army 26 years) and have been to numerous National Parks including the Badlands twice. I've never had an issue getting in for free.

Maybe you had a new park Ranger working the front entrance.

Annette L Rocha November 17, 2022 at 14:40

CAN A WIDOW OF A VETERAN GET A PASS

Ron M. November 17, 2022 at 18:05

If he lost his life during war or a campaign you can.

Other ways if you are 62 or disabled you can.

Or everyone can buy an America the Beautiful

annual access pass for \$80. If you like to camp, it'll pay for itself in one trip.

Annette L Rocha November 18, 2022 at 11:37

IS A WIDOW OF A VETERAN QUILFIY FOR ONE OF THESE PASSES I DID NOT GET A RESPOND BACK

Rick Hane November 17, 2022 at 13:58

Make it clear and simple to apply on line here for the veterans lifetime pass! This definitely does NOT do that!

Olivia November 17, 2022 at 15:07

My husband had 100% disability rating. As a wife, am I qualified for these passes?

Thank you.

Fred Brungardt Jr. November 17, 2022 at 16:20

I'd like to apply for the free card

Theresa L Todd November 17, 2022 at 13:51

Really Appreciate this site, there's always something of interest & now this info on National Parks offering free pass to them is well-deserved by those eligible. I proudly keep my Veteran ID card w/me at all times right next to my driver's license.

Pipeline Drive November 17, 2022 at 13:50

It's already posted but here it is again: If a government issued military ID, or veteran status on a state driver's license, is required to get the pass, why not just use that without the additional requirements? But at least this veteran's perk is available to all vets and not just disabled vets (like 99% of VA benefits). A better name for the VA is DVA: Disabled Veterans Affairs. ALL veterans should have all benefits and disabled veterans should have these plus additional benefits they require for their disabilities.

Elwood Fennimore November 17, 2022 at 13:27

I am a disabled combat veteran of the Korean war. I am 90 years old and dont know where I can get my pass. My wife is my full provider.

Ron M. November 17, 2022 at 17:45

Every national forest has a ranger station. Just walk in the front door and the receptionist will take care of you and issue you a card in a few minutes. Make sure you have your VA id.

John T Mason November 18, 2022 at 10:21

Would like to correspond with you. I am 91, Sgt. USMC. Combat Vet, Korean War. Was good friends of some Fennimore's in Scouting, back in 1945-1948

George Williams November 17, 2022 at 13:19

Will a DD-214 make me eligible

Stefanie Green November 17, 2022 at 18:10

I got mine with a DD 214. Just make sure you have a picture ID. I also did this in person, so I'm not sure if you can do this on the computer

Norma Nieves-Blas November 17, 2022 at 13:11

As a Five- year WIDOW of a US Vietnam Veteran and a retired Senior, Do I Need to Apply for these Passes?

Ogden November 17, 2022 at 13:39

Sure, if you want one.

Joseph Styczynski November 17, 2022 at 12:49

There is absolutely no valid information on how to obtain the veterans lifetime pass to National Parks, roll out was not ready for prime time

Sean November 17, 2022 at 13:39

Are you serious? The links are in the article. If you missed it, here you go:

<https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/veterans-and-gold-star-families-free-access.htm>

Ogden November 17, 2022 at 13:43

There are two sources identified in the article. One online with a required fee and one in

person at a issuing site. It also has a link to find an issuing site.

SF November 17, 2022 at 12:49

My husband died on AD and left me and 3 young children behind (18 mo, and 2x 5yos). Yet we don't fit your definition of Gold Star due to the cause of death. Parks are cathartic for all military family survivors irrespective of how our AD loved ones died.

Shawn Fishel November 17, 2022 at 12:44

Well, this is pretty damn cool. I see a lot of complaints on here but come on this couldn't be easier. You go to your local BLM office or to the park that you were going to visit anyway and get the pass. If, for some reason, you can't wait and have to have it before you go it costs \$10 bucks to have it processed online. You are paying for the convenience not the actual card. Too easy.

LCPL Sebastian Drumpf November 17, 2022 at 12:12

I got mine this summer and used it at Olympic national park.

Flew into Seattle, took the rail from airport to the ferry dock going to Bainbridge island, then took a bus from Clallam transit called the Strait Shot straight to Port Angeles, then hopped on a shuttle to the Visitor Center up top in the Olympic range.

Oh, and i just walked into a local National Forest office presented my IDs and got one. Easy.

Thank you National Parks!!!

Lu Kay November 17, 2022 at 12:06

I agree with one of the commenters below. You need to go to your local agency to get your pass.

<https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/pickup-pass-locations.htm>

Click on the link to find yours. Follow the directions.

Dean Wilson November 17, 2022 at 12:01

I have been using the Interagency Pass for the past 15 years...this not something New.

The Pass is Lifetime and never needs to be renewed. It works at National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, US Army Corp of Engineers.

Carl Corning November 17, 2022 at 11:58

Amen Brother!

JD Yuna November 17, 2022 at 11:51

Judging by some of the comments here, some of you vets need to grow up and if you have something to say, do it in a constructive manner and contact the OPR for this directly.

As a retired Mustang Officer since the Nam until I retired in 1997, really tired of you expecting the world and this nation to owe you anything past what

you deserve. We got paid, some of us compensated with education benefits and for those of us career types, disability pay deducted from our retirements as non-taxable income.

Beyond that and my military retirement, all else is gravy and most I will never use.

Considering the present Democratic Party is sticking it to use vets once again and we are now less than 10% of the US population, we are now back where we were as Nam vets or worse yet, survivors of the Korean War.

Again, respond with facts to this offer's OPR and let's look like we are not a part of the despicable rabble we all came home to and truly care less about us until they are drafted for the coming World War.

James Christensen November 17, 2022 at 14:04

Thanks You! Well said.

Lance Corporal DL November 17, 2022 at 15:04

As someone who's sat on bricks & bricks of \$100 dollar bills meant for Iraqis and Afghans, I can tell you all the complaining for FREE stuff is well worth the effort. any FREE stuff , not just for vets but for all Americans.

David H November 17, 2022 at 11:49

I used to work for the parks and I believe the charges were only for camping. Would be really interested if

you actually were charged entrance fees with an America The Beautiful Pass. It seems maybe at some parks you could have still had to pay for others in your party. It would come down to park by park rules regarding some things, which I am pretty well removed from now. One example that comes to mind is if a Cave Tour was run by a vendor, maybe you wouldn't have gotten free admission in that case, and paid a reduced amount for the tour ticket.

Dorys E Jackson November 17, 2022 at 11:41

How do I go about to get the free park pass “military lifetime” online...what is the website?

Sean November 17, 2022 at 13:41

Only Gold Star families can fill out the form online and get it sent to them. I assume it's because of the volume. Check here for your local office:

<https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/pickup-pass-locations.htm>

Robert Bryan November 17, 2022 at 11:36

Still laughing, 45 seconds in the video they say veteran's and gold star family's are not eligible. I doubt they will even publish my comments.

Bob Carlson November 17, 2022 at 13:10

Saw that! I think he meant to say NOW, instead of not.

Don Hunt November 17, 2022 at 11:34

Lots and Lots of complainers on here!! If you read the instructions you wouldn't need to complain! It says go to a park (make sure it is open and has passes on hand) or FOR A FEE you can get it ONLINE. The previous Act I believe was only for disabled veterans with a valid VA disability card that said "service connected", now it is open to ALL VETERANS, it is not a scam, there is no red tape, and it only takes a few minutes at the guest desk at a park. Quit whining and act like a veteran should act, with dignity!

Harry Thompson November 27, 2022 at 07:26

Well said ! Its like cutting wood measure twice cut once. If we don't understand lets just take a step back and read it again to try and understand.Try what they are telling us to do. As always if that doesn't work Ask!

Vinayakumari George November 17, 2022 at 11:27

My husband Gabriel N. George was a Veteran. Passed away in 2010. Will the family be eligible to get free access national parks?

Barry Lancette November 17, 2022 at 11:24

I have been trying for two days to get my Military Pass. I was able to get an account and log on and enter all info and download proof. I even received a email back saying that my eligibility has been verified. It tells me to click on the USGS site to

complete my order. However, for two days whenever I click on the link it tells me that the USGS site is under maintenance.. So I called the phone number and have now been on hold for over 20 minutes. This is terrible service and there doesn't seem to be a solution. I want to get my lifetime pass from the USGS store as then my pass will have my name on it.

Please advise me as to what I should do

William Fernow November 17, 2022 at 11:21

Is my Golden Age Passport still effective? Or do I need to get the new Interagency Pass?

Will November 17, 2022 at 11:10

This was already enacted back in November 2020 by the previous administration. I went to Harper's Ferry, WV 2 years ago and showed my Maryland driver's license that had my veteran status on it, and they immediately issued me one of these cards. There was literally no reason to pass a new act unless it was to try to signal some kind of political statement.

Ned LEMIEUX November 17, 2022 at 11:35

At that time, only disabled vets could get the card with the unlimited access.
Please check yourself.

Julie November 17, 2022 at 11:53

I got mine in 2014...They did away with the program for a little while, though if you have a

card already you are good to go. Don't make this a political thing. No one cares.

John Gombita November 17, 2022 at 11:10

I have a valid Pa. drivers license with the designated veterans id on it, do I just present this at any of the National Parks admissions or do I have to do anything further to get in for free?

Clement P Busch November 17, 2022 at 11:08

It is a scam like everything else with the VA.

Roger Swearingen November 17, 2022 at 11:04

This is SO WONDERFUL & soo appreciated! My husband is so proud of his service in the U. S. Airforce for 21 yrs. We are very excited to be able to use this pass ! Thank you so very much .

Best regards,

Roger Swearingen & family

Betty McClanahan November 17, 2022 at 11:00

They say it's a free card to get into The National parks but then there's an \$80 card you have to buy does that make sense

Gary D Carpenter November 17, 2022 at 10:59

Is this different than the National Parks lifetime pass?

Guy L Walker November 17, 2022 at 10:59

hmm.. when i put the Military card in my cart, as instructed, it shows \$10 with a \$5 processing fee... how is that free?

Lorraine Bernadyn November 17, 2022 at 10:45

It's \$80 to get this pass. So much for FREE.

John Madden IV November 17, 2022 at 10:42

When I saw this, I went out and applied and have received my card. However, it is a annual pass and expires in a year. Sounds like "lifetime pass" is no so and will have to keep re-applying every year. I'm going to find out what the deal is.

David Berran November 17, 2022 at 10:38

Why do we have to go to a park to get the pass? I don't live near one so going to one would be part of a special trip. To go there and find out that they have no clue about the free pass program for vets is nuts! Why can't you set up an application process online to obtain the pass, everything else is done online, this makes no sense!

Greg November 17, 2022 at 10:22

Why can't you just show your veterans card at each park? Why the need to have a pass ,?

Felix Velez November 17, 2022 at 11:08

Why not just show the veteran's ID card. Save the money creating a new card.

Guest November 17, 2022 at 12:56

Pass can be displayed in the park. You aren't going to display your card for personal information reasons, etc.

John J. Potts November 17, 2022 at 10:17

Post my first comment. Post it. Why should I show "moderation" with the truth?

Moderation: The avoidance of excess or extremes, especially in one's behavior or political opinions: "he urged them to show moderation"

RichB November 17, 2022 at 10:16

So is there any benefit for a service-connected disability Access Pass holder to get this Veteran's card?

marshall ortiz November 17, 2022 at 10:15

where do i apply I'm 100 disabled

Will November 17, 2022 at 11:13

If you have a veteran status on your state issued ID (i.e., driver's license), show it to the park ranger at the gate on entry and they should just give you one.

PJ November 17, 2022 at 11:20

Same here. I got mine at the gate of the Petrified forest in AZ. Have used same card at several other Parks since. All I did was show the

gate guy my VA card and he made one up on the spot. Took 5 mins. Free

Robert Speer, November 17, 2022 at 10:14

How do you apply for this card

John J. Potts November 17, 2022 at 10:09

Where is my first comment? Are you pulling a “Facebook”?

John J. Potts November 17, 2022 at 10:15

Definition of moderation.

The avoidance of excess or extremes, especially in one’s behavior or political opinions:

“he urged them to show moderation”

John Gonzalez November 17, 2022 at 10:53

While the free pass sounds great, many park like Mt Rushmore and Great Smokey Mountains now charge a parking fee which is not covered by the pass. Parking is now considered a concession which the pass expressly does not cover.

John J. Potts November 17, 2022 at 10:05

Another Governmental clusterf-ck, as far as I can tell. If it means another piece of governmental plastic in my wallet, you can keep it. You act like a group of E-4s trying to mop a floor. It will never be done

correctly and the easy way will not enter your minds.
Easy way: A single card for retired/disabled veterans.
Between Feds, State, and local officials I have 7
cards. WTF? BTW, I use VA benefits as little as I can.
You folks abandoned me when I was at my worse
medically. Look it up. You f-cking abandoned me.
You f-cking abandoned me!!!

Diane November 23, 2022 at 15:38

Dear Mr. Potts,
You were abandoned, as were so many vets, in
time of need. I hear you. I am sorry for you. I
hope things can be better for you going
forward. I am the wife of a disabled vet, and
understand your frustration and
disappointment. Please never stop seeking
help...every now and then a gem will appear.

John Paul zwaduk November 17, 2022 at 10:04

Would love to get one of these passes from the
national park

Mitchell K. Ray November 17, 2022 at 10:00

I'm a veteran and did not know this program ever
existed. I'm going to apply right now. Thank you.

mark reynolds November 17, 2022 at 10:41

let me know how you apply online if you go
that route.....thanks!

Rodger Seid November 17, 2022 at 11:49

You can click on the link to the USGS where you can order the pass online. Make sure you click on the right one. Other options will cost more than the \$10 processing fee.

Of course, getting it in person is free as they have a ready stock of them (and rangers to staff the office), and don't have to buy envelopes and postage.

mark reynolds November 25, 2022 at 18:51

I clicked the link to the USGS to order online. I see the Military passes available at the link but there is no ordering link online. I can only order online, there is no ordering online available.

Frank V Davis November 17, 2022 at 09:54

I had understood that vets were able to get the free lifetime pass since the beginning of the year, and had got that info from this site, the VA News. When I went to the local US Parks Office to obtain that pass they had no clue what I was talking about. I was told to come back at another time and maybe they'd have the info I was talking about including any forms that I would have to fill out. Over the year, I went a total of 3 times and as of date they've received no information or forms concerning free lifetime passes for military vets. So, until they receive such information, this vet will not be able to obtain that free lifetime pass, even if the VA News says it is so. Although, since the News says it is so,

again, I'll be taking another trip to the local US Parks Office to see if they got the same info as the VA News. But isn't that how government entities work, left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing. It would be nice to be able to have access to the Parks, especially since not being able to, due to costs.....

Miles Constantine November 17, 2022 at 16:20

Take this information with you during your next visit. The program started on 11 Nov, and they may not have had the information available when you went. They can enter the website and respond accordingly. Hope this helps.

<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/11-8-2022-lifetime-pass.htm>

Bruce Melillo November 17, 2022 at 09:48

Please clear up my confusion. I currently have an Access America the Beautiful Card for me (100% disabled vet) and my spouse. I believe it is also lifetime. Is access to national and federal parks the same as lifetime military pass? Also, are these passes only for vet and spouse or do they extend to family members? Thanks for your reply. Semper Fi!

Rodger Seid November 17, 2022 at 11:57

Hi, Bruce. I also have a lifetime Access America card. What they did was extend the same benefit to anyone who is a veteran with a new

card called the Military Pass. So, you don't need to get a new one.

Those with military dependent IDs can get an annual pass. Dependents of current service members must show a valid (unexpired) DD Form 1173 AD or DEC. That's because active duty military hasn't yet completed their service to earn Veteran status.

Daniel Ramirez November 17, 2022 at 12:36

Bruce, I too have the lifetime Access Pass due to a service connected disability. I did a little research and found that this is the only pass that offers discounts for "amenities" such as camping, boat launch or tours for you and your immediate campsite party. The Military Lifetime pass does not. Sorry bros. My suggestion is if you have even if you have a 10% disability, apply for the access pass as it gives deeper discounts.

From USGS: The Access Pass and both the Senior-Annual and Senior-Lifetime Pass are the only passes that may provide a discount on some expanded amenity fees such as camping. Keyword may. All is subject to modification at any time without warning. It is the government.

Best

John E Petracca November 17, 2022 at 09:45

Does this include out of state fishing/hunting stamp, National Forest stamps, streams and lakes?

Robert E MANSFIELD November 17, 2022 at 09:45

Thank You for taking care of our Veterans

james w forrester November 17, 2022 at 09:39

HOW AND WHERE DO I APPLY ???????

Timothy Bourdon November 17, 2022 at 09:17

100% VA Disability

How do I submit?

DOD Card (I have)

VA Health Card (I have)

Please walk me threw it.

Daniel Ramirez November 17, 2022 at 12:43

USGS website. America the Beautiful Access Pass. Free if you walk in to a local office or park entrance. Processing fee if done online. I paid \$10

Nancy Rednour November 17, 2022 at 08:54

I am a widow of a 100 % benefited Naval VietNam veteran. I receive widows VA monthly benefits. Why do VA widows not have an ID card to obtain these discounts? Some stores such as Home Depot or Lowes accept the DD214 to obtain military discounts for VA widows but many will only accept an ID

Mala Poe November 17, 2022 at 10:55

I am also widow of 100% disabled Vet and receive monthly stipend. I could benefit from

this perk as well. ESPECIALLY because I live 3/4 time in trailer ...

Daniel Ramirez November 17, 2022 at 12:45

Gold star families are included. Best to you

Janet Gallardo November 17, 2022 at 08:54

I called my local National Park they have the lifetime passes and they stated there is a date set for when these passes will be released. However they didn't know the date ????

Trying to figure out the date that I can pick up my pass please

Janet Gallardo November 17, 2022 at 08:52

Oh called my local National Park they have the lifetime passes and they stated there is a date set for when these passes will be released. However they didn't know the date ????

Trying to figure out the date that I can pick up my pass please

William Basil Raines November 17, 2022 at 08:47

Does this apply to retired military who have a valid ID card? Sounds like a great and overdue program!!

John Blouch November 17, 2022 at 08:46

This is a confusing mess.

Stated simply, I understand that a Veteran's ID entitles the vet and his family to free access to National Parks. Why complicate this by requiring enrollment and visits to places where passes are

issued. The ID card should be the pass.

Another case of bureaucratic, make work, positional power, job security for civil servants.

Thanks for listening.

Announcement of simplification suggested would be welcomed by many, I am sure.

Jason November 17, 2022 at 10:33

Hogwash. There has to be management and controls in place for any program otherwise it becomes a free for all. And you shameful Civil Servant bashing tells me all I need to know about your politics. Civil Servants serve our country in many different and useful ways and you're just looking for an excuse to be negative against government.

Rodger Seid November 17, 2022 at 12:02

The reason is that your pass has to be displayed on your vehicle, like any other pass. And generally speaking, you don't want to put your photo ID hanging from your mirror to get stolen. Or for thieves to identify you and ambush you in the parking lot and steal your car.

thomas warren November 17, 2022 at 08:41

Already had brought one but awesome anyway

malcolm meinsler November 17, 2022 at 08:35

not sure what is required for free admission. i have a va id card, is that all that is required of something additional?

Lawrence Cecil November 17, 2022 at 08:22

Veterans who have Health Care Identification Cards should not need to apply for a separate card to gain access to the Parks. They should only need to show their Veterans ID or Activity Duty ID Cards. It's good Veterans and Activity Duty are Rewarded for their military time in this manner.

Ronald Dietrick November 17, 2022 at 08:10

Do I still have to obtain a fishing license to fish?

Jeffry Landreville November 17, 2022 at 08:07

I tried to access the link to order the pass on both Safari and Chrome and both noted an error. The link does not work.

George Hutman November 17, 2022 at 08:01

Does this include national forests ; some do charge a parking/use fee?

Chuck R Nagele November 17, 2022 at 08:00

I've tried the link, doesn't seem to be working. Anyone else having difficulty with this?

Peter Cavarnos November 17, 2022 at 10:11

Me too!!! 30 minutes and right back to the beginning. Pete Cavarnos

mark reynolds November 17, 2022 at 10:42

Yea, I cant find the link to apply online.....

mark reynolds November 25, 2022 at 18:55

Looks like one big BS game with the VA
.....as per usual.

Don Ryan November 17, 2022 at 07:39

This may be a silly question, but is this a year round pass or just on Veterans Day and other major days as listed above? Do we have to purchase anything?
Thanks

Raymond F Hendrix November 17, 2022 at 09:54

Year around

Tim November 17, 2022 at 09:56

I have the card. I sent for it earlier in the year. We used it in September traveling to Zion, Bryce, the North and South rim on the Grand Canyon, Mesa Verde and the Sand Dunes in Colorado. This will gain you park access. It will not pay for your camping unless I wasn't able to take advantage of it. I agree that this is long overdue .

Judy Davidson November 17, 2022 at 10:06

I am the widow of a 100 percent disabled Vet. I have an ID card, do I qualify?

Mala Poe November 17, 2022 at 10:58

It seems we do not ... but others have commented that we should.

Marlex Stevens November 17, 2022 at 07:37

This site is about as useful as t-ts on a boar hog.

Robert Funke November 17, 2022 at 07:35

Thank you for remembering us, particularly those who lost a family member. All of us who have served, regardless of Branch, have a deep brother/sisterhood, and those of us who lost a fellow service member are grateful to have the opportunity to gather or seek solace alone in our beautiful Parks.

Ray Griggs November 17, 2022 at 07:24

80 years late after two world wars! Congress gets free access to parks, public transportation, and free postage. Only 50% of military income is considered for retirement. There's a lot to be done to improve military salaries and the benefits for their families sacrifice.

José O Javier November 17, 2022 at 07:22

This past summer, my thirteen-year-old grandson came to visit me and I was able to take him to visit one of the national parks that we have in Puerto Rico. El Morro is a fortress built by the Spanish.

Thanks to the fact that I had my free access card, we were able to spend a very pleasant day. I am very grateful for the support you give to veterans.

Mike Mccarroll November 17, 2022 at 06:59

A much appreciated benefit for those that served our nation and it's ideals. Thank you!

John Panek November 17, 2022 at 06:57

Thank you for taking care of our Veterans.

God Bless the USA!

Clayton Tinnelly November 17, 2022 at 06:56

This is Awesome nice job

Julio Sostre November 17, 2022 at 06:19

Do this lifetime national parks entrances includes US Territories?

Dan Matlock November 17, 2022 at 05:39

There seems to be a lot of confusion related to the FREE LIFETIME PARKS passes. I have a VHIC card and obviously a veteran. My question is just exactly what does this pass provide for me (and does it also apply to my family/wife)?

I would like to visit some of the parks in the Pacific Northwest although I live in Colorado. I am just confused as to what the total benefit of having this

pass provides and any hidden monetary agendas therein.

Michael Cornett November 17, 2022 at 04:54

A little confusing. At 75 that's easy...LOL
I live in Missouri. Where can I get my pass for free entry to National Parks ?
I plan to travel to several parks this coming year
I have a Vets ID card. I am also on full disability.
(Vietnam)
Thanks in advance for any help
Mike

Dave Hartwell November 17, 2022 at 04:13

Thank you all

Elsa Judith Acevedo Echeverria November 17, 2022 at 03:58

Thank you so much fir the invitation and opportunity to join.

Renante November 17, 2022 at 03:38

And you still need a fishing and hunting license correct?

Arthur Rowe November 17, 2022 at 03:12

Nice program. But... Now I can't afford the Gas to get to any parks... "Only in America"...!

Arthur Rowe November 17, 2022 at 03:15

My comment is...? “Awaiting Moderation”...?
Are you kidding me...? Freedom of speech just
Gone here too...?

[Editor: I delete SSNs from comments several
times a week (folks, please don't post your PII
in comments on the internet), and way more
spam than one would think is possible.]

John J. Potts November 17, 2022 at 10:11

Apparently that has happened to my
severely negative post about the VA. I
have been “Facebooked”.

Robert Bois le Duc November 17, 2022 at 03:05

Thank you President Biden, especially for stopping
Trump from selling off Government Owned Land to
Oil & Mining Companies.

Janice Romine November 17, 2022 at 00:47

My husband died 9/2018 of service connected
illness. Would I qualify for the parks pass?

[Hugh Russell](#) November 17, 2022 at 00:30

I'm very confused with this overwritten information
about the free lifetime pass to the national parks for
veterans. I don't see anywhere to apply for it. And
the store goes nowhere. Can somebody please
contact me and help me join and receive the pass.
Thank you,
Hugh Russell, USMC 83 -88

Semper Fi, Hugh!

Generally, they're at the park where you want to visit. Just make sure you have the qualifying ID and stop at the ranger's office when you go there and ask for your Lifetime Military Pass. The only place to get it online is to go to the United States Geological Service (USGS) website and pay a \$10 processing fee. If you want to get it in person before your trip, look for offices in your state that are close by. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) oftentimes has offices in larger cities. You can look up where to get the passes in person. I don't think I can place links to websites here – but you can look at the end of the article for this section and click the link under 'Places to Get Interagency Passes' or 'USGS Online Store'.

“How to get your Interagency Pass
Interagency Passes can be obtained in person while visiting a participating site. Visit Places to Get Interagency Passes for a searchable list and be sure to contact the site before you go, to make sure they are open and have passes in stock. In addition, Military passes, as well as those for seniors and persons with permanent disabilities, are available online through the USGS Online Store with an additional processing fee. Existing passes remain valid. You do not need to obtain a new pass if you already have a Lifetime Senior or Access Pass.”

This was a gift from the Trump Administration on Veteran's Day in 2020.

Will November 17, 2022 at 11:16

Yep. I posted something similar, but my comment was removed.

P. Jane Baugh November 17, 2022 at 00:19

My husband who was a Veteran receiving a 10% disability checked passed away in 2021. I have his health ID card and DD214 papers.

Am I, as his widow, eligible for the free park service card?

Don Boyd November 17, 2022 at 00:15

There are contractors running federal campgrounds and also handle reservations (Ocala National Forest Campgrounds for example. At half price they charge me 16 dollars per night which is very reasonable. However, they charge me 8.50 for a reservation fee and you can only get a space by making a reservation. Thus, I pay 24.50 for a night. That is not right.

Al Brownell November 17, 2022 at 00:14

I think that it's great for we vets! Now if we could only get the STATES involved in a program like this it would get even better!

A lot of us don't get the chance to travel to NATIONAL PARKS and the many STATE PARKS that are closer would be wonderful! I realize that the

Federal Govt. Is separate from State parks but a little “persuasion” might do the trick? Thanks for your effort for the Nat. Parks program ?

D. Paine November 17, 2022 at 10:34

Some states do offer a similar program; I’ve had a card in Utah that gives me access to all State Parks for many years now.

David

Will November 17, 2022 at 11:18

Not sure about all states, but Maryland state parks accept the veteran status on your state issued ID.

Jim Engler November 16, 2022 at 23:54

This sounds great and I’ll get in gear and apply.
Thank you Jim

Curtis Lund November 16, 2022 at 23:52

I know the above description says “...for Veterans and their families...” but, I’m uncertain after reading the comments if family members are included in the discount? Does the pass include free park entrance for family members for all categories of veterans described in this prospectus? If so, what ID do family members need to show? Can I just vouch that someone is my spouse or child? Thanks.

steven amenrud November 16, 2022 at 23:28

I am a 100% disabled veteran and would like to participate in this program. However I am in the hospital, I have been and will be for awhile, is there anyway you could send one to me. I might lose this site or forget about this great opportunity. I don't have a printer,at home or at the hospital. Please let me know!

Suzanne Williams November 16, 2022 at 23:19

Where do I go to get one?

Bob Mitchell November 16, 2022 at 23:14

The passes are wonderful. But when visiting Trunk Bay in St John VI, I found it disappointing to again be told my Military Pass, (I am a service 70% connected veteran), only provide free entry for myself and not my wife, son, daughter in law, and their son, who was free being but a year old. Why cannot the pass be extended to all US territories?

Frank J. Steck November 16, 2022 at 23:12

I wish to apply for Veterans passes for free entrance to National Parks!

Frank J. Steck November 16, 2022 at 23:11

I wish to apply for the Veterans pass for free entrance to National Parks.

Leonard James Nagrl November 16, 2022 at 23:05

I would love a park pass. I served in the navy in Vietnam. I am now 100% disabled from Agent

Orange.

Luis A Morales November 16, 2022 at 23:04

Am a vet, I hike a lot does this pass cover the national trails like the Pacific Crest trail (PCT), continental divide trail (CDT) and the many other national trails??? Plz advise.

Thank you

Mark Gall November 16, 2022 at 22:56

I'm happy to see this, as even I couldn't enter for free after retiring from National Park law enforcement and am a Vietnam era vet. I had to buy a lifetime pass at age 62. Oh well, glad to see this offered finally..

William November 17, 2022 at 13:10

I know what you mean. I got my pass 14 years ago when I turned 62. At that time I was working in Iraq supporting the military. After I came back I had problems that had occurred while in Vietnam 1966-1967. I'm ow 100% disabled due to those problems! And now the start giving the military the breaks!!! Any way I just know what you mean!!

Kenneth R Kunzman November 16, 2022 at 22:54

Great gift for me and all veterans. I have multiple identification tickets with a driver license noted and my VA card. I use the VA for everything even though I

have other options and now it'll work for the parks..
Thanks!

benjamin andres November 16, 2022 at 22:50

Thanks for passing the Bill to allow veterans free entry. Is these only for Federal? State parks not included?

S Osburn November 16, 2022 at 22:48

2 Questions...

1) How is this different than just showing my Veteran's ID card? I believe that parks have been free to all Vets for a couple years now, and indeed have gotten into parks by just showing my Veteran's ID card. Is this a change, and will my Veteran's ID card no longer work to gain entrance? Good to see this new pass, but not sure what's changed or why this is an improvement.

2) Does this new card count for half price camping in National Park and Forest Service campgrounds, or do I still need to buy the Senior Lifetime (age 62) Pass for \$80 to get that? If this new pass is the same as the senior interagency pass, but without the half price camping, then I might as well just buy the senior pass – I'll save more money in the long run on campground fees...

Robert Peterson November 16, 2022 at 22:47

Where was this in 69 ?

benjamin andres November 16, 2022 at 22:42

I guess the bill that was passed was long overdue to allow US veterans to enter without charge and see the place we have fought for without reservation. Thank you so much for the privileged.

Jerry Overman November 16, 2022 at 22:38

I was told the price was being increased so I purchased mine can I get a refund?

Mike November 16, 2022 at 22:35

I love that it's also open to fourth grade students! Yes, I read the whole thing. And I'm a Marine!

A. WHALEN-SIEVERS November 16, 2022 at 22:31

I am wondering if this still applies to families of veterans we have lost ... I lost my veteran husband, only 52, to Covid nine and a half months ago, which has been incredibly difficult. In seeing this email, I remembered he had an unlimited parks pass and I am wondering if anyone knows if it is transferable to the family, or if I could apply for one myself.

Bob Carlson November 16, 2022 at 22:24

I am totally confused. The article states the new pass will allow: "Veterans and their families have FREE access to approximately 2,000 public locations spread out across more than 400 million acres of public lands, which host activities to fit any lifestyle—from serene to high octane, including hiking,

fishing, paddling, biking, hunting, stargazing, camping, and much more.”

As I read further and was just about to apply for the new pass, I saw this: “You DO NOT need to obtain a new pass if you already have a Lifetime Senior or Access Pass.” Well, I already DO have a lifetime senior pass that I had to purchase a few years ago. It allows me HALF PRICE camping at US Forest Service lands.

But, since “The Interagency Military Lifetime Pass WAIVES entrance fees for the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and STANDARD RECREATION AMENITY FEES for the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sites”, I will most certainly have to get the new pass in order to realize these more inclusive benefits!

The article needs to be revised and re-written to explain this.

Robert Hogaboam November 16, 2022 at 22:21

Does having this pass mean that the Veteran can fish on these properties without a fishing license for the state on which land you are visiting ? Ca doesn't require proof of residency for discount fishing license. Why don't other states do the same. Why do veterans especially disabled have to pay to fish in the country we were drafted to defend ? Thanks for you help. Little at a time.

William November 17, 2022 at 12:54

Go to Texas I'm 100% disabled and I get a resident combo hunting and fishing(fresh water no salt water) license!!!

Dolph Cole November 16, 2022 at 22:17

Are widows of retired veterans eligible for a Lifetime membership?

Jerome Butler November 16, 2022 at 22:09

I think this is a great thing for Vets.

USAF Chief Master Sgt Harold Clement November 16, 2022 at 22:08

I am wasting my time, over (1/2 hour).

I do not see an application form any where on the site.

If you want this almost 83 year old veteran to receive a pass make it simple!

[Editor: Please click on any of the several hyperlinked words/phrases in the post. These will take you where you need to be.]

john November 16, 2022 at 22:06

what is the address for me, a veteran, to get the Natl Parks Pass? I live in Gilbert, AZ?

Robert Engle November 16, 2022 at 22:06

I'd like to extend my appreciation to our Government and all others who have stepped up to the plate for us veterans and Gold star families. It is especially gratifying around Veterans day when so

many businesses and others show their appreciation to us for serving. Whether it be in the form of a meal, a thank you, or a Lifetime pass to our National Parks. Please be grateful, I can remember a time we didn't even get a welcome home. I FOR ONE AM EXTREMELY THANKFUL.

Lawrence Rayburn November 16, 2022 at 21:55

This should also apply to STATE parks in the veteran's home state. I'm a USAFSS Vietnam veteran, enlisted in 1968 at my home in Texas, returned in 1972 honorably discharged, and have been here in Texas ever since. I was BORN here in Texas and I SHOULD be able to go to any STATE park free of charge and get a hunting/fishing license FREE of charge.

And while I'm at it talking to the VA....WHY can't we have a VA hospital/clinic in Pecos, Reeves county, Texas??.....they have a NEW hospital just opened and the old hospital has nothing wrong with it. There are THOUSANDS of us veterans in Reeves, Ward, Winkler, Loving, Jeff Davis, Culberson counties that have to go HUNDREDS of miles to medical appointments (IF we can get one) at El Paso, Big Springs, San Antonio, Waco in Texas or Albuquerque in New Mexico.....which is a hardship on us according to the VA if it is over 40 miles to a VA facility.

I'm a lifetime member of the DAV too....they aren't doing anything for us in the area either.

James Moulds November 16, 2022 at 21:47

I have a DV license plate that allows me to pass. Is that all I need, or am I required to get the pass card?

mike fitzgerald November 16, 2022 at 21:34

What I think is going to happen is the Vets will get the dreggs, the dried up hamburger meal on Veterans day free meal. These lifetime passes should be to any facility at any time of the year. No thank you. It's insulting.

Ron Willis November 16, 2022 at 21:29

I'm a Vietnam Navy vet and was issued a card last June as I entered Yellowstone National Park. I didn't even have to get out of my car. I managed to tour the park for two days and departed the day before the flooding started.

Peggy McNeely November 16, 2022 at 21:28

It's this pass available to veteran's widows?

Janice harden November 16, 2022 at 21:27

I lost my husband Ronald harden to agent orange csncer

Gary November 16, 2022 at 21:27

I'm a retiree. was told I had a free pass with just my ID card....so what's new here? Or did they just expand the program for Gold Star Families.

Laura Sherbert November 16, 2022 at 21:24

Can Widow's receive this

John November 16, 2022 at 21:07

Hey Sam, why follow then? lol it's like watching news that pisses us off, why do it? enjoy the wildlife and do some fn yoga :-P Army ENG Hooah! Thanks for the pass y'all!

Eugene Shier November 16, 2022 at 21:02

After an hour of following links I still have no idea of how to order a pass other than going to one of the sites that distribute passes. Attempted to set up account & it fails, repeatedly.

Cynthia Uybungco November 16, 2022 at 20:51

It's not hard to understand. A great gesture to those that enjoy traveling to National Parks. You served and deserve this privilege.

John R. Stonehouse November 16, 2022 at 20:50

I am a disabled Vet from Viet Nam 1972-1973 how do I get this pass

Douglas B Gilbert November 16, 2022 at 20:47

This is old news. Why is it being presented as a new "benefit"?

Mark Peltier November 16, 2022 at 20:47

Now this is an epic and a Very long overdue example of notable benefit for all Veterans & families and very much appreciated!!! There is so much more that should be done and I Thank you!

Archie November 16, 2022 at 20:46

How is something is free when you're asking for \$10.00

Larry Groah November 16, 2022 at 20:45

Can I just show my retired military ID card to gain entrance to the parks instead of applying for a Life Time Pass?

Jerry L. Moore November 16, 2022 at 20:43

so all i need is my military id card

mark reynolds November 16, 2022 at 20:41

Where online do I get a Veteran's " Interagency Military Lifetime Pass" I do not see an online link at their website.

mark reynolds November 25, 2022 at 19:00

I've tried and tried and tried to order online for weeks but, all I see is an ad for lifetime military passes, a few pictures of lifetime military passes, and no links to order them. Maybe my State Representative can help me figure out this VA News game.

Bill Nix November 16, 2022 at 20:39

The Military Pass does not entitle you to discount camping.

The Access pass is free if you have a disability
“Available for: US citizens or permanent residents with permanent disabilities. Applicants must provide documentation of permanent disability and residency or citizenship.” It entitled to get 50% off camping.

<https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm>

James Carter November 16, 2022 at 20:38

Are spouses of retired veterans eligible for the free passes as well?

Danny Metz November 16, 2022 at 20:37

How does one get their free pass?

Alvin buck November 16, 2022 at 20:31

How do I obtain the free pass I'm a disabled veteran with medical card issued by the va

Rich Ochoa November 16, 2022 at 20:30

The National Parks charge is Per Car, Not per person. If you are the driver of a car entering a National Park & have a Golden Pass, You & everyone in your car get in Free. UNLESS that has changed within the past 5 or 6 years!

Bill Nix November 16, 2022 at 20:27

Many places charge a fee even with the pass.
Starting March 2023 Smokey Mountains will charge a fee if stopping more than 15 min in the park.

“Interagency passes (aka America the Beautiful passes) will NOT be accepted in lieu of the parking tag and will NOT provide a discount for the purchase of the parking tag.” The military pass is an America the Beautiful pass. Two America the beautiful passes “Senior” and “Access” offers campsites at 50% off.

<https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>

The Access pass is free with a Dr note saying you are permanently disabled. You can read about passes below.

<https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm>

Rose Beattie November 16, 2022 at 20:22

My husband died about 14 months ago of Covid. He was 100% disabled vet. So I do receive his widows pension from the VA. Am I entitled to any of these benefits? All I have of his is his DD 214.

Alon Mosley November 16, 2022 at 20:22

Thanks very much for letting me know about the free passes!

Anna Graves November 16, 2022 at 20:20

I live by a lake. Smithville lake in Smithville Mo.

They charge to go in, could I use the pass to get into this lake?

Owned by Coor of engineers
Take care of lake Smithville mo

Richard LaVerne Bush Jr. November 16, 2022 at 20:19

Had mine for the last ten years already, Under Disabled Veteran. Show your id at the gate and ask for the pass. It is a great savings

Patricia M Brewer November 16, 2022 at 20:16

My husband, Gerald E. Brewer, was a 100% disabled Veteran and passed away 6/27/2020. Am I eligible to receive one of these lifetime passes?

Mark Collier November 16, 2022 at 20:14

so, how can i get a list of all parks, recreation areas that qualify. i am a vet, with each of the cards listed above, but i really don't know what or where all these parks are that qualify. that would be helpful in vacation planning... thx in advance.

Victor M victoria November 16, 2022 at 20:13

Very important info for us all

Wayland Hancock November 16, 2022 at 20:12

sounds great until you get to the part about online applications requiring a processing fee...nope...

Victor M bictoria November 16, 2022 at 20:11

Be helpful service thank you

Daniel Draper November 16, 2022 at 20:11

good deal for all the veterans

Dale Deger November 16, 2022 at 20:10

Should remain for disabled Veterans as this lessons they're sacrifice.

Paula Leahy November 16, 2022 at 20:05

My husband died of exposure to Agent Orange. I get a pension because of this.

Am I eligible for the pass?.

Adam November 16, 2022 at 19:59

This is great, but I HATE the VA's and state agencies' inability to verifying veteran status with a current military CAC. The amount of time I've wasted over the years trying to verify my veteran status while I've been carrying a military ID is mind-numbingly stupid. Can we please enter the 21st Century before it's over. I get there are more veterans than active military, but I can do so much now with my CAC and verifying my veteran status is not one of them.

Thomas M. Kelty November 16, 2022 at 19:54

The VA Website to apply for a "Veteran ID Card" does not work. The site shows a "page loading circle" that

goes round and round indefinitely. This is the url for the site: <https://www.va.gov/records/get-veteran-id-cards/apply/>

VA Department leadership intentions are good but execution is so often poor in so many areas. I am vet amputee with 100% service connected rating, so I know of what I speak. I would like to get the Veteran ID card. Please help. The VA Web page on which to apply does not work — I have copied the Web page with the never ending loading circle as proof of this. I hope the VA will contact me from my contact info provided. I also provide it in this text: Thomas M. Kelty

[Editor: Link works just fine.]

garry wayne trexler November 16, 2022 at 19:53

I'm proud to be a veteran and an American and was proud and honored to serve in Vietnam with the US Coast Guard from 1969 to 1973

Timothy Zellmer November 16, 2022 at 19:52

I am a 100% DAV from the Vietnam Era. Prior to the US Government privatizing the Reservation System as a Disabled Veteran presenting appropriate paper work I never needed to make a reservation to get a campsite at any Federal or State Parks and Forests year round. Do to my disabilities and ongoing medical appts I am unable to make reservations in advance like most disabled people we need to be able to use our Government Parks and Campgrounds on a daily basis without a reservation.. I am not alone there are numerous

Disabled Veterans as well as disabled children and others in the same situation. The individuals that have privatized the system have made themselves exempt from the Americans with Disability Act. Discriminating against the disabled by requiring lengthy reservations.

Tm November 16, 2022 at 19:50

This is very confusing! I go to the site listed and it's \$80.00 dollars. Plus no talk about DD214? USGS is the site I'm referring to, to get a pass. Very confusing. Who the hell is this USGS? Sounds like a scam!!!!

NO THANKS!

[Editor: The United States Geological Survey was founded in 1879. You can always be sure that a .gov website is real. That said, the passes are at NPS, not USGS. The link was above, in the story:

<https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/veterans-and-gold-star-families-free-access.htm>]

Carl E Treaster November 16, 2022 at 19:45

What is a dependents DD Form 1173 AD or DEC and how do I access one for my wife?

I'm a DAV with a VA ID.

Hearing damage and PTSD

Roy M Weinstein November 16, 2022 at 19:42

where is the online site to order the vet lifetime pass....have been trying for days.

Mario November 16, 2022 at 19:35

No dd 214 fishy!!!!

Joseph Callahan November 16, 2022 at 19:30

Do I just need my retired ID, or do I need to sign up?

Roger LeBlanc November 16, 2022 at 19:23

I'm a 100% Permanently Disabled Vietnam Veteran. I must be missing something because it looks like I qualify for this program, but I don't see how to apply.

Do I have to pay for my wife or relative when i drive into the Parks?

Thank you,

Roger

Elizabeth Duncan November 16, 2022 at 19:19

This is great! Question, my husband a veteran passed from a 100% disability in 2017 at age 42. Would I qualify along with my 2 minor children? If so, how do I apply?

Casper A.Everhard Jr. November 16, 2022 at 19:18

I had a pass that I signed up for about 20 years ago and have miss placed or lost it since then. How may I get a new one? Do I apply all over again ?

Rose Bowman November 16, 2022 at 19:18

My husband has a card for parks. He passed away 2 years ago. Can I still use the card? I notice a few

other people are asking the same question. Thanks

I live in Scottsdale Arizona where can I apply for the free national Park card November 16, 2022 at 19:17

I live in Scottsdale Arizona where can I apply for the free national Park card

timothy whalen November 16, 2022 at 19:01

I have an medical va id that states am 100% military service connected do i just show them my va card at an park to get in free ?

Catherine Simpson November 16, 2022 at 18:48

Give me freedom and get out of the way. Just want to be myself!

Carol Crandall November 16, 2022 at 18:35

Am I, as the widow of a deceased Viet Name veteran who was 100% disabled eligible for this pass? My last renewal of my military ID has an "Indefinite" expiration date. I have always obtained by ID cardsd at Camp LeJeune in NC. Can they help me obtain this or should I go to the local veteran representative at the New Hanover County offices. Thank you.

Mark wetzel November 16, 2022 at 18:34

How do I get the lifetime pass? I don't see anywhere it says its free???

James McAdams November 16, 2022 at 18:31

If I have a retired military ID card do I still need a separate National Park pass.

Johnny Johnson November 16, 2022 at 18:28

Thank you America.

Michael Bailey November 16, 2022 at 18:24

I am a retired service member
Where do I go to get my Lifetime Pass or who do I contact?

Michael Pollock November 16, 2022 at 18:18

Thanks for your hard work. Can't wait to visit a park.
It's great to be appreciated.

Richard John Hebert November 16, 2022 at 18:09

Thanks you for acknowledging us!

Pat Spearling November 16, 2022 at 18:06

My husband has tried to get an ID card and after filling out several papers, he was denied. All they kept saying was that he has to sign up for health benefits which he does not qualify for. So how does he simply acquire an ID card???????

ROBERT STOZEK November 16, 2022 at 17:52

I am a vet with a Vet card but I received a senior pass a number of years ago but then was told during one

visit that the program no longer existed and I would have to pay for entrance. Totally confused

James Stover November 16, 2022 at 17:50

Do I need to apply for a special card?

Or use a current ID card

Robert Meyers November 16, 2022 at 17:49

Thank you for bringing this to my attention. I am so glad to hear that I and my family can visit National parks for free. We will make good use of this because we enjoy the outdoors and nature.

Randolph Crutchfield November 16, 2022 at 17:46

Does this include state parks? Thanks.

Davis S. Earnhard November 16, 2022 at 17:45

Truly a wonderful gift to Veterans and Gold Star families.

Nick internicola November 16, 2022 at 17:45

Veterans already have that privilege, what are you people trying to pull? Just another sub agency trying to rip off American Veterans!!! Shameful

Edgar November 16, 2022 at 17:42

Who wrote this confusing*** article. And every link takes you to another link.

Sonja Stefan November 14, 2022 at 08:13

This is a wonderful gesture for all of these families –
WELL DONE!

Joseph Styczynski November 17, 2022 at 09:33

Every link in this article leads to no where, how do I sign up for a lifetime military pass to national parks, I have a veterans health card , there is no link to actually get a pass so this article and the links are totally useless

Sam Benton November 13, 2022 at 11:05

because I'm a Veteran, I've had a free pass for some years. So, this is political BS.

JD November 16, 2022 at 00:01

I assume you are service-connected, which was the criteria. This is now for ALL veterans and it's also interagency. Why so negative?

Daddukes November 16, 2022 at 18:26

It has been free, on an annual basis, for years. All you had to do was apply or ask at the park, with an ID.

Douglas B Gilbert November 16, 2022 at 20:48

It has been active for the past 2.5 years, instituted during Covid.

Adrian November 16, 2022 at 21:31

He just needed someone/thing to b!tch at. Common sense and facts weren't in the equation.

Ken November 16, 2022 at 21:37

Sam may be suffering from the cornarectaidis disability. Sh-ttyoutlook syndrome.

John Wilson November 16, 2022 at 22:25

Thank you@ JD
USMC
US Army
Californis Army N G

DawnMarie Swenden November 16, 2022 at 22:43

Agreed! Thanks for posting.

Joe O'Hare November 16, 2022 at 23:14

JD you are 100% correct. Just be happy for every other veteran, good for you that you had earlier. Some people can never be happy but always rather complain

Klaus Muehlmann November 17, 2022 at 06:14

Yes, the interagency extension is certainly beneficial to this veteran and avid hiker.

Mary Ann Noland November 16, 2022 at 18:25

I agree...the negativity is not warranted. I am a Retired Veteran and would never respond in such a manner. You have made yourself an example of how NOT to be.

J. Penning November 16, 2022 at 19:12

Sam sounds like you're a complainer to me. I'm a proud veteran and was glad to hear of this blanket free pass for those of us that served our country willingly. There are 4 generations of us in my family and I'm the second generation. If you can't say something nice (as Bambi said in the children's book) don't say nothing at all! J Penning US Army, 19 Months of service in Vietnam. Count your Blessings. Maybe you're out of those too?

Alan Farmer November 16, 2022 at 19:55

Ignorance is bliss...

Alan Farmer November 16, 2022 at 20:13

Mike. Camping may be at a reduced rate. I have a America the Beautiful (Service Connected Disabled) and I get Free admission to all National Sites, but 50% off camping and recreational fees.

Michial Skaugstad November 16, 2022 at 20:41

Your world is small. There is a big world outside of yours. You should use your GI Bill and go to school, you might be less angry.

Anger comes from confusion, and you seem very. Have a nice day, and god bless.

RD November 16, 2022 at 21:24

i'm also a veteran, but no service connected disability. so yes, this is a big deal. but do wish there was some sort of vetting process via DD214 or something. seems ripe for abuse.

DRW November 16, 2022 at 21:27

No Sam, now ALL veterans can get the pass. I also have pass as a service connected disabled veteran.

Deb Pearson November 16, 2022 at 21:43

You know, Sam, some of us didn't know we could get this pass – not everyone is your age or has your knowledge. I'm glad I read it here today. Just because you know something doesn't mean others do ... and letting others know it's available through advertising it doesn't make it political bs.

Lindsay Siegfried November 16, 2022 at 21:47

For a veteran, you're uninformed. I'm also a veteran. I was not eligible for any national park pass until two years ago, because passes were only available if you had a disability rating. Veterans and gold stars got nothing, until two years ago when they were authorized for an annual pass. I got one, but it has to be renewed

every year, and only being good for a year, there was always the possibility of it being cancelled. Now it has been codified as a lifetime benefit for all veterans and gold star families, not just disabled veterans.

Lisa November 16, 2022 at 23:24

Okay brain child. You are probably a 100% disabled veteran. Those people already were authorized the lifetime passes prior to this. Or you received it when you weren't really authorized.

Go back to bed.

Sean Carter November 17, 2022 at 00:52

lol. Nothing political here. No need to make it as such.

Rene November 17, 2022 at 05:16

America the rage-ridden. I miss the civility and true honor of the 1950's. Try some positive thinking.

Will November 17, 2022 at 07:45

This pass does not have to be renewed every year as in the past. I have enjoyed the free annual pass myself.

Robert Funke November 17, 2022 at 07:47

Sam, now all veterans can enter our Parks without charge; despite your somewhat deriding post, Gold Star families can now gain access without the usual fees. This is a beautiful gesture and gift to those who lost a family member and to those of us who lost a fellow brother or sister in arms. I have had a Handicapped Pass for years; the Parks I have visited have given me solace and Peace. You and I were issued passes for our service that we paid for with our bodies and minds. Our brothers and sisters deserve the same. We all gave some, and some gave all to ensure our nation's future.

Brian Herzog November 17, 2022 at 09:32

This is great! I currently have a Veteran's America the Beautiful Pass. However, you had to renew each year (since they authorized it a couple of year's ago) and it was only valid for 1 yr. That was because funding was not previously guaranteed for the following year. Thank the Democratic Congress for this...

Dave Roach November 17, 2022 at 09:35

I have also had a free pass but the passes are now lifetime instead of having to be renewed each year. I do not get why anyone would think this is a political move.

Duane K Boldt November 17, 2022 at 10:23

No need to be negative. Always good to inform the vets out there again. Some did not know. Also, there were programs before that had one year passes that had to be renewed each year and now they are lifetime. Also, there were previous programs for service connected disabled veterans.

This is only a positive thing. Glad to see they are offering this lifetime pass to veterans.

Jeff Sinon November 12, 2022 at 08:50

I'm curious as to why a DD 214 isn't on the list of acceptable documents. Seems idiotic that the one form that's the basis of acquiring most other forms of veterans ID isn't acceptable in showing veterans status?

Frank dodd November 16, 2022 at 19:06

Because a dd-214 is NOT 'a form of identification' as required. It's a piece of printer paper with random words all over it. You can't board an airplane with it at TSA either. Reading comprehension – learn it !

Marlene Shadden November 16, 2022 at 19:25

Most likely bc the DD-214 hasn't a pic on it

Gary Wieland November 16, 2022 at 19:54

DD214 has no photos. The others do.

Philp Roza November 16, 2022 at 20:39

The DD-214 is not a photo identification.
You can use your DD-214 as a supporting document to obtain a veteran ID or Veteran Health ID.

Mr.McIntosh November 16, 2022 at 20:54

That's the government for you.

DF November 16, 2022 at 21:36

As a former VHA employee of 23 years and a current 100% SC disabled Veteran, DD-214s are an easy document to alter, defraud or detect identity theft than official ID cards. I've seen more bogus DD214s in my days than fake ID cards. Plus many DD214s are very delicate piece of paper that might not survive constant wear and tear when presenting documentation.

Jerome Edward Trombley November 16, 2022 at 22:02

Your DD-214 does not have a photo on it.

Phil Reindl November 16, 2022 at 22:21

Most of us have been working with the VA as patients of health care facilities and have the Veteran Health card. Not all people have this valuable card to help us out, so get a Veteran Health card and get your FREE Pass to all of Americas beautiful places.

Carlos Carranza November 16, 2022 at 23:31

Unfortunately, a DD-214 can easily be falsified. So in order to deter false documents passing by. It's first checked via a VA facility and then they confirm veteran status.

Lorenzo Morones November 17, 2022 at 00:40

I'm not sure of the official reason but I'm glad I don't have to take my DD214 around everywhere. It's not the most sturdy of documents. Once I had it noted on my driver's license, this saved a whole lot of nervousness. Now it can sit in the safe.

BS November 17, 2022 at 01:30

There is no photo on DD-214, it can't show your identity.

Michael November 17, 2022 at 01:44

If you have a DD214 you should have a USID/DDUSID which should satisfy the DoDID requirement. I retired earlier this year and that's the ID card issued to me to access on-base amenities.

Gisela Gauthier November 17, 2022 at 02:37

This may be because A, the DD214 is such a vital document and is so large that the vast majority of veterans realize the need to keep it secured, rather than try to carry it in your wallet.

If I was going into a recreational site, it would be very inconvenient to carry an 8 x 11-1/2 inch piece of paper, especially one that's made of such delicate paper as mine are (I have several). Also, carrying it around frequently would quickly destroy it.

The other forms that they mention are ID cards which fit in your wallet, and are made of more durable material, like a credit card size.

Thomas Jackson November 17, 2022 at 02:58

Pretty sure someone manning the gate at a NPS park would accept it.

janice I korintus November 17, 2022 at 07:14

my question also

Barbie Lyons November 10, 2022 at 19:32

Thank you for supporting our great Veterans! God Bless them

Lawrence Davis November 16, 2022 at 20:19

I have a Military America the Beautiful Pass. Is It still active after the one year expiration or Is It Life Time Never expires?

Lynwood Johnson November 10, 2022 at 14:47

Hi. I am a gate attendant for the ACE.
I am a bit confused on how to serve our Gold Star

families.

Do they have in their possession a card that identifies them as a Gold Star family? A letter? In other words. how am I going to identify them? Obviously. I haven't issued one or been asked for one.

May i assume our qualifying Vets will be issued a life time pass, as well?That will be great!

I couldn't figure out why we were issuing retired Vets "annual passes" and not life time passes, as I would tell the Vet, " I don't know anyone who will un-retire".

John Hickman November 16, 2022 at 17:59

Look on driver license lot states have veteran on there an does grown adult kids get in free also

Joe Ferguson November 16, 2022 at 19:05

I have known a few who "un-retired" and went back in the service. The one thing that does not retire is the oath we took when we signed up to serve, honor, and protect this great nation.

P. Anderson November 16, 2022 at 20:22

One would hope that your supervisor would (a) have already given you the information to do your job, or (b) have the information but waiting for you to request it...

Lindsay Siegfried November 16, 2022 at 21:51

IIRC it was a matter of authority. I don't remember the specifics but basically the annual passes were able to be authorized by one authority without oversight, but it required more red tape and bureaucracy from a higher authority before the lifetime passes could be codified.

Tom Currie November 17, 2022 at 01:22

Several of the passes make no sense — since veterans are eligible for a lifetime “military” pass, why only issue annual passes to active duty military? After all, anyone who is active duty military is going to become a veteran whenever they cease to be active duty military!

Similarly why have an annual “Senior” pass? How many seniors does DOI think are ever going to become too young to qualify?

I understand the \$10 processing fee on the USGS online store even though \$10 does seem a little high just for mailing out the physical pass when the same physical pass is free if you go to one of the issuing sites. But how in the world does USGS justify the \$80 processing fee for a Senior pass that is also free if you go to one of the issuing sites to pick it up?

Megan Mackey November 17, 2022 at 02:17

Gold star dependents have a dependent ID card that states in the status section Active Duty – Dec for deceased

Kimberly Maltbie November 17, 2022 at 06:55

Hello,

As a Gold Star spouse, I have an ID card. Gold Star children under 18 also carry an ID card.

Alternatively, parents and siblings that are part of our Gold Star families do not get issued an ID. I am not sure about siblings, but parents should have a copy of the service member's death certificate or a letter.

Sorry I can't answer all of your questions. Hope this helps to clarify some.

Have a great day!

Paul Chunglo Jr November 10, 2022 at 07:28

I've been using my "America The Beautiful Pass" and I'm a Service Connected Disabled Veteran. Most of the parks I visited charged me 50% of the fees to get in or camp. I was under the impression I was supposed to be free. I'm guessing the people at the gates were not informed?

Donna November 16, 2022 at 18:02

I'm a disabled service-connected veteran, as well as a senior citizen, and I had to pay full fare to get into Mount Rushmore a couple of years ago.

AARon November 16, 2022 at 20:26

Entrance is one thing, camping is another, you are not getting free rent.

Ray November 16, 2022 at 20:49

I believe it's always been free admission and 50% camping, and the RV camp at yellowstone is not "Camping"

Ridge November 17, 2022 at 01:38

They are correct, it's 50% off amenities, such as camping, and 100% of your entry fee.

Anthony Nivison November 17, 2022 at 09:40

Paul, the free admittance is for daily use or entrance. Camping/boat ramp access/other services are only supposed to be reduced if you are 100% disabled...

David H November 17, 2022 at 11:08

I used to work for the parks and I believe the charges were only for camping. Would be really interested if you actually were charged entrance fees with an America The Beautiful Pass. It seems maybe at some parks you could have still had to pay for others in your party. It would come down to park by park rules regarding some things, which I am pretty well removed from now. One example that comes to mind is if a Cave Tour was run by a vendor, maybe you wouldn't have gotten free

admission in that case, and paid a reduced amount for the tour ticket.

Dale Holley November 9, 2022 at 20:43

As a veteran, do I have to buy a lifetime Pass for just me or each and every one Will the one pass cover everyone

Dylan November 11, 2022 at 03:37

Just you Dale unless others plan on visiting without you.

Rich Ochoa November 16, 2022 at 20:14

I have had a Golden Age Passport (Lifetime Admission Permit) to Any U.S. National Park for over 20 years now; I bought it at the Entrance to Yellowstone Park for \$10.00 when I was 60 & have visited many parks since. The Pass is good for the driver & any of his passengers. When I bought it, it was just for Seniors 60 & up. Nothing was available for Veterans at that time, even though I am a Veteran. I have to say, I have definitely gotten my 10 bucks worth!!!

Charles k. Robinson November 12, 2022 at 11:03

That is an awhsome program for vets and their families

anita mead November 9, 2022 at 20:07

Thanks for the enfee. My boyfriend had the pass. My new boyfriend would like it after he gets out of n the service.

James Hilbig November 16, 2022 at 19:41

How and where do I have to or need to go to apply for my free life time national parks pass

Adam November 16, 2022 at 20:00

He can get the free military pass now too. Just have to get a new one every year.

Candace Carteen November 16, 2022 at 22:28

My husband died of a war related disease. So he is now dead which makes him 100% disabled do I and my son qualify for one of these passes? Or, would he still have to be alive to get this honor? He's been dead for 15 years as of today.

Mike November 9, 2022 at 18:49

Is camping in developed camp grounds included?

Sean Anderson November 11, 2022 at 16:40

No it is not. Only entrance into the Parks.

Valerie Morgan November 16, 2022 at 19:51

Is that my family from WASHINGTON

mark reynolds November 16, 2022 at 20:47

so is this just a day use pass? or can I use “undeveloped” camp sites for free using this pass??

David Trujillo November 16, 2022 at 21:02

Developed camp grounds in national parks and monuments are 50% off with these cards.

mark reynolds November 17, 2022 at 10:47

thanks for the info!! how about “undeveloped” camp sites (camp sights without water, electric)?

EW November 16, 2022 at 23:20

It has to do with other protected information that is on your dd214. I asked this same question when getting my pass two weeks ago at Acadia.

Rene November 17, 2022 at 05:20

The Interagency Military Lifetime Pass waives entrance fees for the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and standard amenity recreation fees “Standard amenity fees” is vague. Will have to look it up.

David crume November 9, 2022 at 13:36

Thanks for the information as I respect the information u have given thanks again

SUSAN ELLSWORTH November 9, 2022 at 11:15

My now deceased husband served in the US Army, and in the Korean War. He received VA benefits from war injuries, was a 100 percent disabled, and died from service-connected injuries in 2017 at the age of 84. As his widow, I receive DAV-DEC survivor benefits and hold a DOD Uniformed Services ID and Privilege card. I'm 73. Do I qualify for the Military Pass and/or InterAgency Pass? Does this include free camping for 7(or 10?) days at State Parks in Oregon, like he qualified for when he was alive?
Thanks

Lea Hix November 10, 2022 at 08:13

I would think so. It wouldn't hurt to apply.
Good luck.

James Elliott November 17, 2022 at 08:11

This is a wonderful option for us veterans,
thank you.

Robin L Noe November 13, 2022 at 22:25

I have the same situation as Susan above whose husband died. My husband of 38yrs died 19th of April from 100% service related disability. I am supposed to receive same benefits as he was allowed. Although he was medically challenged and never got to enjoy

life he deserved. Would I need to contact someone at the VA for my answer? Ty.

Joseph A David November 16, 2022 at 19:19

Yes. Contact your local VA and will direct you.

Rich Ochoa November 16, 2022 at 20:23

Yes, Contact a VA Rep. in your area. They should be able to help you with all the benefits you are entitled to. + I would think that should also include a Free Pass to the National Parks. He should be able to inform you of Any & All benefits you are entitled to! Good luck Robin!

Petra A Sosa November 17, 2022 at 07:31

Same
Widow of ? service connect
No discount for parks
The Ranger looked it up

Ralph November 17, 2022 at 08:24

Go to the nearest VA Regional Office and apply. Do not go to the VA Hospital, that's only for medical treatment.

There should be a VA Regional Office somewhere close to where you live. Or, just google VA. Gov.....Regional Office and your State.

All claims are initiated at the Regional Office.

LP November 16, 2022 at 17:46

Surviving spouses seem to be eligible for the free annual military pass, but not the lifetime pass. I assume they do it that way to verify eligibility each year (since you probably lose this benefit if you remarry.)

Marla Pryor November 16, 2022 at 20:32

I have the same questions as I qualify for everything based on my husbands service. He passed away September. 2021 from service connected conditions.

Troy Grossman November 16, 2022 at 22:37

Susan check out this link. You may apply for a pass from the state of Oregon.

<https://stateparks.oregon.gov/?do=v.page&id=19>

JS November 17, 2022 at 00:47

It doesn't include camping fees. It states that the veteran and/or family members get free admission to the park.

Ralph November 17, 2022 at 08:19

Do you mean DIC? Disability Indemnity Compensation? I'm not familiar with DEC

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