

Name, address, and telephone
number of alternate contact
person: _____

Agency alleged to have denied
access: _____
Department: _____
Division: _____
Bureau or office: _____
Location: _____
Incident or barrier: _____

Please describe the particular way in which you believe you have been denied the benefits of any service, program, or activity or have otherwise been subject to discrimination. Please specify dates, times, and places of incidents, and names and/or positions of agency employees involved, if any, as well as names, addresses, and telephone numbers of any witnesses to any such incident. Attach additional pages if necessary.

Proposed access or accommodation:

If you wish, describe the way in which you feel access may be had to the benefits described above, or that accommodation could be provided to allow access.

A copy of the above form may be obtained by contacting the designated EEO Officer identified at N.J.A.C. 5B:5-3.1.

5B:5-4.4 Investigation

(a) Upon receipt of a grievance submitted pursuant to this subchapter, the designated EEO Officer will notify the grievant of the receipt of the grievance and the initiation of an investigation into the matter. The designated EEO Officer will also indicate a date by which it is expected that the investigation will be completed, which date shall not be later than 45 days from the date of receipt of the grievance unless a later date is agreed to by the grievant.

(b) Upon completion of the investigation, the designated EEO Officer shall prepare a report for review by the designated decision maker for the Agency. The designated decision maker shall render a written decision within 45 days of receipt of the grievance, if practicable, or unless a later date is agreed to by the grievant, which decision shall be transmitted to the grievant and/or the alternate contact person if so designated by the grievant.

(a)

THE COMMISSIONER

DIVISION OF VETERANS SERVICES

Veterans' and Disabled Veterans' Preference and Designation of Veterans' Status for Pension Purposes

Proposed New Rules: N.J.A.C. 5B:7

Authorized By: Vincent Solomeno, Commissioner, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 11A:5-1.1, 18A:66-2.2, and 43:15A-6.1; and P.L. 2000, c. 127, P.L. 2000, c. 146, P.L. 2001, c. 127, P.L. 2003, c. 197, P.L. 2007, c. 11, and P.L. 2025, c. 139.

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

Proposal Number: PRN 2026-062.

Submit written comments by December 18, 2026, to:

Ms. Victoria Dearden, Director
Fiscal and Administrative Services Division
New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs
PO Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340
or electronically at: victoria.dearden@dva.nj.gov

The agency proposal follows:

Summary

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, N.J.A.C. 5A:9, which was promulgated by the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, expired on December 12, 2020. Effective January 9, 2026, the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs was divided into the Department of Military Affairs and the Department of Veterans Affairs (Department), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 38A:21-1 et seq. As the Department has provided a 60-day comment period on this notice of proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirements, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

The expired rules are proposed herein as new rules with changes related to the promulgation of the rules by the Department, including updating cross-references, agency names, addresses, and technical changes (to update standard Office of Administrative Law standards). Other changes are discussed in the description of each subchapter below.

State, local, and municipal administrators' understanding of veterans' preference is within the context of selection and placement of candidates for employment. However, veterans' preference impacts local property taxes along with the State-administered pensions and educational benefits.

Veterans' preference in the areas of selection and placement within the State and local civil service system is the most familiar. Eligible veterans who pass open competitive examinations are placed at the top of the rosters in the order of disabled veterans and veterans. This is known as the absolute preference. This benefit is also available to surviving spouses or spouses whose eligible veteran is unable to work. With regard to promotional examinations (for those who are already employees of State, county, or municipality), there is no distinction between disabled veterans and other veterans; names appear in order of score, with ties going to veterans. When a veteran is the highest ranking, first-interested eligible, a non-veteran may not be appointed unless there is cause to remove the veteran. In layoff situations, veterans' preference acts as the first tie-breaker when State seniority is equal.

Veterans' preference in New Jersey's State-administered retirement system allows a veteran to purchase an additional five years of qualifying military service. In addition, veteran members of the Public Employee's Retirement System (PERS) and the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) can retire with an annual pension benefit equal to one-half the salary on which pension contributions were made in any consecutive 12-month period that provides the largest benefit to the member. In TPAF, qualifying veterans who are 55 or older, with more than 25 years of service, may retire at the one-half salary provision. Also, TPAF-qualifying veterans may retire at age 60 or older with 20 years of service. In PERS, eligible veterans who are 62 or older with 20 years or more service may retire at the one-half salary provision. Through both systems, eligible veterans may retire at age 60 or older with 35 or more years of service computed on the last year's salary.

Following is a summary of the proposed new rules:

N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.1 sets forth the purpose and scope of the chapter.

N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.2 sets forth the service requirements for veterans' preference and veterans' status for pension purposes.

N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.3 sets forth the requirements for disabled veterans' preference.

N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.4 sets forth the application requirements for determination as a veteran or disabled veteran pursuant to N.J.S.A. 11A:5-1 et seq., for Civil Service Commission purposes and for designation of veterans' status for pension purposes pursuant to the various pension funds.

N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.5 and 1.6 set forth procedures for notification of public entities of the decision of the Department regarding granting of veterans' preference, disabled veterans' preference, or veteran status for pension purposes.

N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.7 sets forth appeal procedures for individuals disputing the findings of the Department.

N.J.A.C. 5B:7 Appendix A sets forth the Civil Service Veterans Preference Claim Form and N.J.A.C. 5B:7 Appendix B sets forth the Application for Veteran Designation for Pension Form.

Social Impact

There is no negative social impact anticipated with the proposed new rules. The primary impacts of the proposed new rules are that they will create uniformity of decisions for veterans' preference and veterans' status, and that applicants seeking preference, or designation as a veteran for pension purposes, shall be required to file the specified applications with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

A non-veteran applicant who scores the highest on an open competitive, or promotional examination would not be the top-ranked applicant for the position, as the disabled veteran and non-disabled veteran would be ranked first. However, most employees generally agree that employees with military experience make better employees.

Economic Impact

The proposed new rules will have no economic impact on the State; they will enable the Department of Veterans Affairs to effectively monitor the application of the rules to the veteran population, as well as enabling the Department to acquire and maintain the data required to provide the Civil Service Commission and the Division of Pensions and Benefits with the necessary data and information, with which to efficiently manage veterans' preference for public employment, and veterans' status for the public retirement system. The rules will have a positive effect on veterans' lives, as veterans who pass open competitive examinations are placed at the top of the hiring lists in the following order, disabled veterans and then non-disabled veterans.

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required. There are no Federal requirements or standards that affect the proposed new rules.

Jobs Impact

The proposed new rules will neither increase or decrease jobs in the private or governmental sectors of the economy.

Agricultural Industry Impact

The proposed new rules will have no impact upon the agricultural industry in the State.

Regulatory Flexibility Statement

The proposed new rules do not impose reporting, recordkeeping, or other compliance requirements on small businesses, as that term is defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq. The rules apply to public entities composed of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the New Jersey Civil Service Commission, and the Division of Pensions and Benefits.

Housing Affordability Impact Analysis

The proposed new rules will have no impact on the affordability of housing in New Jersey and there is an extreme unlikelihood that the rules would evoke a change in the average costs associated with housing because the rules pertain to veterans' preference for public employment.

Smart Growth Development Impact Analysis

The proposed new rules will have an insignificant impact on smart growth and there is an extreme unlikelihood that the rules would evoke a change in housing production in Planning Areas 1 or 2, or within designated centers, pursuant to the State Development and Redevelopment Plan in New Jersey because the rules pertain to veterans' preference for public employment.

Racial and Ethnic Community Criminal Justice and Public Safety Impact

The Department has evaluated this rulemaking and determined that it will not have an impact on pretrial detention, sentencing, probation, or

parole policies concerning adults and juveniles in the State. Accordingly, no further analysis is required.

Full text of the proposed new rules follows:

CHAPTER 7

NEW JERSEY VETERANS' AND DISABLED VETERANS' PREFERENCE AND VETERANS' STATUS FOR PENSION PURPOSES

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5B:7-1.1 Purpose and scope

(a) This subchapter sets forth the filing requirements by individual applicants to the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans' and disabled veterans' preference and designation of veterans' status for pension purposes, to be used by the Civil Service Commission and/or the Division of Pensions and Benefits.

(b) This subchapter applies to all applicants for veterans' and disabled veterans' preference and/or veterans' status for designation of veterans' status for pension purposes and all public entities responsible for services that require verification of veterans' preference or veterans' status.

5B:7-1.2 Veterans' preference and veterans' status for pension purposes

(a) A person is entitled to veterans' preference or veterans' status for pension purposes, if he or she has been discharged or released from active United States military or naval service in conditions other than dishonorable, and has served in the active United States military or naval service during:

1. World War I, between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918;
2. World War II, on or after September 16, 1940, who shall have served at least 90 consecutive days beginning on or before December 31, 1946 in such active service, exclusive of any period of assignment for a course of education or training through the Army Specialized Training Program or the Navy College Training Program, which course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to completion; or as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies;
3. Korean Conflict, on or after June 23, 1950, who shall have served at least 90 consecutive days beginning on or before January 31, 1955, in active service, exclusive of any period of assignment for a course of education or training through the Army Specialized Training Program or the Navy College Training Program, which course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to completion, or as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies; except that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 90 consecutive-day service;
4. Vietnam Conflict, on or after December 31, 1960, who shall have served at least 90 consecutive days beginning on or before May 7, 1975, in active service, exclusive of any period of assignment for a course of education or training through the Army Specialized Training Program or the Navy College Training Program, which course was a continuation of a civilian course and was pursued to completion, or as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, and exclusive of any service performed pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 511(d), or exclusive of any service performed pursuant to enlistment in the National Guard or the Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, or the Coast Guard Reserve; except that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 90 consecutive-day service;
5. Lebanon peacekeeping mission, commencing on or after September 26, 1982, who has served in Lebanon or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days, terminating on or before December 1, 1987, in such active service; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement;
6. Grenada peacekeeping mission, commencing on or after October 23, 1983, who has served in Grenada or on board any ship actively engaged

in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days terminating on or before November 21, 1983, in such active service; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement;

7. Panama peacekeeping mission, commencing on or after December 20, 1989, who has served in Panama or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days terminating on or before January 31, 1990, in such active service; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement;

8. Operation "Desert Shield/Desert Storm" mission in the Arabian peninsula and the Persian Gulf, commencing on or after August 2, 1990, who has served in the Arabian peninsula or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the Persian Gulf for a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days terminating on or before February 28, 1991, in such active service; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement;

9. Operations "Northern Watch" and "Southern Watch" in the Arabian Peninsula and adjacent sea areas that include Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and the Persian Gulf, commencing on August 27, 1992, and terminating on March 17, 2003, who served in direct support for a period, continuously or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days, in such active service; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement;

10. Operation "Enduring Freedom" commencing on or after September 11, 2001, who served for a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days in areas designated by the U.S. Department of Defense, and ending on or before the date of termination of that mission as proclaimed by the President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is later, and was in receipt of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, or can provide supportive documentation reflecting service in the area of operation; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement, regardless of receipt of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal;

11. Operation "Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn" commencing on or after March 19, 2003, and terminating on December 15, 2012, who served for a period, continuous or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days in areas designated by the U.S. Department of Defense, ending on or before the date of termination of that mission as proclaimed by the President of the United States or Congress, whichever date of termination is later, and was in receipt of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, or can provide supportive documentation reflecting service in the area of operation; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement, regardless of receipt of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal;

12. Operation "Restore Hope" in Somalia, commencing on or after December 5, 1992, and terminating on March 31, 1994, who served for at least 14 days, continuously or in the aggregate, in Somalia or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation during the specified period; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement;

13. Operations "Joint Endeavor" and "Joint Guard" in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, commencing on or after November 20, 1995, and terminating on December 20, 1998, who served in direct support of one or both of the operations for at least 14 days, continuously, or in the aggregate, provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement, and:

- i. Was deployed in that nation or in another area in the region;
- ii. Was on board a United States naval vessel operating in the Adriatic Sea; or

iii. Operated in the airspace above the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

14. Operation "Uphold Democracy" in Haiti, commencing on or after September 19, 1994, and terminating on or before March 31, 1995, who served in Haiti or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a period, continuously, or in the aggregate, of at least 14 days, and who received an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for such service; provided that any person receiving an actual service-incurred injury or disability shall be classed as a veteran, whether or not that person has completed the 14-day service requirement or received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. This military operation may only be used when establishing veterans' preference pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.4(a) and (b) and is not an applicable military operation for establishing veterans' pension pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.4(c), (d), or (e);

15. Served in any United States military or naval service in a campaign or expedition for which a medal has been authorized and recognized by the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended and codified pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, for civil service preference and which has been awarded to the veteran. Such campaign or expedition medals include, but are not limited to, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, and the Kosovo Campaign Medal. Unless specified otherwise, these campaign or expedition medals may only be used when establishing veterans' preference pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.4(a) and (b) and is not an applicable campaign or expedition for establishing veterans' pension pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.4(c), (d), or (e); or

16. Served at least 90 days in any army or navy of the United States allies in World War I between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918, or World War II between September 16, 1940 and December 31, 1946; provided he or she voluntarily enlisted in such service, was a United States citizen at the time of enlistment, did not renounce or lose United States citizenship, and was honorably discharged.

5B:7-1.3 Disabled veterans' preference

(a) To be eligible for disabled veterans' preference pursuant to New Jersey law, one must have served on active duty during the recognized dates listed at N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.2 and meet the veterans' preference guidelines, or incurred a service-connected injury irrespective of length of service pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.2. A person is entitled to disabled veterans' preference if he or she:

1. Receives, or is entitled to receive, pursuant to United States Department of Veterans Affairs guidelines, compensation for service-connected disability of 10 percent or more arising out of military or naval service during any of the periods at N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.2 or who receives, or is entitled to receive, equivalent compensation for a service-connected disability that arises out of military or naval service as set forth in this chapter and who has submitted sufficient evidence of disability incurred in the line of duty;

2. Is the spouse of a person entitled to disabled veterans' preference if the disabled veteran:

- i. Is not employed by any jurisdiction operating pursuant to New Jersey Statutes Title 11A; and
- ii. Waives any right to preference for the duration of the spouse's employment;

3. Is the surviving, not remarried spouse of a deceased person entitled to disabled veterans' preference; or

4. Is a parent or surviving spouse of a person who would have been entitled to veterans' preference pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5B:7-1.2, but who died while in service. The use of the preference by one such survivor shall suspend the right of any other, so long as the first individual who uses the preference is employed by any jurisdiction operating pursuant to New Jersey Statutes Title 11A.

5B:7-1.4 Filing for veterans' or disabled veterans' preference for Civil Service Commission purposes and designation of veterans' status for pension purposes

(a) To establish a veterans' preference pursuant to N.J.S.A. 11A:5-1 et seq., an individual shall submit a completed "Civil Service Veterans Preference Claim Form" (NJDVA Form 05A-1); provided at N.J.A.C. 5B:7 Appendix A (and also available at <https://nj.gov/dva/veterans>

[/services/civil-service-preference/](#)), incorporated herein by reference, and a copy of Veterans DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, to the New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: DVS-VBB-Preference, PO Box 340, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0340 or fax: 609-530-6970.

(b) To establish a disabled veterans' preference pursuant to N.J.S.A. 11A:5-1, an individual shall submit a completed "Civil Service Veterans Preference Claim Form" (NJDVA Form 05A-1); provided at N.J.A.C. 5B:7 Appendix A (and also available at <https://nj.gov/dva/veterans/services/civil-service-preference/>), along with a copy of Veterans DD Form 214), and proof of service-connected disability to the New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: DVS-VBB-Preference, PO Box 340, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0340.

(c) To establish eligibility to be considered a veteran in the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:66-2 for the purpose of eligibility for a veterans' retirement allowance, an individual shall submit a completed "Application For Veteran Designation For Pension," (NJDVA Form 05A-2), provided at N.J.A.C. 5B:7 Appendix B (and also available at <https://nj.gov/dva/veterans/services/status-for-pensions/>), incorporated herein by reference, to the New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: DVS-VBB-Pension, PO Box 340, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0340.

(d) To establish eligibility to be considered a veteran in the Public Employees' Retirement System pursuant to section 6 at P.L. 1954, c. 84 (N.J.S.A. 43:15A-6) for the purpose of eligibility for a veterans' retirement allowance, an individual shall submit a completed "Application For Veteran Designation For Pension," (NJDVA Form 05A-2), provided at N.J.A.C. 5B:7 Appendix B (and also available at <https://nj.gov/dva/veterans/services/status-for-pensions/>), to the New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: DVS-VBB-Pension, PO Box 340, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0340.

(e) To establish eligibility to be considered a veteran in the Police and Firemen's Retirement System pursuant to section 1 at P.L. 1983, c. 391 (N.J.S.A. 43:16A-11.7) for the purpose of purchasing military service credit, an individual shall submit a completed "Application For Veteran Designation For Pension" (NJDVA Form 05A-2), provided at N.J.A.C. 5B:7 Appendix B (and also available at <https://nj.gov/dva/veterans/services/status-for-pensions/>), to the New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: DVS-VBB-Pension, PO Box 340, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0340.

(f) When an individual does not possess a DD Form 214 and the Veterans Administration or National Personnel Records Center copy has been destroyed, the applicant may submit a letter from the appropriate agency attesting to the destruction of such records and a notarized statement by the applicant attesting to the dates of active service, branch of service, rank, and type of discharge.

5B:7-1.5 Notification of public entity of the Department's granting of veterans' or disabled veterans' preference

The Commissioner of the Department shall cause the appropriate coding for approved veterans' or disabled veterans' preference to be entered into the Civil Service Commission database, thereby constituting notification of the public entity.

5B:7-1.6 Notification of public entity of the Department's granting of veterans' status for pensions purposes

The Commissioner of the Department shall cause the appropriate coding for approved veterans' status, for pensions purposes, to be entered into the Division of Pensions and Benefits database, thereby constituting notification of the public entity.

5B:7-1.7 Appeal rights of individuals applying for veterans' or disabled veterans' preference or veterans' status for pension purposes

(a) Individuals disputing the veterans' or disabled veterans' preference findings may submit an appeal to the Commissioner of the Department (Commissioner) by letter, enclosing any documentation not previously submitted and/or considered.

(b) Individuals disputing the determination of veterans' status for pension purposes may submit an appeal to the Commissioner by letter, enclosing any documentation not previously submitted and/or considered.

(c) The Commissioner shall appoint an appeals board to consider an appeal submitted by any person disputing the determination of veterans' preference for civil service veterans' preference or veterans' status for pension purposes. The appeals board shall review documentation submitted, including the initial application and all documents submitted with the appeal request and make an appropriate recommendation to the Commissioner. The Commissioner's determination is binding upon the Civil Service Commission and the Division of Pensions and Benefits.

APPENDIX A

 NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS APPLICATION FOR CIVIL SERVICE VETERANS PREFERENCE INSTRUCTIONS		
Please print or type all answers. Complete the first section and any other section(s) that apply to you. Sign your name at the bottom. Please mail or email this form and a copy of your Veterans Separation Papers (Form DD214) to NJ Dept. of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: DVS-VBB, P.O. Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340, or by email: VBB@dva.nj.gov. Please submit the following documents along with your application: • DD214, showing character of service* • VA Award letter, showing service connected disability (for Disabled Veterans Preference & Spouse application) • Marriage Certificate (for Spouse application) • Death Certificate (for surviving Spouse and Gold Star Parent application) *If you do not have Form DD214, a copy can be obtained from the National Personnel Records Center. If your records have been destroyed, a letter from the National Personnel Records Center attesting to the destruction of your records and a notarized statement indicating the dates of active service, branch rank and type of discharge must be submitted.		
1. Name (Last, first, middle initial - Please Print)		2. Social Security Number
3. Address Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____		4. Email _____
6. Phone _____		7. Branch _____
9. Date Starting Active Duty _____		10. Date Ending Active Duty _____
		8. Rank _____
		11. Service connected disability percentage _____ %
SPOUSE OF A DISABLED VETERAN - The spouse of veteran who is eligible for or receiving 10% or more disability compensation or pension for a service connected disability incurred during one of the covered periods is entitled to the same preference as the veteran provided the veteran is not in the employment of the State, or of any County, Municipality, or School District covered by CSC and further provided that the veteran waives all preference as long as the spouse is employed by any of the aforementioned jurisdictions.		
12. Veteran's name _____		13. Veteran's Social Security Number _____
14. Are you presently married to the Veteran named in Item 12 above? YES ☐ NO ☐		15. Is the veteran now employed by the State or any other Jurisdiction covered by CSC? YES ☐ NO ☐
16. Will the Veteran waive the right to use of the D.V. Status in your favor? YES ☐ NO ☐		(If yes, Veteran must sign here)
Veteran's Signature _____		
SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A DISABLED VETERAN (OR) SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A VETERAN WHO DIED IN SERVICE - until he/she remarries is entitled to the same preference as a disabled veteran		
17. Date of Death _____		18. Has a parent of the veteran named in Item 12 above used the parent's preference with the New Jersey CSC? YES ☐ NO ☐
19. Were you married to the veteran named in item 12 above at the time of the veteran's death? YES ☐ NO ☐		20. Have you remarried since the death of this veteran? YES ☐ NO ☐
SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A VETERAN WHO DID NOT DIE IN THE SERVICE - until he/she remarries is entitled to the same preference to which the veteran, if living, would be entitled.		
21. Date of Death _____	22. Were you married to the veteran named in Item 12 at the time of the veteran's death? YES ☐ NO ☐	23. Have you remarried since the death of this veteran? YES ☐ NO ☐
GOLD STAR PARENT - The parent of a veteran who died while in service is entitled to Disabled Veteran's Preference. If both parent and spouse survive, the use of such preference by either shall suspend the right of the other.		
24. Date of Death _____	25. Was deceased Veteran married? YES ☐ NO ☐	26. Has surviving spouse ever used the spouse's Veterans Preference in securing public employment in New Jersey? YES ☐ NO ☐
27. Name and Address of surviving spouse _____		
28. Are You Hispanic or Latino? (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race). YES ☐ NO ☐		
29. Please select the racial category or categories with which you most closely identify by placing an "X" in the appropriate box. Check as many as apply.		
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native	☐ Black or African American	☐ White
☐ Native Asian	☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
CERTIFICATION: I certify that the statements made by me to the foregoing questions are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. If any of the statements in this application is false, I am aware that I am subject to criminal proceedings.		
YOUR SIGNATURE _____		DATE _____

NJ DVA Form SB-1, 23 September 2026

CIVIL SERVICE VETERAN'S PREFERENCE CLAIM FORM

To be eligible for **veteran's preference/status** under New Jersey Law, one must have served on active duty during one of the following periods. Proper documentation is required (WD Form 53-55, DD Form 214, Honorable Discharge Certificate, and VA Disability Award Letter).

1. **World War II:** 90 days active duty on or after September 16, 1940 and must have begun on or before December 31, 1946.
2. **Korean Conflict:** 90 days active duty on or after June 23, 1950 and must have begun on or before January 31, 1955.
3. **Vietnam Conflict:** 90 days active duty on or after December 31, 1960 and must have begun on or before May 7, 1975.

To be eligible for **veteran's preference/status** under New Jersey Law for the following peacekeeping missions, one must have served in Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Haiti, Operation Enduring Freedom, or Operation Iraqi Freedom, or on board any ship actively engaged in patrolling the territorial waters of that nation for a period of at least 14 days beginning on or before the date of termination of that mission or operation. Proper documentation is required (DD Form 214, Honorable Discharge Certificate, and VA Disability Award Letter).

4. **Lebanon Crisis:** 14 days on or after July 1, 1958, commencing on or before November 1, 1958.
5. **Lebanon:** 14 days on or after September 26, 1982 and must have begun on or before December 1, 1987.
6. **Grenada:** 14 days on or after October 23, 1983 and must have begun on or before November 21, 1983.
7. **Panama:** 14 days on or after December 20, 1989 and must have begun on or before January 31, 1990.
8. **Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm:** 14 days on or after August 2, 1990 to February 28, 1991.
9. **Somalia:** 14 days on or after December 5, 1992 and must have begun on or before March 31, 1994.
10. **Bosnia and Herzegovina (Operation Joint Endeavor/Operation Joint Guard):** 14 days on or after November 20, 1995 and on or before June 20, 1998.
11. **Haiti (Operation Uphold Democracy):** 14 days on or after September 19, 1994 and on or before March 31, 1995.
12. **Operation Enduring Freedom:** 14 days on or after September 11, 2001.
13. **Operation Iraqi Freedom:** 14 days on or after March 19, 2003.
14. **Operations Southern and Northern Watch:** 14 days on or after August 27, 1992.

29. DEFINITION OF RACIAL CATEGORY

American Indian or Alaska Native: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Black or African American: A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

White: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

To be eligible for disabled veteran's preference, one must be a "veteran" as described above and must have incurred a disability for which the veteran is receiving 10% or greater disability compensation from the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Spouses of disabled veterans, surviving spouses of disabled veterans or veterans and parents of veterans who died in service are eligible for preference, if the veteran would have been eligible for veteran's preference. Proper documentation is required (DD Form 214, Honorable Discharge Certificate, and VA Disability Award Letter).

NOTE: Individuals whose only active service was for training (basic training, advanced training, officer candidate school, weekend drills, and annual training) in connection with a Reserve or National Guard obligation are not eligible for Veteran's Preference/Status.

NOTE: Merchant Marine Personnel who served in World War II, and who present a DD-214 which establishes 90 days of active service during the period noted above, are entitled to Veteran's Preference.

APPENDIX B



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS APPLICATION FOR VETERAN DESIGNATION FOR PENSION

INSTRUCTIONS

Please print or type all answers. Complete the first section and any other section(s) that apply to you. Sign your name at the bottom. Please mail or email this form and supporting documents to NJ Department of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: DVS-VBB, P.O. Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340, or by email: VBB@dva.nj.gov.

Please submit the following documents along with your application:

• **DD214, showing character of service***

*If you do not have Form DD214, a copy can be obtained from the National Personnel Records Center. If your records have been destroyed, a letter from the National Personnel Records Center attesting to the destruction of your records and a notarized statement indicating the dates of active service, branch rank and type of discharge must be submitted.

1. Name (Last, first, middle initial - Please Print)		2. Social Security Number	
3. Address Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____		4. Email 5. County	
6. Phone		7. Branch	
8. Rank		9. Date Starting Active Duty	
10. Date Ending Active Duty		11. Service connected disability percentage %	

12. Retirement System: (check block that applies to retirement system that you are enrolled in)

- ☐ Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF)
- ☐ Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS)
- ☐ Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS)

13. Remarks (Optional)

28. Are You Hispanic or Latino? (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race).		YES	NO
29. Please select the racial category or categories with which you most closely identify by placing an "X" in the appropriate box. Check as many as apply.			
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native	☐ Black or African American	☐ White	
☐ Asian	☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the statements made by me to the foregoing questions are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. If any of the statements in the application is false, I am aware that I am subject to criminal proceedings

YOUR SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

NJ DVA Form 5B-2, 23 September 2026