



HFS Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: How much does it cost? How much money do I need to bring?

A: The cost is FREE for World War II and terminally ill veterans. You do not need to bring any money, unless you intend to purchase souvenirs.

Q: Are terminally ill World War II veterans given any special priority?

A: YES! Such veterans go to the top of the list for the next flight departing to Washington D.C. Not only are World War II veterans given this top priority, but any terminally ill veteran who has never been able to visit their memorial is given the same priority. Please contact us for more information.

Q: Can my wife (husband) go with me? I am the widow of a World War II veteran; can I go?

A: Unfortunately, no. At time there are so many veterans waiting for their chance to visit the monuments, that not even every deserving veteran may get a chance to make a trip. As such, we must limit our resources, funding, and available spaces to veterans only.

Q: Can my family meet me at the Memorials in Washington?

A: Absolutely but it your family's responsibility to get there and back. Your assigned Guardian must remain with you at all times and you will not be permitted to leave the Memorial area. There is no additional bus space for families so they need to make their own arrangements while in D.C.

Q: Can my son, daughter, grandson, etc. go as a guardian?

A: Anyone may apply to be a trip guardian however, our TOP priority is the safe travel of the veterans. Who will be selected as a guardian is the sole responsibility of the program director, who bases that decision on a number of factors, such as:

- : • How many disabled veterans are scheduled to go?
- : • How many will have to be physically assisted getting on and off the bus?
- : • Which guardian applicants have the best medical & physical qualifications?

Q: How do you decide which veterans get to go?

A: Veterans are flown on a "first-come, first-served basis". Within the applicants, top priority is currently given to World War II veterans and all other veterans with terminal illness. Our second priority is to Korean War veterans and then Vietnam War veterans.

Q: How are you funded?

A: Honor Flight Network Network receives no national, government sponsorship. Our funding comes primarily from individuals that recognize the great accomplishments and sacrifices of veterans and want them to see their memorial before it's too late. Other significant contributors have been fraternal organizations such as local American Legion & VFW posts and chapters, as well as some business sponsorship.



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Q: How can I arrange an Honor Flight Syracuse briefing or representative to support a meeting or activity of my organization or business?

A: Honor Flight Syracuse has an experienced volunteer cadre of spokespersons and other personnel who can provide representation at meetings, activities and Honor Flight fundraisers. To arrange, please forward available details (business / organization, date, time period, location, audiovisual available/needed, etc.), via email to HonorFlightSyracuse@yahoo.com and an Honor Flight Syracuse representative will follow-up directly.

Q: Who is on the Honor Flight Syracuse Board of Directors?

A: The volunteer Honor Flight Syracuse Board of Directors is:

- President - Randy Flath, SUNY Upstate Medical University
- Vice President - John F. Paddock, Rear Admiral, USN (Retired)
- Secretary - Thomas E. Shaw, Attorney
- Treasurer – Richard Blansett, Colonel, NYANG (Retired)
- Veterans Health & Safety - Kara Keyes, RN, Le Moyne College School of Nursing
- Operations - Michael Gasapo, SRC, Inc., Syracuse
- Director At-Large / IT - Eric Amberge, APG Technologies, LLC

Q: How do I check the status of a Veteran or Guardian application?

A: Veteran and Guardian applications must be closely reviewed by the HFS Health & Safety Staff to ensure necessary and appropriate Honor Flight Mission support. Thus, to check status on an individual Veteran or Guardian application, please contact HFS Veterans Health & Safety Director Kara Keyes, RN, email KeyesKE@lemoyne.edu. She has or can access the most recent information and is maintaining liaison with Honor Flight Rochester as well to ensure accuracy for such inquiries.

Q: How can I offer suggestions and comments to help improve the Honor Flight Syracuse program?

A: The Honor Flight Syracuse Board welcomes ideas and suggestions to help improve the Honor Flight Syracuse program to serve Central NY veterans. Please forward them via email HonorFlightSyracuse@yahoo.com for analysis, consideration and follow-up.