VA Burial Benefits

Service-Connected or Non-Service Connected

Can I get allowances to help pay for a Veteran’s burial and funeral costs?

**One of these must describe your relationship or role. You’re:**

* The Veteran’s surviving spouse (Note: The VA recognizes same-sex marriages), **or**
* A surviving child of the Veteran, **or**
* A parent of the Veteran, **or**
* The executor or administrator of the Veteran’s estate (someone who officially represents the Veteran)

**One of these must be true of the Veteran. They:**

* Died as a result of a service-connected disability (a disability related to service), **o**r
* Had been getting a VA pension or compensation when they died, **or**
* Had chosen to get military retired pay instead of compensation, **or**
* Died while getting VA care, either at a VA facility or at a facility contracted by VA, **or**
* Died while traveling to approved VA care, **or**
* Died with a reopened claim for VA compensation or a pension that would have qualified them to get benefits, **or**
* Died on or after October 9, 1996, while a patient at a VA-approved state nursing home

**When do I need to file a claim?**

You must file a claim for a non-service-connected burial allowance within 2 years after the Veteran’s burial or cremation. If a Veteran’s discharge was changed after death from dishonorable to another status, you must file for an allowance claim within 2 years after the discharge update.

What kind of benefits can I get?

* An allowance for burial and funeral costs
* An allowance for the plot or interment
* An allowance for transporting the Veteran’s remains for burial in a national cemetery

### **What documents and information do I need to apply?**

**You may need a copy of:**

* The Veteran’s military discharge papers (DD214 or other separation documents)
* The Veteran’s death certificate
* Any documents you have for the cost of transporting the Veteran’s remains

**How do I apply?**

Contact the Clinton County Veterans Service Office, (937) 382-3233 or the VA, (800) 827-1000.