

Ottawa County Burial Allowance

Ottawa County provides a Veteran Burial Allowance of \$300 for wartime era veterans and their spouses with limited resources to pay for funeral expenses. To be eligible, the veteran must meet the following criteria:

- Resident of Ottawa County
- Honorable Discharge from military service
- 90 Days of Active Duty for purposes other than training
- Wartime Era Veteran
- Estate must be under certain Asset Limits

Applications are available at area funeral service providers or applications may be accessed by visiting miottawa.org/Departments/VeteransAffairs/ and clicking on Application for County Burial Allowance. Completed forms should be submitted to the Ottawa County Department of Veterans Affairs along with a copy of the Death Certificate, an itemized Statement of Funeral and Burial Expenses, and a copy of Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214).

Note: All veterans and their spouses are eligible for free burial at any national cemetery. The Fort Custer National Cemetery is the closest location. You can receive more information by calling the national cemetery at (269) 731-4164.

Veterans Affairs

About Us

The Ottawa County Department of Veterans Affairs was established under PA 192 of 1953 in July of 2011.

It is funded with Ottawa County General Funds and exists to serve the veterans of Ottawa County and their families.

Contact Us

Veterans Services Counselors are available to assist you, contact us by:

Phone: (616) 393-8387

Email: ottawacountydva@gmail.com

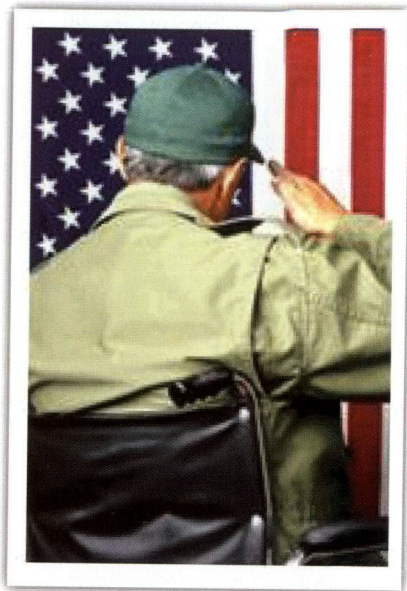
Web Site:
miottawa.org/departments/veteransaffairs



Ottawa County
Department of
Veterans Affairs
12251 James St., Suite 300
Holland, MI 49424



Ottawa County
Department
of Veterans
Affairs



Overview

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides assistance to honorably discharged, wartime veterans or their widow/widower who are residents of Ottawa County.

The Department assists with:

- ✓ Applying for available VA benefits
- ✓ Applying for VA service connected and non-service connected pensions
- ✓ Retrieving military service records
- ✓ Processing applications for:
 - Emergency Financial Assistance
 - Ottawa County Burial Allowance

In addition, the Ottawa County Department of Veterans Affairs provides information, referrals, and support services to honorably discharged veterans and their families.

Federal VA Benefits

Accredited Veterans Services Officers are available to assist veterans in applying for Federal VA benefits, including compensation due to service connected injury or illness and VA pensions. They are trained in VA policy and can address any questions regarding services available through the Veterans Administration. The Veterans Services Officers are seen by appointment at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Holland. Call (616) 393-8387 to schedule an appointment.

Medical Transportation

Transportation to and from medical appointments is available for honorably discharged war-time era veterans who have no other means to get to their medical appointments. A copy of the veterans discharge papers (Form DD-214) is required. Please call with adequate advance notice to discuss and schedule your transportation needs (616-393-8387).

War Time Era Dates

- World War II: December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946
- Korean Conflict: June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955
- Vietnam Era: February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975
- Persian Gulf Era: August 2, 1990 to Present
- Veterans holding Expeditionary Medals for non-wartime era dates may also qualify

Emergency Services

Department staff process emergency applications for the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund and applications for the funding available through the Ottawa County Veterans Affairs Committee. A major focus of this work is to provide one-time financial assistance to help veterans overcome emergent situations that have caused personal hardship.

Michigan Veterans Trust Fund

The Michigan Veterans Trust Fund is a State of Michigan emergency grant program that provides financial aid to honorably discharged wartime era veterans who encounter temporary or unexpected financial hardship. Financial assistance provided by the Trust Fund cannot be given more than once in a two year period.

Ottawa County Veterans Affairs Committee Funding

The Ottawa County Veterans Affairs Committee (OCVAC) Funding is a County funded emergency grant program that provides financial aid to honorably discharged wartime era veterans who encounter temporary or unexpected financial hardship. The OCVAC consists of 5 veterans appointed by the County Board of Commissioners. Financial assistance provided by the OCVAC cannot be given more than once in a twelve month period.