

- Our phone line is temporarily operating with reduced hours. You can call us between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday. [Contact us](#)

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- [Get support](#)  
The support you may be able to get depends on your circumstances.  
[Currently serving](#)  
Support while you're still serving.  
[Ex-serving](#)  
Support once your regular service has finished.  
[Family and whānau](#)  
Here's how we can support you, and how you can support your family and whānau.  
[Non-military personnel](#)  
Non-military personnel can have Qualifying Operational Service in certain circumstances.
- [Remembrance](#)  
We're proud to honour the service of the veteran community.  
[Services Cemeteries and plaques and headstones](#)  
We help look after Services Cemeteries. We're also able to contribute towards plaques and headstones.  
[Commemorative funding](#)  
There are two types of financial contributions available from the Commemorative Fund.  
[Medals and service records](#)  
The NZ Defence Force's Personnel Archives and Medals team administer medals and hold most New Zealand military service records.  
[When someone dies](#)  
We may be able to provide support when someone who had Qualifying Service dies.  
[Your family's military history](#)  
Learning more about your family's military history is a great way to honour their service.  
[Certificate of Appreciation and Veterans' Pins](#)  
The Certificate of Appreciation and Veteran's Pin recognise operational service.
- [Eligibility](#)  
To be eligible to receive support from us, you—or certain family members—need to have Qualifying Service.  
[Check your eligibility](#)  
Check the support, services, or entitlements you may be able to get from us.  
[Qualifying Service](#)  
To get support from us you — or certain family members — need to have Qualifying Service.  
[Living outside NZ](#)  
You can still get support from us even if you live outside NZ.  
[Eligibility criteria for family and dependants](#)  
You may be able to get support if you're the spouse, partner, child or dependant of someone with Qualifying Service.  
[Veterans of foreign militaries](#)  
Veterans' Affairs New Zealand was established to support New Zealand veterans.
- [For clients](#)  
We put veterans and our clients at the heart of everything we do.  
  
If you have a question at any stage please contact us—we're here to help.  
[How we'll work with you](#)  
We'll work with you to help you get the best support available.  
[Your treatment card](#)  
Your treatment card helps you get no-cost treatment and medication for your approved conditions.  
[Your rights and responsibilities](#)  
We want to make sure you have the best possible experience when you deal with us.  
[Payments](#)  
Information on payment rates and dates.  
[How we make decisions](#)  
We use a number of tools and processes to make decisions. This helps ensure each decision we make is fair and treats our clients consistently.  
[Living outside NZ](#)

You can still get support from us even if you live outside NZ.

[Other benefits](#)

You may be able to access a range of discounts and benefits. Not only that, your family may get access too.

- [For providers](#)

Information for providers of services to Veterans' Affairs and our clients.

[Treatment cards and letters](#)

To help you identify our clients, we issue treatment cards and letters.

[Invoicing us](#)

How to invoice us to ensure we pay you quickly and correctly.

[Treating our clients](#)

Information for healthcare professionals providing treatment to our clients.

[Councils and local authorities](#)

Guidance for councils and local authorities relating to services cemeteries and memorials

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Forms for our clients, family and whānau, and our providers.

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## Clear communication pays off for Veterans' Affairs

Veterans' Affairs has been recognised for its focus on better communication by being named as a finalist in the Plain English Trust annual awards.

The awards highlight excellence in the use of plain English and in raising the bar for clear communication.

The refreshed Veterans' Affairs website was one of three finalists in the Best Plain English Website— Public

Sector category.

“We are delighted to have had our website named a finalist in this year’s Plain English awards,” Head of Veterans’ Affairs Bernadine Mackenzie said.

“It signals to us that we’re getting it right in communicating better with our veterans, which is a number one priority for us”.

The new website is designed to make it easy for New Zealand Defence Force veterans and their whānau to find out about the support Veterans’ Affairs can provide, and how to access it.

Veterans’ Affairs worked closely with the veteran community as the new website came together.

“They were fantastic user-testers for us”, Bernadine said. “We learned a lot from listening to their feedback. Together, we came up with better language, a much less bureaucratic tone, and an easy-to-follow structure.”

The Veterans’ Affairs website has been refreshed in recent months and now includes clearer and more useful information, including an online [‘check your eligibility’ tool](#).

“The new website is user-friendly and accessible—exactly what we were all aiming for. We know we’ve got more to do, and being named a finalist for this award is a great motivator for us all,” Bernadine said.

#### Date

16 November 2018

Last Modified: 13 June 2019

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Veterans' Affairs—Te Tira Ahu Ika A Whiro