

GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

All applications for a Military Service special plate are processed by mail by the Vehicle Services Bureau in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Any application received without the required information, certification, documentation or payment (if applicable) will be returned to the applicant. If an applicant does not have the necessary military service documentation to support their request, the applicant should contact the appropriate branch of service or the New Mexico Veterans Service Commission for assistance prior to completing the application. Applicants for a *Pearl Harbor Survivor* plate must use application form MVD-11019. *New Mexico National Guard* plates are issued through that service, and not the Vehicle Services Bureau.

Only passenger vehicles and light trucks under 26,000 pounds are authorized to display a Military Service special plate. The vehicle must be currently titled and registered in New Mexico in the applicant's name, or be registered and titled at the same time the application for a Military Service special plate is made. If the vehicle is currently registered in New Mexico, a copy of the Certificate of Registration must accompany the application for the Military Service special plate, along with any other required documentation. If the vehicle is not currently registered in New Mexico, the vehicle must be taken to a local Motor Vehicle Division field office for inspection, titling and registration before applying for a Military Service special plate.

The Military Service *Medal of Honor*, *Purple Heart*, *Ex-Prisoner of War* and *Disabled Veteran* special plates are issued to qualifying applicants without the payment of any special plate fee or statutory registration fees. Applicants who qualify for more than one category of these free Military Service special plates are entitled by law to receive ONLY ONE category of these plates. For example, if you are qualified to receive both the *Medal of Honor* and the *Disabled Veteran* plates, you may select the one of your choice, but NOT both of them. However, you may apply for two plates of the same category for two vehicles you own.

To receive the Military Service *Armed Forces Veteran* special plate, you must pay a one-time \$17.00 special plate fee (\$9.00 for veteran motorcycle), as well as the statutory registration fee. Any person who is qualified to receive one of the free Military Service special plates may also purchase the *Armed Forces Veteran* plate for use on other vehicles they own. For example, a qualified veteran who owns 3 vehicles could have a *Disabled Veteran* plate and 2 *Armed Forces Veteran* plates OR 2 *Purple Heart* plates and 1 *Armed Forces Veteran* plate. However, he could not have 2 *Purple Heart* plates and 1 *Disabled Veteran* plate.

To receive the *Disabled Veteran* plate with the wheelchair symbol for use on a motor vehicle owned by the person, the applicant must provide satisfactory proof that he meets the requirements of Section 66-3-16 NMSA 1978 for issuance of special plates to individuals with a significant mobility limitation. If the disability is not of this nature, the qualified disabled veteran can apply for the *Disabled Veteran* plate without the wheelchair insignia.

The free Military Service special plates have the word "PERMANENT" in the lower right corner instead of an annual validation sticker. The *Armed Forces Veteran* plate must be renewed annually and is issued an annual validation sticker. The \$17.00 special plate fee (\$9.00 for veteran motorcycle) for the *Armed Forces Veteran* plate is waived for each year a sticker is issued.

REMINDERS: If a person who has been issued any Military Service special plate dies, the plate becomes invalid and a regular license plate, for applicable fees, must be obtained for the vehicle(s). However, the surviving spouse of the holder of an *Ex-Prisoner of War* plate may apply to keep the plate.

It is against the law to falsely represent yourself as being the recipient of a military award or to claim armed forces veteran status in order to obtain any Military Service special plate.

REMARKS: