



Where does this funding come from?

As allowed in RCW 73.08.080, Cowlitz County collects a property tax not less than one and one-eighth cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, and not greater than twenty-seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed value to operate a veterans' assistance program. Currently, Cowlitz County collects the minimum of one and one-eighth cents per thousand dollars of assessed value.

How is the VRF used to assist veterans in Cowlitz County?

The Cowlitz County VRF can be used to address the needs of local indigent veterans and their families.

The Cowlitz County Board of County Commissioners relies on Cowlitz County Health & Human Services (CCHHS) to administer the fund with input from the Veterans' Advisory Board. CCHHS contracts with local veterans' service organizations to work with veterans to complete applications for assistance.

Assistance to Veterans in 2025

139 unduplicated veterans were served through the below requests. (Based on date assistance was paid)

Food Assistance



191 Food vouchers
Total Assistance \$58,614.91

Food Assistance is available once within 2 months.

Utility Assistance



20 Requests
Total Assistance \$7,076.08

Utility Assistance is available for up to \$1000 in a 12-month period. The veteran must have a "72-hour shut off notice".

Rent Assistance



25 Requests
Total Assistance \$24,602.41

Rent Assistance is available for up to \$2000 in a 12-month period.

Housing Assistance



2 Requests
Total Assistance \$2,400.00

Housing Assistance is available for up to \$1200 to assist with obtaining new housing in a 12-month period.

School Supplies/ Tuition



0 Requests
Total Assistance \$0

Assistance with school supplies/tuition is available for up to \$2500 in a 12-month period.

Burial/Cremation Expenses



36 Families
Total Assistance \$36,713.46

Assistance is available for families of deceased veterans for up to \$2000 for a burial or \$1,500 for a cremation.

Medical/Counseling Assistance



0 Requests
Total Assistance \$0

Assistance with prescriptions, counseling, or vision/dental costs not covered by insurance.

Misc. Assistance



16 Requests
Total Assistance \$8,931.89

Assistance is available for up to \$1500 in a 12-month period for clothing to secure employment or emergency car repair for school or work. Other assistance may be provided if reasonably necessary.

Total Assistance for 2025: 290 Requests totaling \$138,338.75.



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