**How to get a VA Identification Card**

**What:** VA Identification Card

**Service Officer Notes:** To access many of the discounts available to Veterans, it requires some proof you are a Veteran. Many places now require a picture ID and will not accept just a DD214 because of unscrupulous individuals. Some of the IDs available that may work are:

Military Active or Retired ID

VA Health Card – If you qualify for VA Health Care

Michigan Driver’s License with Veteran designation (does not work everywhere)

**Veteran ID Card – This is a Federal picture ID that is issued by the VA to Veterans who do not qualify for Health Care This card is the subject of this How To.**

**Web Sites:** [**https://www.va.gov/records/get-veteran-id-cards/vic/**](https://www.va.gov/records/get-veteran-id-cards/vic/)

**Who Qualifies:**

You may be eligible if you meet both of the requirements listed below.

**Both of these must be true. You:**

* Served on active duty, in the Reserves, or in the National Guard (including the Coast Guard), **and**
* Received an honorable or general discharge (under honorable conditions)

If you received an other than honorable, bad conduct, or dishonorable character of discharge, you’re not eligible for a Veteran ID Card. If you have an uncharacterized or unknown discharge status, we’ll have to verify your eligibility before we approve your application.

**Information:**

You will need to go to the Web Site listed above and will need the below documentation:

* Your Social Security number.
* A digital copy of your DD214, DD256, DD257, or NGB22 that you can upload. This could be in a .pdf, .jpeg, or .png file format.
* A copy of a current and valid government-issued ID, such as a driver’s license, passport, or state-issued identification card.

You’ll also need a digital color photo of yourself from the shoulders up. The photo should follow all these standards:

* Show a full front view of your face and neck (with no hat, head covering, or headphones covering or casting shadows on your hairline or face), and
* Be cropped from your shoulders up (much like a passport photo), and
* Show you with your eyes open and a neutral expression, and
* Be taken in clothing you’d wear for a driver’s license photo, and
* Be a square size and have a white or plain-color background (with no scenery or other people in the photo), and
* Show what you look like now (a photo taken sometime in the last 10 years), and
* Be uploaded as a .jpeg, .png, .bmp, or .tiff file

The rest of the application process is on the Web Site.

**POCs:** NA