

**Policies for Veterans Trust Fund Assistance
toward Burial Costs
Navajo Nation Veterans Administration
Office of the President and Vice President**

I. Authority

Pursuant to its Plan of Operation, the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration, (hereinafter "NNVA") may provide Veterans Trust Fund monies to assist the families of deceased Navajo veterans with financial assistance towards burial costs.

All financial assistance from the Veterans Trust Fund is contingent upon the availability of funds. It is the responsibility of the Chapter Veterans Organizations to ensure that funds are budgeted properly to be able to provide these services to the families of deceased veterans.

II. Purpose

To financially assist a family of a deceased Navajo veteran with the cost of burial expenses (to include but not limited to: cremation, cost of an urn, cost of a casket, and traditional burial) in an amount not to exceed \$500 (five hundred dollars).

III. Eligibility Criteria

A. This financial assistance is available to a family whose deceased Navajo veteran as documented by a DD-214 or Discharge Certificate/Letter and was an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation as documented by a CIB.

B. If the deceased veteran is not registered with any Agency Office (no veteran information on file), the family must provide a copy of the DD-214 or Discharge Certificate/Letter and CIB for the Agency Office to create a veteran record.

IV. Procedures

A. The family will request assistance from the NNVA by completing a Financial Assistance Request form (available from the NNVA) and submitting a copy of the mortuary contract, or other service invoices (including but not limited to: facility or equipment rental, grave site markers), that includes the cost of services being rendered.

B. The Agency Office will determine whether funds are available in the correct CVO account.

C. Upon review and approval, the Agency Office will complete the Request for Direct Payment ("RDP") and forward copies of the Financial Assistance Request form and the supporting documentation to Accounts Payable.

- D. The check will be made payable to the service provider that is providing the services.
- E. The Central or Agency Office will deliver the check directly to the service provider.

V. Amendments

This Policy may be amended pursuant to 12 N.N.C. 1176 after consultation with the Veterans Advisory Council and final approval by the President of the Navajo Nation or authorized delegated authority within the Office of the President and Vice President.

CERTIFICATION

Recommended and approved by the Navajo Veterans Advisory Council on January 5, 2021 in Resolution No. 5-21 and pursuant to Navajo Resolution No. 5-21 I accept and certify the recommended policy.

BY: 
Navajo Nation President

DATE: 01-27-2021