

# Union County Veterans Commission Veterans Service Office

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### **<u>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY for 2021</u>** By direction of the Veterans Service Commissioners

By Ohio law, the Union County Veterans Service Commission <u>may</u> provide <u>"temporary and emergency</u>" financial assistance to <u>eligible</u> veterans and/or their families - <u>based on the veteran's discharge and</u> <u>financial need</u>. The Commissioners designate office staff to evaluate these factors before any financial assistance is considered. Evaluations are done as often as necessary, but no less than once a year, to determine (1) the client's actions to eliminate the need for on-going assistance and (2) if an emergency still exists to warrant assistance or continued assistance.

## Be advised: This agency does not provide long-term financial assistance

#### I. All new and/or previously assisted clients must:

- a. Complete (in full) and sign/date a Veterans Service Financial Assistance application form.
- b. Provide documentation to substantiate <u>all sources of household income\*</u> from past 30 days.
- c. Provide <u>full and complete bills\*</u> to support all reported expenses (except food and transport gas)
  - Simple receipts are not sufficient. Computer-generated bills are accepted if information is complete.
- d. Report any changes to income or expenses as they occur!
- e. Provide Job & Family Services' letter(s) showing spend down amount, cash assistance and/or medical card assistance.
- f. Provide a doctor's statement of unemployability, Social Security letter, or Veteran's disability claim if stating you or your spouse are unable to work.
- g. Provide documentation to show you are seeking employment, if requested by office staff.
- h. Sign information release forms, if requested by office staff.
- i. Provide any other documents requested by office staff.

### <u>**\*IMPORTANT NOTICE:**</u> <u>The lack of any information may delay financial assistance from this agency</u>.

#### II. Clients who received over \$2,000.00 in financial aid (including food vouchers) in 2021:

- a. Must bring in all documentation as listed above AND
- b. Personally meet the Veterans Service Commissioners for approval of further assistance in 2021.
  - The Veterans Service Commissioners meet every first and third Tuesday of the month at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) Please schedule with office staff member to get on the Commissioners' agenda.

### Thank you for your cooperation. - Please turn this sheet over.

### "TEMPORARY EMERGENCY" Financial Assistance is based on need\*\*:

- <u>Financial Assistance</u> for "Food Assistance". Food Voucher amount(s) is based on family size and <u>need</u>. Food assistance does not necessarily have limits for the number of times granted or length of time allowed. **However, food assistance is not a long-term program.** If you receive food stamps (SNAP) from Job and Family Services (JFS), you are not required to report it to this office. Receiving JFS food stamps (SNAP) will not prevent our agency from providing food assistance when needed.

- Financial Assistance for "Basic Utilities" (electric, water/sewer, gas, propane, fuel oil).

- <u>**Financial Assistance**</u> for "Apartment Rents, Lot Rents and/or Mortgage Assistance". These are <u>exclusively</u> <u>approved</u> by the Veteran Service Commissioners (VSC). Clients must personally meet the Commission to discuss these requests at a regularly scheduled meeting held every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month 12:00 p.m. (Noon) at this office.

<u>- Financial Assistance</u> for "Dental or Medical Invoice Assistance". These are <u>exclusively approved</u> by the Veteran Service Commissioners (VSC). Clients must personally meet the Commission to discuss these requests at a regularly scheduled meeting held every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month 12:00 p.m. (Noon) at this office.

<u>- Financial Assistance</u> for "Vehicle Repair" Assistance. These are <u>exclusively approved</u> by the Veteran Service Commissioners (VSC). Clients must personally meet the Commission to discuss these requests at a regularly scheduled meeting held every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month 12:00 p.m. (Noon) at this office.

- **<u>Financial Assistance</u>** with "Prescriptions" (for absolute medical necessity) are from Dave's Pharmacy only.

\*\* Financial Assistance Requests is based on a **"as needed"** basis. Financial Assistance is not a Federal Veterans Affairs (VA) Benefit. Financial Assistance (of any kind) is not guaranteed to start <u>or</u> continue. Further, NO payments are automatic. In an effort to fully assist our clients in becoming financially stable, the Veterans Service Office staff members or VSC may often make referrals and recommendations. If a client does not make any attempt to follow through with those referrals or recommendations, the VSC may cease financial assistance.

Client's Name

Date Policy Provided

Yes No Were policies explained

New Financial Application provided?

Was an appointment set to do the Financial Assistance Review? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No; If So, when \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that I have received and understand the policies contained within this form.

Client's Signature

Date Signed

VSO Representative