

## DRIVER TRAINING FACT SHEET

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides Driver Rehabilitation for disabled Veterans and Active Duty Servicemembers within the VA. Patients referred to this program have a wide range of physical and mental disabilities. Services provided may include evaluation, driver simulation, behind the wheel training, equipment recommendation, assessment and inspection, and assistance with the various state motor vehicle licensing requirements.

### DRIVER TRAINING FACILITIES

The VA has 48 facilities that offer this programming. These programs have over 100 specially adapted vehicles (cars, mini-vans and full sized vans) available to train Veterans and Active Duty Servicemembers with various disabilities including, Spinal Cord Injury, Amputation, Brain Injury, Stroke, Orthopedic conditions, to name a few.



*(Photo courtesy of Bruce Morris)*

### DRIVER TRAINING INSTRUCTION

There are over 100 instructors specially trained in Drivers Rehabilitation. Instructors are Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists and Kinesiotherapists

Training consists of a 2-week intensive course designed to allow students to become proficient in evaluation and assessment techniques, and safe driving techniques. Veterans and Servicemembers receive behind-the-wheel training with instructors, and equipment recommendation and evaluation. Entrance into the course is based on needs of the various facilities that send applications.

In fiscal year 2013, there were nearly 9,000 referrals to the Drivers Training Program, which resulted in nearly 15,000 visits. There are typically, 6 to 10 new instructors trained each year. Instructors receive a refresher

course every other year designed for continuing education of existing instructors. The Employee Education System sponsors both courses.

### DRIVER TRAINING SERVICES

The Drivers Training professionals work closely with the patient to provide input on the needed adaptive equipment that is necessary for their particular disability.

Additionally, a prescription is developed so Prosthetic Service can work with the vendor to provide the needed adaptations for the Veteran.



For more information, visit [www.rehab.va.gov](http://www.rehab.va.gov)  
January, 2015



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**  
Veterans Health Administration  
Patient Care Services



**DRIVER TRAINING STATISTICS**

Current programs are at the following locations:

|                        |
|------------------------|
| Albany, NY             |
| Albuquerque, NM        |
| Ann Arbor, MI          |
| Atlanta, (Decatur) GA  |
| Augusta, GA            |
| Baltimore, MD          |
| Biloxi, MS             |
| Boston/Brockton, MA    |
| Bronx, NY              |
| Butler, PA             |
| Castle Point, NY       |
| Cleveland, OH          |
| Columbia, SC           |
| Dallas, TX             |
| Denver, CO             |
| Des Moines, IA         |
| East Orange, NJ        |
| Hampton, VA            |
| Hines, (Chicago) IL    |
| Honolulu, HI           |
| Houston, TX            |
| Indianapolis, IN       |
| Leavenworth/Topeka, KS |
| Lexington, KY          |
| Little Rock, AR        |

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Long Beach, CA                    |
| Memphis, TN                       |
| Miami, FL                         |
| Milwaukee, WI                     |
| Minneapolis, MN                   |
| Oklahoma City, OK                 |
| Palo Alto, CA                     |
| Philadelphia, PA                  |
| Phoenix, AZ                       |
| Portland, OR                      |
| Richmond, VA                      |
| Salisbury, NC                     |
| Salt Lake City, UT                |
| San Antonio, TX                   |
| San Juan, PR                      |
| Seattle, WA                       |
| Sepulveda/Greater Los Angeles, CA |
| St. Louis, MO                     |
| Syracuse, NY                      |
| Tampa, FL                         |
| Tucson, AZ                        |
| Washington, DC                    |
| West Palm Beach, FL               |

