

Medallion Benefit

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides a medallion, by request, to be affixed to an existing privately purchased headstone or marker to signify the deceased's status as a Veteran.

This new product is furnished in lieu of a traditional Government headstone or marker for those Veterans whose death occurred on or after Nov. 1, 1990, and whose grave in a private cemetery is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.



The medallion is available in three sizes: 5 inches, 3 inches and 1 ½ inches. Each medallion will be inscribed with the word "VETERAN" across the top and the branch of service at the bottom.

Once a claim for a medallion is received, approved and processed, VA will mail the medallion along with a kit that will allow the family or the staff of a private cemetery to affix the device to a headstone, grave marker, mausoleum or columbarium niche cover.

Important: This benefit is only applicable if the grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker. In these instances, eligible Veterans are entitled to either a traditional Government-furnished headstone or marker, or the new medallion, but not both.

For family members of Veterans interested in submitting a claim for the new medallion, instructions on how to apply for a medallion will be updated on the NCA Web site at www.cem.va.gov/hm_hm.asp. Until a new form specifically for ordering the medallion is available, applicants may use the form used for ordering government headstones and markers, VA Form 40-1330.