



Story County

Home Base Iowa Community Incentives

Overview

Founded in 1846, Story County was named after Joseph Story, a United States Supreme Court Justice. Home to Iowa State University in Ames, visitors can score tickets to watch the Cyclones' sport teams in action. There are also various outdoor activities such as the Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area as well as the Skunk River Greenbelt Hiking & Water Trail. As a Home Base Community since April 2015, Story County has a strong commitment to veteran job placement, health care and education.

Veteran Incentives

Home Base Iowa (HBI) communities offer valuable incentives for veterans who relocate to their community. The incentives listed below are offered through the program. Contact the HBI point of contact listed on the community page at homebaseiowa.gov.

- Story County has established the Welcome Home to Story County Relocation Assistance Program which allows up to \$2,500 in relocation assistance. The following items are eligible uses of the fund:
 - Moving expenses
 - Purchase of appliances
 - Utility deposits
 - Down-payment assistance
 - Rent for temporary housing while waiting for permanent housing

State Benefits Highlights

The Home Base Iowa Act positions Iowa as the leader in respect, support and employment of veterans. Passed by the Iowa Legislature in a broad bi-partisan manner and signed by Governor Terry E. Branstad on Memorial Day, 2014. The Act contains the following provisions:

- State income tax exemption on 100 percent of military pension
- Up to \$7,500 military and homeowner assistance
- Permissive veteran preference in employment
- Streamlined occupational licensure processes
- Automatic in-state tuition for qualified veterans, spouses and their dependents

- Veteran-specific license plates

Local Resources

Learn more about veteran-specific resources available locally. The Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA), Iowa National Guard, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), Iowa Workforce Development veteran services and the American Legion all play a role in assisting veterans and transitioning service members. Each county listing also includes Future Ready Iowa information based on Labor and Market Information (LMI) along with area specific Home Base Iowa businesses and higher education partners.

Statewide Resources

Veterans living in Iowa have access to both public and private sector resources. Veterans and their spouse who are interested in local assistance with job placement and resume/interview assistance are encouraged to collaborate with Iowa Workforce Development and local Iowa *WORKS* Centers located throughout the state. Additionally, HBI uses Veteran Service Officers in each of Iowa's 99 counties as a point of contact for veterans and their families.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more please feel free to contact us. Thank you very much for your service.

Regards,

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