

## Chapter VA 13

### VETERANS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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**Note:** Chapter VA 13 was created as an emergency rule effective January 6, 1994.

**VA 13.01 Definitions.** In this chapter the following terms shall have the designated meanings:

(1) "Applicant" means a person who requests assistance under the veterans assistance program by filing a written application with the department.

(2) "Department" means the department of veterans affairs.

(3) "Veteran" means a veteran as defined in s. 45.37 (1a), Stats.

(4) "Veterans assistance program" means the program authorized under s. 45.357, Stats.

(5) "Veterans home" means the facilities established by the department at King, Union Grove, or Chippewa Falls.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1994, No. 461, eff. 6-1-94; CR 05-002: am. (1) and (4), cr. (5) Register May 2005 No. 593, eff. 6-1-05.

**VA 13.02 Eligibility. (1) VETERAN STATUS.** The department shall verify an applicant's veteran status during the assessment conducted under s. VA 13.03.

(2) **NEED FOR ASSISTANCE.** Assistance shall be provided to a veteran under the veterans assistance program when the veteran's need for assistance arises because of any of the following circumstances:

(a) Homelessness or conditions which indicate that the veteran is at risk of becoming homeless.

(b) Incarceration.

(c) Unemployment or underemployment which significantly limits a veteran's ability to be self-supporting.

(d) Affliction with acute or chronic physical or mental health problems which significantly limits a veteran's ability to be self-supporting.

(e) Insufficient monthly income and resources, as determined by the department, to pay for the cost of care provided at an assisted living facility established at a veterans home.

(3) **PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE.** A veteran who establishes a need for assistance under this section shall enter into a written agreement with the department identifying the assistance that the veteran shall receive and the veteran's responsibilities under the veterans assistance program. The department may terminate assistance whenever the veteran fails to fulfill his or her responsibilities under the agreement.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1994, No. 461, eff. 6-1-94; CR 05-002: am. (2) (intro) and (3), cr. (2) (e) Register May 2005 No. 593, eff. 6-1-05.

**VA 13.03 Assessment.** Each applicant shall be assessed to determine his or her veteran status and need for assistance in the following areas:

(1) Medical.

(2) Legal.

(3) Alcohol and other drug abuse.

(4) Mental health.

(5) Vocational.

(6) Housing.

(7) Employment.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1994, No. 461, eff. 6-1-94.

**VA 13.04 Assistance.** Upon completion of an assessment conducted under s. VA 13.03 and pursuant to a written agreement between the department and the eligible veteran the following assistance shall be provided:

(1) Transitional housing.

(2) Referrals to service providers.

(3) Financial assistance to enable a veteran who is eligible for residency at a veterans home and who has insufficient monthly income and resources, as determined by the department, to pay for the difference between the income and resources and the cost of care provided at an assisted living facility established at a veterans home.

**History:** Cr. Register, May, 1994, No. 461, eff. 6-1-94; CR 05-002: cr. (3) Register May 2005 No. 593, eff. 6-1-05.

**VA 13.05 Program fees and rental charges.** The department or regional transitional housing site vendor may collect a monthly fee or rental charge from a veterans assistance program participant residing in a regional transitional housing site in an amount calculated under the following schedule:

(1) **RESIDENTS OF REGIONAL TRANSITIONAL HOUSING SITES.** A resident of a regional transitional housing site who is employed or who is receiving supplemental security income, social security disability insurance payments or any other disability or pension benefits, other than compensated work therapy or industrial/incentive therapy payments paid at a rate below the prevailing minimum wage, may be assessed a monthly program rental charge of not more than 30 % of monthly income, after a deduction for medical expenses child care expenses, court-ordered child support payments, or any other court-ordered payment. The assessment shall be uniformly applied to each resident of a specific site. The total amount of the monthly assessments at a particular site may not exceed the site's monthly unfunded operational costs. An individual assessment may begin upon the resident's receipt of a second pay or benefit check except when the resident receives a retroactive lump sum award of pension, compensation, or other entitlement payments. In that case, an assessment may be made against the lump sum award but shall be limited to the number of months the resident resided at the site prior to the month of receipt of the lump sum award.

(2) **RESIDENTS OF SINGLE ROOM OCCUPANCY HOUSING.** A resident of single room occupancy housing who has full-time, part-time or seasonal employment or who is receiving supplemental security income, social security disability insurance payments or any other disability or pension benefits, shall be assessed a monthly program fee of 25% of monthly gross income or \$250, whichever is less. The assessment may begin upon the resident's receipt of a pay or benefit check.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1998, No. 511, eff. 8-1-98; CR 03-045: am. (intro.) and (1) Register October 2003 No. 574, eff. 11-1-03.

**VA 13.06 Funding limitation.** The department may not expend more than \$70,000, in any fiscal year, from the appropriation under s. 20.485 (2) (rm), Stats., plus any additional amount appropriated by the legislature for this purpose, for the payment of assistance under s. VA 13.04 (3).

**History:** CR 05-002: cr. Register May 2005 No. 593, eff. 6-1-05.