

PAGE COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICY

(REFERENCE CHAPTER 35 CODE OF IOWA)

POLICY PRESCRIBING THE VETERANS AFFAIR RELIEF PROGRAM FOR PAGE COUNTY, IOWA

SECTION 1. Assistance to a veteran (registered) may receive assistance in certain area's that the County commission has set forth i.e.

- A. Fuel assistance for transportation to a VA hospital/clinic.
- B. Food & provisions
- C. Rent payment
- D. Utilities
- E. Other payments set by the commission

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS: For use in the policy, certain terms or words shall be interpreted or defined in Chapter 35.1 of the Code of Iowa.

- A. Veteran: A resident of this state/county who served in the armed forces of the United States and who had a honorable discharge, and registered with the Veterans Affairs under Chapter 35 definitions 35.1.

SECTION 3. ELIGIBILITY AND PAYMENT OF AID: Eligibility for aid shall be determined upon application to the commission of affairs of Page County whose decision is final.

SECTION 4. Form of providing assistance shall be purchased directly from the supplier for the applicant which is set by the commission.

SECTION 5. LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE: the maximum level of assistance that may be provided for each item of assistance in any one (1) month or fiscal year. Any abuse of the assistance will be reviewed by the commission to determine the actual need.

1. FOOD: if food stamps have not been received or if the applicant is not eligible for food stamps, a order of \$75 for one (1) person plus \$10 for each additional family member.
2. MORTGAGE PAYMENTS: mortgage payments will not be provided as part of Veterans Relief policy.
3. SECURITY DEPOSITS AND/OR RECONNECT FEES: security deposits or reconnect fees will not be provided as part of the Veterans Relief policy.

4. SHELTER: we may provide assistance in relief of rent at a reasonable cost not to exceed \$250 per month. This policy will not provide first or last months deposit. The applicant will provide at the time of assistance the following—Land lords/managers name, address and phone number at which time the director will contact said person for proof of residence.

UTILITIES (NATURAL GAS, ELECTRICITY, HEATING FUEL, LP GAS, WATER): we may provide assistance with utilities, provided the applicant has not received assistance within the fiscal year for the same type. Payment will be of the amount of the current bill or the maximum allowance (which ever is less) and will not be used to satisfy past due bills unless to continue services. To

1. received assistance the applicant must reside in the residence and the bill must be in the applicant's name. The maximum allowances for utilities for a fiscal year shall not exceed the following.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| NATURAL GAS, ELECTRICITY, HEATING FUEL | \$400 Combination |
| LP GAS | 250 GALLONS |
| WATER | \$25 |

An extension of allowances may be granted by the commission after receiving a written request from the applicant explaining the situation. The decision of the request and if approved a dollar amount or time will be explained to the applicant and the decision will be final.

2. DOCTOR/DENTIST: we may provide assistance with a doctor or dentist bill not to exceed \$50 but this has to be utilizing a Veterans facility and a copy of the invoice has to accompany the application.

TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE (INCLUDING GASOLINE): transportation may be provided to the applicant as needed to seek care from the Veterans Hospital or another facility for medical care. If another facility is named written documentation from the VA doctor will need to accompany the application on the reason for the change of facility. Amount of assistance would be determined by each situation

ASSISTANCE ABUSE: of any part of the policy allowances will be reviewed by the commission at which time a decision will be rendered and assistance could be reduced or terminated, with the decision of the commission final.

SECTION 6. APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE/INITIAL DETERMINATION: application for assistance shall be submitted by the applicant to the director/administrator of the commission, during usual business hours unless for an emergency situation, forms provided by the director/administrator. If due to an undue hardship the director/administrator shall mail an application form to the applicants address. The director/administrator shall make an initial determination of the eligibility and the needs of the applicant within seven (7) working days of receipt of the application. The director/administrator shall notify the applicant for the determination with the specific's of the decision and the amount of assistance to which the applicant is entitled.

SECTION 7. APPEAL: every applicant, whether granted assistance or not, shall be informed by the director/administrator (written, verbal or person) of the decision. The applicant has the right to appeal the decision to the commission in writing within ten (10) days of the decision. The appeal is then forwarded on to the commission for review and a decision will be heard at the next scheduled meeting, the appeal shall not be heard sooner the five (5) days of receipt. The applicant shall be informed immediately by telephone and ordinary mail of time, place and date of the hearing of the commission.