



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

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*Honoring those who served U.S.*

**State Approving Agency for Veterans' Education & Training**

# FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**FLORIDA  
STATE APPROVING AGENCY FOR VETERANS'  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Betsy Wickham  
Bureau Chief, SAA  
Florida Dept. of Veterans' Affairs

June 6, 2017



**41<sup>st</sup> Annual Florida  
School Certifying  
Official Conference**



**Florida Association of  
Veteran Education  
Specialists (FAVES)**



**St Pete Beach, Florida**

# Florida



# 2017 Veteran Bills by Title, Sponsor & Action

NUMBER	TITLE	FILED BY	LAST ACTION AND LOCATION
<a href="#">SB 8</a>	Gaming	Galvano	Last Action: 5/2/2017 S Withdrawn from further consideration -SJ 679
<a href="#">SJR 124</a>	Homestead Tax Relief	Steube	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
<a href="#">SB 140</a>	Openly Carrying a Handgun	Steube	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Judiciary
<a href="#">SB 152</a>	Small Business Financial Assistance	Garcia	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development
<a href="#">SB 188</a>	Vacation Rentals	Steube	Last Action: 5/3/2017 S Laid on Table, refer to CS/HB 425 -SJ 732
<a href="#">SB 226</a>	Property Taxes	Artiles	Last Action: 5/1/2017 S Withdrawn from further consideration
<a href="#">SB 290</a>	Criminal Justice	Rouson	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Judiciary
<a href="#">SB 302</a>	Penalties and Fees	Brandes	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations
<a href="#">SB 326</a>	Alternative Treatment Options for Veterans	Steube	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
<a href="#">SB 330</a>	Local Business Taxes	Steube	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations
<a href="#">SB 368</a>	Transportation Facility Designations	Montford	Last Action: 5/3/2017 S Ordered enrolled -SJ 755
<a href="#">SB 374</a>	Postsecondary Education	Hukill	Last Action: 5/8/2017 S Ordered engrossed, then enrolled -SJ 1375
<a href="#">SB 406</a>	Compassionate Use of Low-THC Cannabis and Marijuana	Bradley	Last Action: 5/4/2017 S Laid on Table, refer to CS/CS/HB 1397 -SJ 829

# 2017 Veteran Bills

## by Title, Sponsor & Action (*cont.*)

NUMBER	TITLE	FILED BY	LAST ACTION AND LOCATION
<a href="#">SB 444</a>	Veteran Identification	Baxley	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
<a href="#">SB 502</a>	Florida Statutes	Benacquisto	Last Action: 4/5/2017 Chapter No. 2017-3
<a href="#">SB 524</a>	Sales and Use Tax on Investigation and Detective Services	Steube	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died on Calendar
<a href="#">SB 544</a>	Vote-by-mail Ballots	Braynon	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Ethics and Elections
<a href="#">SB 598</a>	Canvassing of Provisional Ballots	Gibson	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Judiciary
<a href="#">SB 644</a>	Openly Carrying a Handgun	Steube	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Judiciary
<a href="#">SB 768</a>	Annual Sales Tax Holiday for Veterans of the United States Armed Forces	Powell	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security
<a href="#">SB 784</a>	Motor Vehicles	Gainer	Last Action: 5/4/2017 S Laid on Table, refer to CS/CS/CS/HB 545 -SJ 760
<a href="#">SB 804</a>	Electronic Health Records	Brandes	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations
<a href="#">SB 836</a>	Preference in Hiring Veterans	Gibson	Last Action: 4/13/2017 S Withdrawn from further consideration -SJ 399
<a href="#">SB 840</a>	Controlled Substance Prescribing	Clemens	Last Action: 4/28/2017 S Laid on Table, refer to CS/CS/HB 557 -SJ 542
<a href="#">SCR 920</a>	Groveland Four	Farmer	Last Action: 4/27/2017 S Laid on Table, refer to CS/HCR 631 -SJ 502
<a href="#">SB 954</a>	Canvassing of Vote-by-mail Ballots	Passidomo	Last Action: 4/4/2017 S Laid on Table, refer to CS/HB 105 -SJ 286
<a href="#">SB 980</a>	Expunging and Sealing Criminal History Records	Bracy	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Criminal Justice
<a href="#">SB 1022</a>	License Plates	Stewart	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

# 2017 Veteran Bills

## by Title, Sponsor & Action (*cont.*)

NUMBER	TITLE	FILED BY	LAST ACTION AND LOCATION
<a href="#">SB 1074</a>	Department of Health	Grimsley	Last Action: 4/26/2017 S Withdrawn from further consideration -SJ 477
<a href="#">SB 1110</a>	Economic Development	Brandes	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Commerce and Tourism
<a href="#">SB 1118</a>	Transportation	Gainer	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Laid on Table, refer to CS/CS/CS/HB 865 -SJ 912
<a href="#">SB 1142</a>	Tax Credit for Hiring Veterans	Artiles	Last Action: 5/1/2017 S Withdrawn from further consideration
<a href="#">SB 1160</a>	Elections	Bradley	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Laid on Table, refer to CS/CS/HB 1325 -SJ 938
<a href="#">SB 1166</a>	Honor and Remember Flag	Lee	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Rules
<a href="#">SB 1172</a>	Directional Signs for Veterans' Facilities	Farmer	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Transportation
<a href="#">SB 1202</a>	Veterans' Annual Sales Tax Holiday	Montford	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
<a href="#">SB 1374</a>	Transportation	Perry	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development
<a href="#">SB 1442</a>	Fee and Surcharge Reductions	Broxson	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died on Calendar
<a href="#">SB 1544</a>	Charitable Gaming	Perry	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Regulated Industries
<a href="#">SB 1558</a>	Child Exploitation	Book	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Criminal Justice
<a href="#">SB 1574</a>	Motor Vehicles	Baxley	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Criminal Justice

# 2017 Veteran Bills

## by Title, Sponsor & Action (*cont.*)

NUMBER	TITLE	FILED BY	LAST ACTION AND LOCATION
<a href="#">SB 1574</a>	Motor Vehicles	Baxley	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Criminal Justice
<a href="#">SB 1588</a>	Military and Veteran Support	Latvala	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations
<a href="#">SB 1680</a>	Child Welfare	Baxley	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services
<a href="#">SB 1734</a>	Special License Plates	Rouson	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development
<a href="#">SB 1756</a>	Examination and Treatment of Individuals with Mental Illness	Garcia	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations
<a href="#">SJR 1774</a>	Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption	Lee	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died in Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
<a href="#">SR 1786</a>	United States Air Force F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter Aircraft	Gibson	Last Action: 3/21/2017 S Adopted -SJ 230
<a href="#">SB 2500</a>	Appropriations	Appropriations	Last Action: 5/8/2017 S Ordered engrossed, then enrolled -SJ 1375
<a href="#">SB 2514</a>	Health Care	Appropriations	Last Action: 5/8/2017 S Ordered engrossed, then enrolled -SJ 1376
<a href="#">SB 7008</a>	Department of Veterans' Affairs Direct-support Organization	Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security	Last Action: 4/5/2017 Chapter No. 2017-6
<a href="#">SB 7022</a>	Public Employees	Governmental Oversight and Accountability	Last Action: 5/8/2017 S Ordered engrossed, then enrolled -SJ 1376
<a href="#">SB 7030</a>	Benefits and Salaries for Public Employees	Governmental Oversight and Accountability	Last Action: 5/5/2017 S Died on Calendar

# Florida Education 2017

## Unprecedented Funding with No Tuition Increase

*NOTE: Bills identified in this presentation may be awaiting Governor's signature to become law*





# Stop Everything!



## Special Session of the Legislature June 7-9, 2017

*Looking to cut close to \$400 million of current proposed appropriations from member projects tucked into the state budget to fund:*

<i>Public Schools K-12</i>	<i>\$210 million</i>
<i>Visit Florida</i>	<i>\$ 76 million</i>
<i>Dept of Economic Opp</i>	<i>\$ 85 million</i>

**Medical Marijuana may be also be addressed**

# Education Related Legislation 2017

**State Authorization Reciprocity  
Agreements (SARA)  
HB 859**

**See bill for additional information**

*Establish the  
Postsecondary Reciprocal Distance  
Education Coordinating Council  
within the Florida Dept. of Education*

*HB 859, to create  
FS 1000.35*

*The Council will administer the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA) with other states to authorize higher education institutions to offer online courses in such states. Reciprocity agreements are voluntary agreements between states that establish comparable national criteria for interstate online education courses and programs and is intended to improve the process for students who take online courses offered by postsecondary institutions in other states. It helps to ensure students receive high-quality education outside of Florida and allows Florida schools to be more competitive nationwide. Fees are paid by each school.*

# Education Related Legislation 2017

## Student Loan Information SB 396

See bill and statute for additional information

### *Student Loan Disclosure Requirements*

*SB 396, to create  
FS 1009.45*

*Beginning with the 2017-2018 year, a postsecondary institution that disburses state financial aid shall annually, or once during each academic year, provide each student receiving student loans (federal student loans) with the following information, in print or in electronic format:*

*An estimate of:*

- The student's total amount borrowed*
- The potential monthly repayment amount*
- The potential amount of total repayment*
- The percentage of the loan borrowing limit student has reached*

# Education Related Legislation 2017

## School Reporting Requirements SB 2500

See bill and statute for additional information

*Loan Volume Report*

*Student Financial Aid Report*

**SB 2500**

*Memo tentatively to be sent in August by Fla Dept of Ed, Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA)*

***Due Date: December 1, 2017***

*Institutions that received state funds in FY 2016-17 for student scholarships or grants administered by OSFA shall report the following by institution:*

- 1) Federal loan information, including the total federal loan amounts disbursed and total number of students who received federal loans; and*
- 2) Student level data for all grants, scholarships and awards to student who applied for and/or received state-funded tuition assistance and aid*

# FYI

## Federal Reporting Requirement in 2017

**School Reporting Requirements**  
**PL 114-315, Section 404**

**See public law for additional information**

*Reports on Progress of Students  
Receiving Post-9/11 Educational  
Assistance*

*Amends 38 USC §3326*

*Effective Date: 12/16/2017*

*Reporting methods to be  
determined*

*As a condition of approval under chapter 36 of this title of a course offered by an educational institution, each year, each educational institution that received a payment in that year on behalf of an individual entitled to educational assistance under this chapter shall submit to the Secretary such information regarding the academic progress of the individual as the Secretary may require.*

# Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act 2017

**SB 374**

# General Appropriations Act 2017

**SB 2500**

# Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act 2017

**Postsecondary Education  
SB 374**

**See bill and statute for additional  
information**

*Renaming Florida College System*

*SB 374, to create  
FS 1001.6001*

*Effective July 1, 2017*

*Governance Effective Oct 1, 2017*

*Maximize resources at state universities,  
community colleges & school district  
community centers*

*Although still administratively housed  
within the Fla Dept of Education the  
Division of Florida Colleges will no longer  
be a Division of the Department of  
Education, and will now be named, the  
Florida Community College System. A  
State Board of Community Colleges will be  
created. Membership shall be appointed by  
the Governor, will independently exercise  
powers and duties, have a separate budget  
and is not subject to the control,  
supervision or direction of Fla Dept of Ed*



# Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act 2017

## Postsecondary Education SB 374

## See bill and statutes for additional information

*Florida Community College System*

*Primary purpose of community colleges is to provide Associate Degrees and other lower level undergraduate credit*

*FS 1004.65*

*Growth of Bachelor Degrees and upper level programs are a secondary and not a primary role*

*FS 1007.23*

*Requires each college to establish at least one 2+2 pathway agreement with a state university which will guarantee students who complete the AA will be admitted into the university*

# General Appropriations Act 2017

**Postsecondary Education  
SB 2500**

**See bill and statute for additional  
information**

*Florida Community College Systems*

*Florida Community College Systems  
Schools hit with a \$30.2 million reduction*

*SB 2500, Section 2, 125*

*FS 1003.492*

*The Florida Dept of Ed to receive \$10 mil in  
Career and Professional Education (CAPE)  
Incentive Funds for Industry Certifications  
at colleges and in occupations including  
Health Science, Public Safety, Automotive  
Technologies, Cyber Security, Cloud  
Virtualization, Network Support Services,  
Computer Programming, Advanced  
Manufacturing, Electrician, Welding, FAA  
Airframe Mechanics, Power Plant  
Mechanics, HVAC Technicians, Pharmacy  
Technicians*

# General Appropriations Act 2017

<b>Postsecondary Education SB 2500</b>	<b>See bill and statutes for additional information</b>
<i>State University System</i>  <i>FS 1004.6497</i>	<i>World Class Faculty and Scholar Program provides funds to attract and retain high- caliber faculty (\$70.5 million)</i>  <i>State University Professional and Graduate Degree Excellence Program (\$50 million)</i>
<i>Private Colleges</i>  <i>FS 1009.89</i>  <i>FS 1009.891</i>	<i>Effective Access to Student Education (EASE) Grants (formerly FRAG) increase from \$3,000 annually to \$3,300</i>  <i>Access to Better Learning and Education (ABLE) Grant increased from \$1,500 to \$2,500 annually</i>

# General Appropriations Act 2017

<b>Postsecondary Education SB 2500</b>	<b>See bill and statutes for additional information</b>
<i>Student Financial Aid</i>  <i>FS 1009.531</i>	<i>Bright Futures Scholars Award increases in funding and textbook stipend \$151.0 mil</i>  <i>Bright Futures Academic Scholars 2018 Summer Funding \$39.5 mil</i>
<i>FS 1009.50</i>	<i>Florida Student Assistance Grant (need- based aid) increased from \$148.44 mil to \$269.40 mil – a \$120.96 mil increase</i>
<i>FS 295.01</i>	<i>Children/Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans Scholarship increased from 4.86 mil to 5.75 mil – a \$893,931 increase</i>

# General Appropriations Act 2017

<b>Postsecondary Education SB 2500 or as noted</b>	<b>See bills and statute for additional information</b>
<i>Student Financial Aid</i>  <i>FS 1009.701</i>	<i>First Generation in College Matching Grants – 100% increase from \$5.3 mil to \$10.6 mil and now provides 2:1 matching</i>
<i>Contact <a href="mailto:osfa@fldoe.org">osfa@fldoe.org</a></i>	<i>Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program (HDGAP) funded - \$1 mil; need- based grant that pays active duty &amp; Florida veterans during break</i>
<i>SB 374 to create FS 1009.894</i>	<i>New Scholarship – Effective July 1, 2017 Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Provides for 50 tuition &amp; fee scholarships at a Florida public postsecondary institution</i>

# Appropriation Comparison In Millions of Dollars

Program Name	2016-2017 Appropriation	2017-2018 Appropriation
Bright Futures Scholarship Program	\$217.30	\$397.28
Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG) Maximum Award \$2,610	\$148.44	\$269.40
Effective Access to Student Education (EASE) (Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG)) \$3,000 → \$3,300	\$115.26	\$125.45
First Generation in College Matching Grants	\$5.30	\$10.60
Access to Better Learning and Education Grant (ABLE) \$1,500 → \$2,500	\$5.01	\$6.83
Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans	\$4.86	\$5.75
Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program (HDGAP)	\$1.00	\$1.00

# Related Legislation 2017

<b>General Appropriations Act 2017 SB 2500</b>	<b>See bill for additional information Budget=\$82.4 billion Reserves=\$3.2 billion</b>
<i>Affordable Housing Programs</i>	<i>State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) receives \$150 mil</i>
<i>FS 420.907</i>	<i>State Apartment Incentive Loan Program (SAIL) receives \$50 mil</i>
<i>State Employee Pay Increases</i>	<i>\$1,400 Pay Increase if currently making \$40,000 or less</i>
<i>FS 110</i>	<i>\$1,000 Pay Increase if currently making more than \$40,000</i>
<i>FS 112</i>	<i>Correctional Officers \$2,500 increase</i>
	<i>Law Enforcement 5% Pay Increase</i>

# Florida Statutes Pertinent to Our Work



# Education Related Legislation

**Waived Tuition and / or Related Fees :**

**See statute for additional information**

*Recipients of Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence*

*FS 1009.26(8)*

*A state university, a Florida Community College System institution, a career center operated by a school district or a charter technical career center shall waive tuition for undergraduate college credit programs and career certificate programs for each recipient of a Purple Heart or another combat decoration superior in precedence. Must be a current resident of Florida OR a resident of Florida at the time of the military action that resulted in the awarding of the Purple Heart*

# Education Related Legislation

Waived Tuition and / or Related Fees	See statutes for additional information
<p><i>Persons 60 years of age or older, on a space-available basis</i></p> <p><i>FS 1009.26(4)</i></p> <p><i>FS 1009.26</i></p>	<p><i>A state university may waive any or all application, tuition and related fees for persons 60 years of age or older who are residents of Florida and who attend classes for credit</i></p> <p><i>See statute for all Fee Waivers</i></p>
<p><i>State of Florida Employee Tuition &amp; Fee Waiver Program</i></p> <p><i>FS 1009.265</i></p>	<p><i>A state university and Florida Community College System institution may waive tuition and fees for state of Florida employees for up to 6 credit hours per term on a space availability basis. Fee-paying students have priority in enrollment.</i></p>

# Education Related Legislation

Tuition and / or Related Fees	See statutes for additional information
<p><i>Fee Exemptions at a school district that provides workforce education programs, Florida Community College System institutions or state university</i></p> <p><i>FS 1009.25</i></p>	<p><i>Dual enrollment students;</i> <i>Certain Department of Children and Family Services students;</i> <i>Student who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence;</i></p>
<p><i>Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans</i></p> <p><i>FS 295.01</i></p> <p><a href="http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org">www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org</a></p>	<p><i>Administered by the Florida Dept. of Education, this scholarship provides tuition and fees at a public Florida institution or the equivalent amount at an eligible private institution in Florida. Chapter 35 recipients may receive this scholarship AND the Chapter 35 benefit.</i></p>
<p><i>Tuition Deferment</i></p> <p><i>FS 1009.27</i></p>	<p><i>Any veteran or eligible student receiving VA Ed benefits is entitled to 1 deferment each academic year and an add'l deferment when delay in the receipt of benefits</i></p>

# Education Related Legislation

Registration	See statutes for additional information
<i>Priority course registration for veterans, spouses and dependent children</i>  <i>FS 1004.075</i>	<i>Florida Community College System institute and state university which offers priority course registration for a segment of the student population shall provide priority course registration for veterans, spouses and dependent children who are receiving GI Bill® education benefits</i>
<i>Withdrawal due to military service</i>  <i>FS 1004.07</i>	<i>Enrolled student shall not incur academic or financial penalties by virtue of performing military service</i>
<i>Awarding of postsecondary course credit</i>  <i>FS 1007.27</i>  <i>FS 1004.096</i>	<i>Excelsior College Subject Examination, Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) and Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) to list of exams to transfer into public institutions College credit for military training &amp; ed courses</i>

# Education Related Legislation

## Florida Residency Granted for In-State Tuition and / or Fees

## See statutes for additional information

### *Active Duty members and in-state tuition*

*FS 1009.21(10)(a)*

*The following persons shall be classified as residents for tuition purposes: Active duty members of the Armed Services of the U.S. residing or stationed in Florida, their spouses and dependent children and active drilling members of the Florida National Guard; Active duty members of the Armed Services and their spouses and dependents attending a College System institution or state university in Florida within 50 miles of the military establishment where they are stationed, also outside of Florida, if it is within a county contiguous to Florida*

### *Serving in Armed Forces outside the state*

*FS 1009.21(7)*

*A person, or dependent child, shall not lose resident status for tuition purposes solely by reason of serving in Armed Forces*

# Education Related Legislation

Out-of-State Tuition and Fee waiver	See statutes for additional information
<p><i>Veterans, Reservists, National Guard and individuals receiving VA Ed Benefits</i></p> <p><i>Congressman C.W. “Bill” Young Veteran Tuition Waiver Act</i></p> <p><i>FS 1009.26(13)</i></p>	<p><i>Waives out-of-state tuition and fees for honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, U.S. Reserve Forces, the National Guard or any individual who is using educational assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs AND who physically resides in Florida while enrolled in the public institution</i></p>
<p><i>Active Duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces</i></p> <p><i>FS 1009.26(14)</i></p>	<p><i>Waives out-of-state tuition and fees at Florida public institutions for all active duty members of the Armed Forces of the U.S. who are <u>residing or stationed outside of Florida</u></i></p>

# Professional License Related Legislation

<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>See statutes for additional information</b>
<p><i>Professional licensing</i></p> <p><i>FS 455.213, 456.013</i></p>	<p><i>Increases the amount of time available, from 24 months to 60 months, for an honorably discharged military veteran or spouse to apply for a fee waiver to the Departments of Health and Business and Professional Regulation for certain licenses, after veteran is discharged</i></p>
<p><i>Professional Engineer Exam</i></p> <p><i>FS 471.013</i></p>	<p><i>Allows military servicemembers an additional two attempts at the Professional Engineer Exam before requiring additional college courses</i></p>

# Disabled Veteran Related Legislation

Transportation/Parking	See statutes for additional information
<p data-bbox="48 449 550 492"><i>Disabled parking permit</i></p> <p data-bbox="202 564 483 606"><i>FS 320.0848</i></p>	<p data-bbox="985 449 1864 721"><i>A veteran previously evaluated and certified by VA as permanently and totally disabled from service-connected disability may provide VA disability letter to Dept. of Motor Vehicles for disabled parking permit</i></p>
<p data-bbox="48 755 937 798"><i>Disabled veteran parking waiver- expanded</i></p> <p data-bbox="193 926 463 969"><i>FS 316.1964</i></p>	<p data-bbox="985 755 1864 1140"><i>Governing body of each publicly owned or publicly operated airport to grant free parking to any vehicle displaying a license plate for disabled veterans. The existing statute provided for free parking with state, county and municipalities when vehicle is transporting a disabled person</i></p>
<p data-bbox="48 1175 724 1218"><i>Discounts on transportation fees</i></p> <p data-bbox="183 1289 705 1332"><i>FS 125.029 &amp; FS 163.58</i></p>	<p data-bbox="985 1175 1864 1380"><i>A public authority shall provide a partial or discounted fare for fixed-route transit systems to disabled veterans who display documentation.</i></p>



# Veteran Employment Legislation

## Miscellaneous

## See statutes for additional information

*Veterans' Preference in state employment*

*FS 295.07, 295.08, 295.11, 295.085*

*Compensable disabled veteran;  
Spouse of 100% service connected disabled veteran;  
Unremarried widow(er) of veteran who died of service connected disability;  
A wartime veteran;  
All honorably discharged veterans;  
Current members of the Fla National Guard and U.S. Armed Forces Reservists;  
The mother, father, legal guardian or unremarried widow(er) of a member of the US Armed forces who died in line of duty under combat-related conditions.  
Requires state agencies, and authorizes political subdivision of state, to develop and implement veterans' recruitment plan*

# Miscellaneous Legislation

Miscellaneous	See statutes for additional information
<p><i>Veterans Florida.</i></p> <p><a href="http://www.veteransflorida.org">www.veteransflorida.org</a></p> <p><b>FS 295.21, 295.22, 295.23</b></p>	<p><i>Creates a nonprofit corporation within FDVA to promote Florida as a veteran-friendly state. The corporation will encourage and assist retired and recently separated military personnel to keep or make Florida their permanent residence and help veterans find a new career, start a business or connect to other helpful resources</i></p>
<p><i>Residency requirement for state veteran nursing homes</i></p> <p><b>FS 296.36</b></p>	<p><i>Veteran must be a Florida resident at the time of application, but there's no longer a one-year residency requirement for acceptance into one of the six state veteran nursing homes in Florida</i></p>

# Miscellaneous Legislation

Miscellaneous	See statutes for additional information
<p data-bbox="48 425 817 582"><i>Landlord / Condominium Association requirements for active duty servicemember rental applications</i></p> <p data-bbox="208 711 426 748"><b>FS 83.683</b></p>	<p data-bbox="981 425 1875 862"><i>When a rental application is required, landlord must process and reply in writing to a servicemember's application within 7 days of submission of approval or denial of application. If denied, reason must be given. Absent of timely denial, and if all other terms complied with, the landlord must lease the unit to the servicemember</i></p>
<p data-bbox="48 961 919 1058"><i>Mental Health Services in Criminal Justice System</i></p> <p data-bbox="208 1129 504 1166"><b>FS 394.47891</b></p>	<p data-bbox="981 961 1846 1166"><i>Expands the definition of 'veteran,' for the purpose of eligibility for veterans' court to include those discharged under a general discharge</i></p>
<p data-bbox="48 1215 942 1252"><i>Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program</i></p> <p data-bbox="208 1323 452 1360"><b>FS 1009.66</b></p>	<p data-bbox="981 1215 1846 1420"><i>Administered by the Florida Dept. of Education. Amount not to exceed \$4,000 for each year of education toward the degree obtained.</i></p>

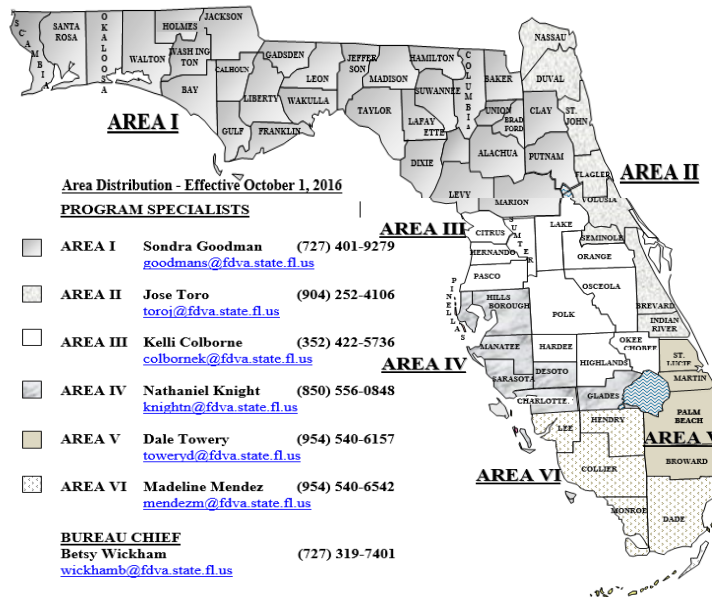
# State Approving Agency (SAA) Area Distribution



**Glenn Sutphin**  
Executive Director

State of Florida  
**Department of Veterans' Affairs**  
Division of Veterans' Benefits and Assistance  
State Approving Agency  
for Veterans' Education & Training  
P.O. Box 31003  
St. Petersburg, FL 33731

**Rick Scott**  
Governor  
**Pam Bondi**  
Attorney General  
**Jeff Atwater**  
Chief Financial Officer  
**Adam Putnam**  
Commissioner of Agriculture



**Area Distribution - Effective October 1, 2016**

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# Resources and Content Contributors

- Florida Benefits Guide <http://floridavets.org>
- Tracking Florida Bills:  
<http://flsenate.gov/Session/Bills/2017>
- Florida Dept. of Education (888) 827-2004  
<http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org>

Scholarships for Children or Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans: (FDVA Verifier: Leslie Benedek 727.319.7433)

- FDVA Legislative Team: Roy Clark, Legislative and Cabinet Affairs Director and Jessica Kraynak, Legislative Analyst
- Florida benefits for active duty:  
[http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Home/Benefit\\_Library/State\\_\\_Territory\\_Benefits/Florida.html#top](http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Home/Benefit_Library/State__Territory_Benefits/Florida.html#top)

# Florida Benefits

## Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide

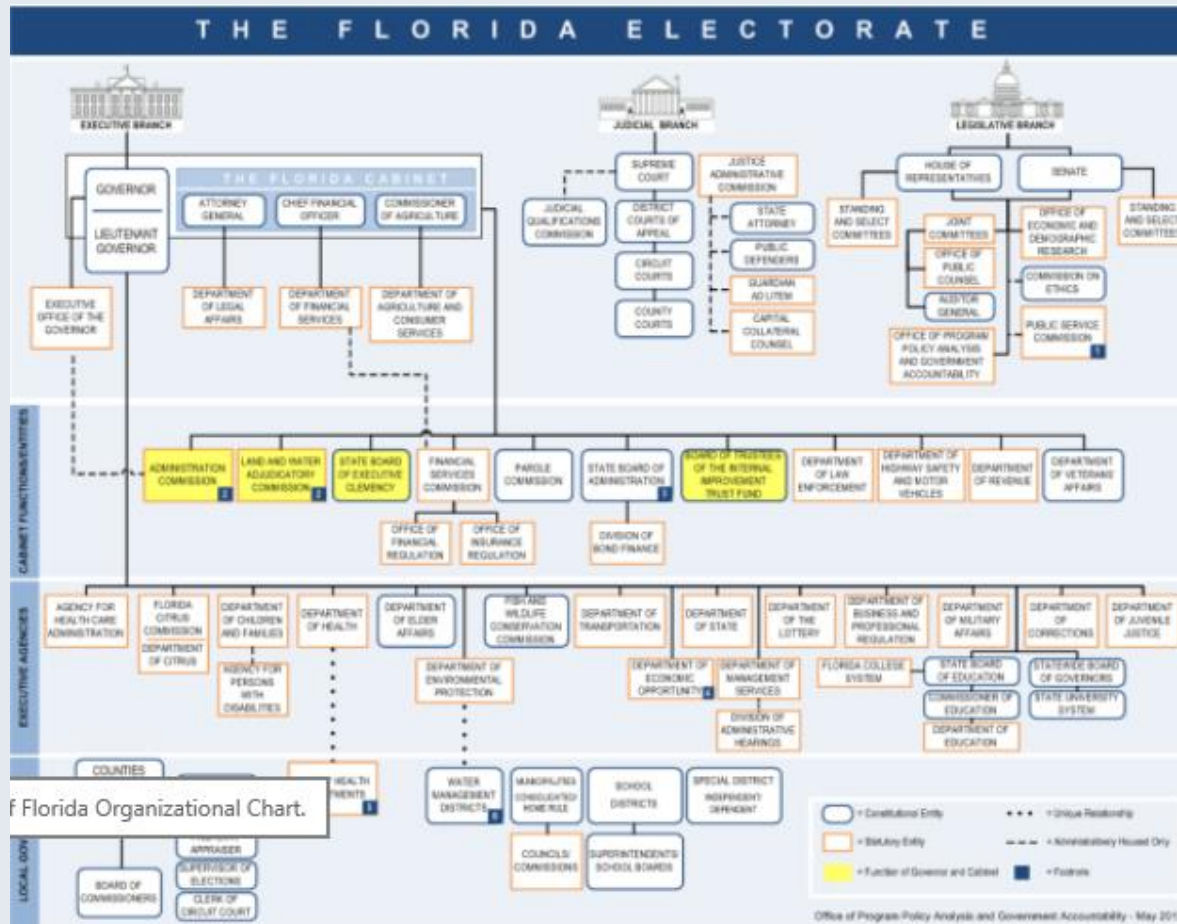
<http://FloridaVets.org>



<http://www.veteransflorida.org>



# State of Florida Organizational Chart



Florida Organizational Chart.

Questions?