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How much does VA pay for funeral expenses?

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How much money we provide to reimburse you for funeral expenses depends on when the Veteran died, if their death was related to their service (“service-connected), and other factors. See current rates below, effective January 1, 2020.

Note: We may also pay you back for some or all of the costs of moving the Veteran’s remains if they:

- Were hospitalized or in a VA-contracted nursing home at the time of death, **or**
- Died while traveling to VA-authorized care

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Burial allowance amounts if the Veteran’s death was:

Service-connected

Status	Maximum burial allowance
If the Veteran died on or after September 11, 2001	\$2,000
If the Veteran died before September 11, 2001	\$1,500
If the Veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery	We may pay you back for some or all of the costs of moving the Veteran's remains

Not service-connected

Status	Maximum burial allowance
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2018	We'll pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$780 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2017, but before October 1, 2018	We'll pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$762 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2016, but before October 1, 2017	We'll pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$749 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2015, but before October 1, 2016	We'll pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$747 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2014, but before October 1, 2015	We'll pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$745 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2013, but before October 1, 2014	We'll pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$734 for a plot

Not service-connected and in a VA hospital at the time of death

Status	Maximum burial allowance
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2019	We'll pay a \$796 burial allowance and \$796 for a plot
If the Veteran died on after October 1, 2017, but before October 1, 2019	We'll pay a \$762 burial allowance and \$762 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2018	We'll pay a \$780 burial allowance and \$780 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2017, but before October 1, 2018	We'll pay a \$762 burial allowance and \$762 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2016, but before October 1, 2017	We'll pay a \$749 burial allowance and \$749 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2015, but before October 1, 2016	We'll pay a \$747 burial allowance and \$747 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2014, but before October 1, 2015	We'll pay a \$745 burial allowance and \$745 for a plot
If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2013, but before October 1, 2014	We'll pay a \$734 burial allowance and \$734 for a plot

[Apply for burial allowance](#)

Need more help?

VA benefits hotline: [800-827-1000](tel:800-827-1000)

eBenefits technical support: [800-983-0937](tel:800-983-0937)

Chat with us: [VA chatbot](#)

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Related information

[How to apply for Veterans burial allowance >](#)

Learn how to apply for a burial allowance to help pay for a Veteran's funeral services, burial, and transportation costs.

[How to apply for memorial items >](#)

Find out how to apply for memorial items to honor a Veteran, Reservist, or family member. Eligible spouses and other family members eligible for burial in some cemeteries may also qualify for headstone markers, flags, niche covers, presidential certificates, and medallions.

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