

November 2025



Tomah VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE)

500 East Veterans Street (135), Tomah, WI 54660

608-372-1727

VHATOMVoluntaryService@va.gov

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 0600-1430, Closed Holidays

We're thankful for you!

- 1. 2026 Planning letters were emailed out August 21, 2025.** Please share those with your Veteran, community, church and school organizations about opportunities to sponsor Veteran programming in Building 455, Community Living Center (CLC) or even hosting a special event. **Responses are due November 7, 2025.**
- 2. Stop and see us** for your **2026 planner & Annual Reviews.** We will also coordinate sending them to CBOCs if that works better for you. DRIVERS—look for upcoming Annual Training scheduled soon (December 2026)
- 3. Volunteers needed for Upcoming Special Events!**

scan QR Code for SignUpGenius link

- 11/6/25 Live Music with Shawn & Ernie, 1:30pm, Bldg 455, Veterans Hall
- 11/10/25 Veterans Day Program; 10:00am, Bldg 455, Veterans Hall
- 11/11/25 Lemonweir Elementary School Veterans Day Program, 1:30pm, Bldg 455, Veterans Hall
- 11/17/25 Live Music with "Behind the Curtain," 1:30pm, Bldg 455, Veterans Hall
- 11/23/25 Packer vs Viking Game, 12:00pm, Bldg 455, Veterans HALL
- 12/4/25 Hall of Heroes Induction Ceremony, 2:00pm, Bldg 455 Veterans Hall
- 12/15/25 Holiday Gala, 1:30pm, Bldg 455, Veterans Hall



Please see calendar on page 4 for more information to include times and location.

4. **Flu shots** are required for all volunteers by December 1, 2025. Please provide proof of compliance to CDCE office by 12/1/2025.

5. VAVS Quarterly Meetings

VAVS Executive Committee Meeting—Wednesday, November 12, 2025; 10:00am; Bldg 407, 1424

VAVS Quarterly Meeting—Wednesday, November 19th; 10:00am; Tomah American Legion, Lunch to follow.

Flu Shots will be available from 9:30-10:00am prior to meeting.

Thanks for your continued support,
Jen, Deb, Cindy & Heath



Current Volunteer Needs

- **NEW! Volunteer In-Home Visitor Program**— Veterans are matched with Volunteers, who live in the same community as the Veteran. Volunteers provide friendly social home visits-provide conversation, support, engage in simple activities (crafts, puzzles, games, reading, short walks, etc). Volunteers are not trained health care professional and will not provide any hands-on or medical care. Volunteers visit once per week for 2 – 4 hours, no more than eight hours per week.
- **Loving Spoonfuls—specifically in building 409 during breakfast (7:00am) and dinner (4:30pm).**
- **Evening Recreation activities (1:1 or group) on 402b(Rehab)**
- **403 to assist Veterans to Canteen/library**— Monday and Wednesdays 9am-11am
- **Chapel Volunteers**—escort inpatient Veterans to Chapel as scheduled:
 - Sundays at 1:00pm - Protestant
 - Wednesdays at 2:45pm - Catholic Mass
- **Wausau Vet Center Outstation**—assist with phones, greeting visitors 0800-1630 M, W, Th, F; 11am--1930pm Tuesdays
- **Compassionate Contact Corps (CCC)**— Requesting more male Veteran volunteers virtual volunteers to call Veterans who struggle with loneliness and social isolation (average 15 minute commitment / week)
- **Coffee Cart Volunteers** - Outpatient Clinic locations
 - Wausau/Rothchild (Wednesday & Friday)
 - Wisconsin Rapids (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
 - La Crosse (Friday)

Current Needs List

- Walmart Gift Cards—\$25—any use (inpatient or outpatient Veterans)
- Deodorant—men’s and women’s
- 3 in 1 Men’s Shampoo/conditioner/bodywash
- Instant Coffee—regular and decaf
- iTunes Gift cards—used by Music and Memory program
- White brief (medium & large)
- Colored Boxer brief (medium & large)
- Winter Boots (sizes 9-12) *3-4 if each size
- Winter Gloves (Men’s large and XL)
- Winter Mittens (L & XL)
- Long Sleeve Cotton colored t-shirts (Large-4X)
- Backpacks
- Men’s Shoes (size 9.5)

Food Pantry Items

(Temporary Request—November only)

- Canned fruit
- Canned meats
- Meal helpers
- Soup
- Pasta & Sauce
- Mac n Cheese
- Oatmeal
- Boxed Cereal
- Lentils
- Rice
- Dried Beans/Peas

Mitten
Tree



Coming Soon! The Mitten Tree will be up in Veterans Canteen (Building 401) mid November for CLC & RRTP Veterans

VA Volunteer Background Investigation/Screening Changes EFFECTIVE October 1, 2025!

***** start 60 days prior to current badge expiring!**

- USAccess/PIV volunteer Badge Issuance Standardization (Regular Volunteers)
 - 5-year badge- WOC volunteers with >6 month assignments (Tier 1 background comprehensive investigation: criminal history, employment, education, references and drug review). Renewable every 5 years
- Volunteers who are unable or unwilling to complete VA vetting may be referred to local community partners with more flexible onboarding. There are many ways to support Veterans in the community.
- Reminder that REAL-ID (look for the star) is required for background investigations.

Are You REAL ID-Compliant?

Effective May 7th, 2025, PCIF/PIV offices will no longer accept Driver's licenses or state-issued Identification (ID) cards that aren't REAL ID compliant. A REAL ID compliant can be identified by a star in the upper right-hand corner, which may vary in design and color. Please refer to the images below for examples of REAL ID-compliant state ID and Driver's licenses.

Additional REAL ID information can be found in the Identity Documents Examples section of our [USAccess Acceptable forms of ID Guide](#).

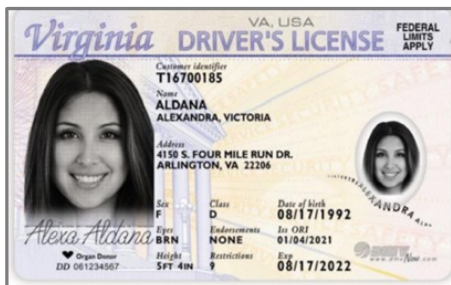
**REAL-ID REQUIRED
BY MAY 2025**

A star symbol on the top right corner = REAL ID



Federal compliant? **Yes**

Federal Limits Apply = Not REAL ID



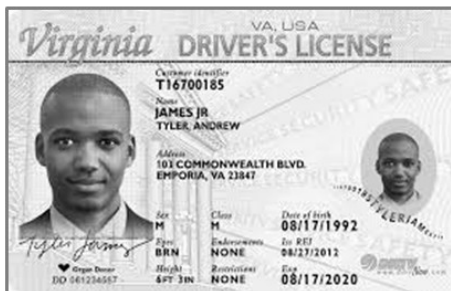
Federal compliant? **No**

Bear + star symbol = REAL ID



Federal compliant? **Yes**

No star symbol = Not REAL ID



Federal compliant? **No**

If a user doesn't have a REAL ID-compliant ID, PIV offices should remind them that they can use other forms of ID. A list of those IDs can be found linked in the [Primary Forms of Identifications](#) section of the [USAccess Acceptable Forms of ID Registrar Guide](#).

November 2025

Tomah VA Free Choice Activities—All Veterans Welcome

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	VA Library Hours Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm Building 401, room 1100		*Need medical clearance & appointment for adaptive sports events		Bowling Alley is located in Building 406, room 1615	1 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling
2 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 12:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel 1:30 Bingo (ALA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall	3	4 *12:30-2:30 Air Rifle Clinic Bldg. 15 1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling	5 *1:00-3:00pm Pickle- ball Clinic; Bldg. 15 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel	6 1:30pm Music with Ernie & Shawn; Bldg 455, Veterans Hall 1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; La Crosse Vet Center	7 *1:00-2:30pm Archery Clinic, Bldg. 15	8 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling
9 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel	10 10:00 Veterans Day Program, Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall	11 Veterans Day 1:30 Lemonweir Elementary (2-5th grade) School's Veterans Day Program, Bldg 455, Veterans Hall	12 1:30 Bingo (ALA Elroy) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel	13 1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling 6:00pm Bingo (THS Interact Club); Bldg 455, Veterans Hall	14	15 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling
16 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 12:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel	17 1:30pm LIVE Music with "Behind the Curtain;" Bldg 455, Veterans Hall	18 1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling 1:00-2:30pm Pro- ject Healing Wa- ters; 455; Veterans Hall	19 *1:00-3:00pm Pickle- ball Clinic; Bldg. 15 1:30 Bingo (VFWA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel	20 9:30am Day at the Races (AL #116 Coon Valley) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall 1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling	21 *1:00-2:30pm Archery Clinic, Bldg. 15	22 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling
23 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 12:00pm Packers vs Vikings Game; Bldg 455, Veterans Hall 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel	24	25 1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling 1:30pm Bingo (DAV—Ch. 27) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall	26 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel		27 Thanksgiving 28	29 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling
30 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 12:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel						

HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL INFLUENZA VACCINATION FORM

I am a VA: Employee Volunteer Other (ex: Trainee, Resident, Intern, Fee Basis, or Researcher)

Please indicate: _____

CHECK ONE STATEMENT BELOW AND COMPLETE AND SIGN THE LAST SECTION OF THIS FORM PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO EMPLOYEE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH:

- I received the seasonal influenza vaccine this flu season (required documentation is attached.)
- I have been granted a medical exemption from receiving the seasonal influenza vaccine this flu season. I have a contraindication for flu vaccine as defined by CDC. The reasons for contraindication must be recognized contraindications and precautions by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/whoshouldvax.htm>. This has been discussed and acknowledged by my personal physician. I understand that by declining to receive the vaccine by November 30 or within two weeks of beginning employment, I must wear a face mask according to requirements and guidelines within VHA Directive 1192.01, Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Program for VHA Healthcare Personnel.

Printed Physician Name and Address

Physician Signature

Date

National Provider Identification Number

Supervisor Signature

Date

Supervisor Email

- I notified my immediate supervisor in writing that I have a deeply held religious belief that prevents me from receiving the seasonal influenza vaccine this influenza season. I understand that by declining to receive the vaccine by November 30 or within two weeks of beginning employment, I must wear a face mask according to requirements and guidelines within VHA Directive 1192.01, Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Program for VHA Healthcare Personnel.

Supervisor Signature

Date

Supervisor Email

I have read and fully understand the information on this form and have been given the opportunity to have my questions answered. I understand that violation of the directive may result in disciplinary action up to and including removal from federal service.

Name (print): _____ Last 4 SS#: _____ Dept./Serv: _____

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Employees and volunteers provide this form to the VHA facility Employee Occupational Health Office. Health Professions Trainees provide this form to the Designated Education Officer. Secure electronic submission is permissible.