

About Your County Veterans Affairs

We are your County's Department of Veterans Affairs. We offer assistance in making application for a wide range of benefits to our veterans, service members and their families.

What Benefits are Available?

VA benefits and services fall into these major categories:

- Disability Benefits
- Education & Training Benefits
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment
- Home Loans
- Burial Benefits
- Dependents' and Survivors' Benefits
- Life Insurance
- Health Care

Who Is Eligible?

You may be eligible for VA health care benefits if you are a veteran. You may be eligible for other VA benefits if you are:

- a veteran
- a veteran's dependent
- a surviving spouse or child of a deceased veteran
- a member of the military reserves or National Guard activated under Title 10
- an active duty military service member

County Benefits

Your County Veterans Affairs office may provide the following services, through referral, to eligible veterans and their families:

- Obtaining military records
- Distributing markers/flag holders for veterans graves
- Coordination of transportation to VA Medical Center closest to you
- Iowa Veteran's Home
- Veteran lifetime hunting & fishing license
- Veteran vehicle license plates
- Iowa Workforce Development

County funded Veterans Assistance Program (may provide *emergency assistance* with basic needs to vets and families):

1. Rent/mortgage payments
2. Utilities
3. Food
4. Emergency medical
5. Emergency dental
6. Special Needs
7. Burial

IOWA'S 7TH DISTRICT OF COUNTY COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- ★ We are the Iowa Association of County Commissioners of Veterans Affairs.
- ★ We pledge to conduct the veteran affairs of eligible veterans and dependents with dignity and compassion.
- ★ We treat each veteran and/or dependent on an individual basis for any and all entitlements.
- ★ We dedicate ourselves, individually and collectively, to improved quality of service and increased productivity in meeting the needs of veterans and their families.
- ★ We encourage community involvement in entitlements to any veteran and/or their dependents and to that end we strive constantly to improve public awareness and understanding of our mission.
- ★ We take great pride in our past accomplishments and freely promise to continue to fulfill our responsibilities to America's veterans as a matter of professional pride and personal honor

COUNTY	PHONE
Adair	(641) 221-0668
Adams	(641) 322-4455
Audubon	(712) 563-3508
Cass	(712) 243-6662
Fremont	(712) 374-2274
Guthrie	(641) 747-2546
Harrison	(712) 644-2760
Mills	(712) 527-5621
Montgomery	(712) 623-3180
Page	(712) 246-4254
Pottawattamie	(712) 328-5797
Ringgold	(641) 464-2397
Shelby	(712) 755-3907
Taylor	(712) 523-2766
Union	(641) 782-1723

For a complete list of Iowa County Veterans Affairs Offices go to
www.IowaVA.org

IOWA'S 7TH DISTRICT OF COUNTY COMMISSION

OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Putting Veterans First



A Summary Of Veterans Benefits

Disability Benefits



There are two disability programs administered by the VA. Both pay monthly benefits to disabled veterans.

Disability Compensation: You may be eligible to receive monetary

compensation if you are at least 10% disabled as a result of your military service.

Disability Pension: You may be eligible for a monthly pension if you are a wartime veteran with limited income, and you are no longer able to work or are age 65 or older.

Time Limits: There is no deadline for applying for benefits.

Education & Training

Benefits are paid to eligible veterans, dependents, reservists, and service members while they are in an approved training program. The VA's major programs are:

Montgomery GI Bill: Persons who first entered active duty after June 30, 1985, are generally eligible. Some Vietnam era veterans and certain veterans separated under special programs are also eligible. The bill also includes a program for certain reservists and National Guard members.

Veterans' Educational Assistance Program (VEAP): This program is for veterans who entered active duty for the first time after December 31, 1976, and before July 1, 1985, and contributed funds to this program.

Survivors' & Dependents' Educational Assistance: Some family members of disabled or deceased veterans are eligible for education benefits.

Time Limits: Generally, veterans have 10 years from the date they were last released from active duty to use their education benefits. Reservists generally have 10 years from the date they became eligible for the program unless they leave the Selected Reserves before completing their obligation. Spouses generally have 10 years from the date they are found to be eligible. Children are generally eligible from age 18 until age 26. These time limits can sometimes be extended.

Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment

Veterans with service-connected disabilities may be eligible for assistance with finding and keeping suitable employment. For veterans with serious service-connected disabilities, the VA also offers services to improve their ability to live as independently as possible. Some of the services provided are:

- **Job Search:** Assistance in finding and maintaining suitable employment
- **Vocational Evaluation:** An evaluation of abilities, skills, interests, and needs
- **Career Exploration:** Vocational counseling and planning
- **Vocational Training:** If needed, training as on-the-job and non-paid work experience
- **Education Training:** If needed, education training to accomplish the rehabilitation goal
- **Rehabilitation Service:** Supportive rehabilitation and counseling services



Time Limits: You generally have 12 years from the date you are notified in writing that you have at least a 20% rating for a service-connected disability or 10% with a serious employment handicap..

Home Loans

There are a number of home loan services available to eligible veterans, some military personnel, and certain spouses, among them:

- **Guaranteed Loans:** Guarantees a portion of a loan from a private lender to help you buy a home, or certain types of condominiums. Also guarantees loans for building, repairing, and improving homes.
- **Refinancing Loans:** If you have a VA mortgage, you may be eligible for assistance with refinancing our loan at a lower interest rate. You may also refinance a non-VA loan.
- **Special Grants:** Certain disabled veterans and military personnel can receive grants to adapt or acquire housing suitable for their needs.

Time Limits: There is no time limit for a VA home loan, except for eligible reservists.

Burial Benefits

The VA offers certain benefits and services to honor our Nation's deceased veterans.

Headstones and Markers: The VA will furnish a monument to mark the grave of an eligible veteran.

Presidential Memorial Certificate to eligible recipients.

Burial Flag: The VA will provide an American flag to drape an eligible veteran's casket.

Reimbursement of Burial Expenses: Generally, the VA will pay a burial allowance of up to \$2,000 for veterans who die of service-connected conditions. The VA will pay \$300 for burial and funeral expenses and \$300 plot allowance for certain other veterans.

Burial in a VA National Cemetery: Most veterans and some dependents can be buried in a VA national cemetery.

Time Limits: There is no time limit for claiming reimbursement of burial expenses for a service-related death. In other cases, claims must be filed within 2 years of the veteran's burial.

Dependents' & Survivors' Benefits

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is payable to certain survivors of:

- Service members who died on active duty
- Veterans who died from service-related disabilities
- Certain veterans who were being paid 100% VA disability compensation at time of death

Death Pension is payable to some surviving spouses and children of deceased wartime veterans. The benefit is based on financial need. VA Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA) shares the cost of medical services for eligible dependents and survivors of certain veterans.

Time Limits: There are no time limits to apply for the benefits described above.

