



Palo Alto County Commission of Veteran Affairs

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To: Palo Alto County Veterans

From: Palo Alto County Commission of Veteran Affairs

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our veterans to benefits at the county, state and federal level.

Palo Alto County Commission of Veterans Affairs offers help to our veterans by having funds available to help with acute and emergency treatment, prescription medications, rent and utility payments. The Veteran Affairs Office located in the basement of the Palo Alto County Courthouse can get veterans started with an “Application for County Assistance”. These funds are limited to amounts approved by the Board of Supervisors. There are approximately 500 veterans in Palo Alto County so approval criteria is strict. As of Jan. 1, 2023, the commission has set a **LIFETIME** limit of \$1,500.00 of county help per veteran. The county office also arranges transportation for veterans needing help getting to **VA medical appointments ONLY**, although this service is free, we do ask that if the veteran applies for travel pay with the VA that those funds be reimbursed to the county VA office to help offset the cost of paying our drivers. Costs for these transports does not apply to the \$1,500.00 lifetime limit.

State benefits include the following: Injured Veteran Grant, Homeownership Assistance, Property Tax Exemption, Disabled Veterans Homestead Tax Credit, Military Retirement Tax Exemption, Veteran Designation on Iowa Drivers Licenses and ID’s, Lifetime Hunting and Fishing Licenses, Veteran License Plates, Iowa Veterans Trust Fund. All programs have eligibility requirements. You can go to va.iowa.gov to get information on these programs. In addition, the Iowa Veterans Home is open to veterans and their spouses if they qualify.

Federal benefits include applying for disability compensation, possible pension help for veterans and surviving spouses, possible education benefits for veterans and family members and burial benefits to name just a few. The website va.gov is a great place to go to read up on benefits veterans may be eligible for.

The office is open Monday-Friday, 8am – 12pm, come in anytime. If you would like to receive the newsletter as an email, please contact the office with your email address. Check out our Facebook page at Palo Alto County Veterans Affairs.