

## **National VA ID Card Nov 1, 2017**

The Veterans Identification Card Act 2015" (Public Law 114-31) was enacted on July 20, 2015. The purpose of the Veteran Identification Card (VIC) is to serve as proof of service in the Armed Forces which can be used to obtain discounts on goods and services offered to Veterans. The VIC does not qualify Veterans for additional benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and does not serve as proof for any benefits to which you may be entitled. Also, the VIC will not grant access to military post or installations.

VA will begin accepting applications for the VIC **November 1, 2017**. For those who wish to obtain a VIC, Veterans should log into Vets.gov to apply. If eligible, you will receive your ID card (at no cost to you) in the mail within 3 weeks. For more information please go to: <https://www.vets.gov/#>. This is the only way to apply for the VIC, your medical center or regional office will not be able to assist you. Questions regarding the new VIC can be directed to the Vets.gov Help Desk 1-855-574-7286 TTY: 1-800-877-8339 Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. (ET)

In the meanwhile, the Department of Veterans Affairs continue to provide a Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC) for veterans to use at VA medical facilities. The VHIC will be issued only to veterans who are eligible for VA medical benefits and only for the purpose of identification and check-in for VA medical appointments. The new card protects personal privacy by not showing Social Security Numbers or dates of birth on the front of the cards. For more information on VHIC, go to [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic/index.asp](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic/index.asp)