



Mississippi National Guard
Office of Legal Assistance
1410 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202
Phone: 601-313-6375

Legal Assistance Website: [https://ms.ng.mil/resources/specialstaff/sja Legal](https://ms.ng.mil/resources/specialstaff/sja%20Legal)
Assistance Email: ng.ms.msarng.mbx.legal-assistance@mail.mil



Benefits for Deploying Servicemembers-Mississippi Law

The rights and benefits below are a summary of some of the ones provided under the laws of the State of Mississippi and are in addition to your rights under the applicable Federal laws.

a. Options Regarding Home Purchase for Veterans (M.C.A. §35-7-1 et seq.)

Mississippi residents who are veterans, current active-duty military personnel, or current members of the Mississippi National Guard or Reserves with over six years of service, the Veterans' Home Purchase Board offers mortgage loan funds for the purchase of an existing home or a home recently constructed. The benefit is our advantageous interest rate.

b. Options Regarding School Tuition (M.C.A. §37-103-17)

Members of the United States Armed Forces on extended active duty and stationed within the State of Mississippi and members of the Mississippi National Guard may be classified as residents, for the purpose of attendance at state-supported institutions of higher learning and community and/or junior colleges of the State of Mississippi.

c. Rights Regarding National Guard Income (M.C.A. §37-103-17)

National Guard or Reserve Forces of the United States compensation not to exceed the aggregate sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for any taxable year through the 2005 taxable year, and not to exceed the aggregate sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) for any taxable year thereafter.

d. Rights Regarding Modification of an Order for Child Custody or Visitation

(M.C.A. §95-5-4) A child custody and/or visitation Court Order cannot be permanently modified, except by agreement of the parties, because of a parent's activation and deployment. In other words, you cannot permanently lose your custody rights and/or visitation rights because of your service to your country. Additionally, if you are the noncustodial parent you may be able to get your visitation periods delegated to a family member with a close and substantial relationship to the minor child.

e. Rights Regarding Servicemembers Who Are State Employees (M.C.A.

§25-11-109) A Servicemember who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States shall be entitled to creditable service in the Public Employees' Retirement System at no cost for his service on active duty in the Armed Forces, provided he entered state service after his discharge from the Armed Forces.

f. Prohibition of Increased Insurance Premium if Canceled or Suspended due to Military Duty (M.C.A. §75-24-5) It is prohibited to charge an increased premium for reinstating a motor vehicle insurance policy that was canceled or suspended by the insured solely for the reason that he was transferred out of this state while serving in the United States Armed Forces or on active duty in the National Guard or United States Armed Forces Reserve.

g. Special License Tags or Plates (M.C.A. §27-19-51) Mississippians who have completed an active duty career with the Armed Forces of the United States and active duty and retired members of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, and the United States Reserves, including both enlisted and officer personnel, upon application and subject to the provisions of this section may be issued distinctive motor vehicle license plates or tags identifying these persons with such organizations. The surviving spouse of any person who was issued a distinctive license plate or tag because of completion of an active duty career with the Armed Forces of the United States or because of retirement from the Army National Guard, Air National Guard or United States Reserves, or any prisoner of war issued a distinctive license plate or tag shall be eligible to receive the same type of distinctive license plate or tag which the deceased spouse was issued.