




## Introduction to the Kitsap County Veterans Assistance Fund Application

Dear Veteran:

The Kitsap County Veterans Assistance Fund (VAF) may help a veteran with limited and temporary assistance who has lived in Kitsap County a minimum of 60 days, properly documented a qualifying emergent need, and meets the established household income threshold. **The program may assist veterans supplement emergent basic needs that will help them find a home, remain in their home, obtain a job, or remain employed.** Emergent basic needs are generally those required to survive, such as housing, heat, medicine, food, and assure safety of the veteran and their eligible family members. Requirements beyond those necessary for life are important but might not be addressed by the VAF. Short and long term assistance may be met through your referral to, and participation in, other programs that may aid you. More details about the VAF are explained here. 

### Where to Start

**Step one:** Calculate the total household income by adding all income received from all sources by you and each person living with you. Compare your gross household income with the totals displayed on this chart:

175% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) 2024 Household Size	Annual Income	Monthly Income
1	\$26,355	\$2,196
2	\$35,770	\$2,981
3	\$45,185	\$3,765
4	\$54,600	\$4,550
5	\$64,015	\$5,335
6	\$74,430	\$6,119
7	\$82,845	\$6,904
8	\$92,260	\$7,688

The results will show you how close you are to meeting the financial eligibility criteria.

**Step two:** Contact a veteran service officer to establish your eligibility and apply for benefits and programs through the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, the Washington State Department of Veteran Affairs, or through local posts or chapters of veteran service organizations. Several are listed on page 2.

**Step three:** Complete the application and assemble required documents. If you believe you are qualified to access the Veterans Assistance Fund then complete the application and if you need help, ask a service officer to assist you. The service officer will ask you to assemble the required written documentation to support your request, review your application and documents with you, and provide guidance so you can submit the application.

### Employment

If you are unemployed, not collecting unemployment, and able to work, you will need to register with the Veterans Jobs Service Section at the WorkSource office at 3120 NW Randall Way, Silverdale, WA 98383 (near the Silverdale Mall). Call 360-516-1001 and ask to speak with a Veteran Specialist. They will give you documentation showing you have registered with them and explain how you might be able to augment your income through work opportunities regardless of physical limitations.

This requirement does not apply under any of the following circumstances:

- You have been determined by a state or federal agency to be fully disabled;
- temporarily disabled for 30 or more days;
- collecting social security; or,
- if you are enrolled in an accredited education program.



### Submitting Your Application

Once you have collected all your documents make an appointment with a Kitsap Community Resources (KCR) representative by calling 360-473-2034. If you are working with a veteran service officer and the capability is available, the service officer may also be able to email your application and scanned documents to KCR and/or guide you to one of two drop off locations displayed on page 4. The Veteran Specialist at KCR will determine your eligibility based on your total household income, described emergent need, and application responses. The Veteran Specialist will then process your application for the county Veterans Assistance Fund as well as refer you to other programs to address your longer term needs.

**Veterans Assistance Fund application assistance is available at the following locations. Call ahead to schedule an appointment.**

Bainbridge Island Helpline House 282 Knechtel Way NE Hours: Mon. thru Fri. 9 am to 5 pm Call 206.842.7621 for an appointment	Poulsbo American Legion Post 245 19705 NW Viking Ave Suite 2B Poulsbo, WA 98370 360.779.5456 Hours: Thursdays 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Bremerton American Legion Post 149 4922 Kitsap Way Bremerton, Washington 98312 Thursday 2:30pm to 5:00pm Call for appointment. 360-337-4811	Silverdale VFW Post 4992 9981 Central Valley Road By appointment only. Call: 360.698.9177
Port Orchard VFW Post 2669 3100 SE Mile Hill Drive; 360.876.2669 Call for appointment. Ask for service officer.	Suquamish Suquamish Tribe Veterans Office 18490 Suquamish Way NE Hours: Tues., Wed. 10 am to 2 pm Call 360.394.8515 for an appointment.  Suquamish Warriors Vets Center 6353 NE Middle Street; 360.626.1080 Hours: Thursday 9 am to 1 pm
You may also visit <b>Kitsap Community Resources</b> offices at the following locations for assistance with copying and scanning of documents as well as electronic transmission of the application to the VAF fund administrator.	
3200 SE Rainshadow Court, Port Orchard WA 98366	845 8 <sup>th</sup> St, Bremerton, WA 98337

### Appeal Process

If you feel your request was inappropriately denied, first use the grievance procedure available through Kitsap Community Resources. If you still believe your request was inappropriately denied then submit your written request for review of the KCR decision with your application, accompanying documents, and the Kitsap Community Resources grievance decision letter to: Kitsap County Veterans Program Coordinator, 614 Division Street, MS-23, Port Orchard, WA 98366.





**FINANCIAL STATUS**

Do you have a checking and savings account?  Yes  No

Do you own and operate a vehicle?  Yes  No

Do you have any outstanding loans or major payments?  Yes  No

Do you currently receive benefits for housing, energy, food or medical?  Yes  No

Have you missed any payments in the last three months?  Yes  No

Are you enrolled in VA Health?  Yes  No

Which of these monthly expenses are hard to meet  Rent  Food  Transportation  Medical  Other  
debts: Describe here: \_\_\_\_\_

How confident are you with managing your finances?  I'm confident.  I'm somewhat confident.  I need help.  
Have you received assistance from the Veterans Assistance Fund before?  Yes  No If yes, when \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe the type of assistance you need from the Veterans Assistance Fund today: \_\_\_\_\_


**VERIFICATION DOCUMENTS**

Please indicate below with a check mark the documents that are enclosed with your application to support your request(s).

**Identification information.**

- DD-214 Copy 2 or 4 displaying type of discharge. **Request a DD-214:**
- ID for everyone 18 and older in the household.
- SSN for everyone in the household
- Birth Certificate or proof of birthdate for care recipient(s).
- Proof of residence in Kitsap County for the past 60 days – lease, mortgage statement, utility bills.
- Marriage certificate in the case of a family member or widow requesting assistance.



**Proof of Income must cover the previous 3 months preceding the application date.**

- Employment- paystubs (Request from Employer)
- Unemployment or L& I claim history report (Request from WorkSource office)
- Statement of: SSI, Veterans benefits, Pension, Retirement, Annuity, and 401K
- Public Assistance- History report -TANF /SNAP (Request from DSHS office)
- Proof of alimony or child support (receiving or paying).

