

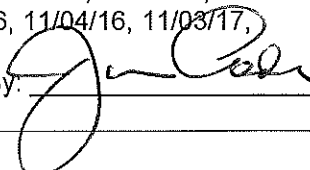
**Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs
Veterans' Homes Board Guidelines
Guideline 2**

Effective Date: 01/01/20

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Reviewed Date: 10/26/07, 02/08/08, 05/02/08, 07/31/08, 10/31/08, 01/22/10, 11/05/10
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11/16/18, 11/15/19

Revision Date: 11/15/19

Approved By: 

SUBJECT: MAINTENANCE CHARGE

**There is a cost to a member's care at a Nebraska State Veterans Home.
Members are required to contribute to the cost of care through payment of a
maintenance charge.**

The maintenance charge is determined on a member's ability to pay. The maintenance charge minimum is \$0 and the maximum charge is \$4,163.00 (\$8,326.00 for couples who reside in the State Veterans Home).

There are two methods to determine the maintenance charge a member pays. One method of determining the maintenance charge is by the amount of assets that are available to the member and second method is based on the amount of income that is available to the member. The method chosen to determine the amount of the maintenance charge depends on the amount of resources that are available to the member.

The method of determining the maintenance charge may change over time as the amount of assets and/or income available to the member may change.

The business office in each facility is responsible for determining the maintenance charge based on these guidelines as they apply to the member's actual situation.

In determining the maintenance charge by the **asset** method the business manager adds the value of all the assets together and from that number the following values are deducted.

1. For a member, only assets in excess of \$10,714.00 will be counted. When both the veteran and spouse reside at the State Veterans Home, only assets in excess of \$21,428.00 will be counted.
2. If the spouse lives outside the State Veterans Home the first \$71,431.00 of assets will not be counted.
3. The value of a burial trust is not counted as an asset up to the value of \$9,285.00 (\$18,570.00 for couples).
4. The entire cost of supplemental Medicare coverage is deducted for the member as well as the spouse whether the spouse is living in the State Veterans Home or not.
5. The entire cost of private health insurance coverage is deducted for the member as well as the spouse whether the spouse is living in the State Veterans Home or not.
6. The entire cost of Medicare Part D insurance coverage is deducted for the member as well as the spouse whether the spouse is living in the State Veterans Home or not.

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After applying the appropriate offset of assets the maintenance charge would be calculated from the remaining assets, with \$4,163.00 being the maximum and (\$8,326.00 for couples who both reside in the State Veterans Home.

The personal home, which was the primary residence of the member, will not be considered an asset, for one year from the member's admission date, unless sold, at which time the net proceeds of the home is immediately counted as an asset.

The personal home, which is the primary residence of the spouse, will not be counted as an asset. If the spouse moves from the personal home after the member is admitted to a Veterans Home, then one year from when the spouse no longer resides at the personal home is allowed before the personal home is counted as an asset, unless sold, at which time the net proceeds of the personal home is immediately counted as an asset.

If the maintenance charge is determined solely by the **income method**, the business manager calculates the total household income from all sources. From that number the following values are deducted:

1. A monthly amount of \$287.00 for the member (\$574.00 for couples who both reside in the State Veterans Home.)
2. If a spouse of a member lives outside the State Veterans Home the amount of \$1,963.00 is deducted except if the spouse resides in an institution where the care is provided by or paid for by a public agency.
3. An amount up to \$298.00 is deducted for each dependent child of the member except if the child resides in an institution where the care is provided by or paid for by a public agency.
4. The entire cost of supplemental Medicare coverage is deducted for the member as well as the spouse whether the spouse is living in the State Veterans Home or not.
5. The entire cost of private health insurance coverage is deducted for the member as well as the spouse whether the spouse is living in the State Veterans Home or not.
6. The entire cost of Medicare Part D insurance coverage is deducted for the member as well as the spouse whether the spouse is living in the State Veterans Home or not.
7. An amount up to \$354.00 is deducted for prescriptions for a spouse living outside the State Veterans Home.

Proof will need to be provided of all expenses listed above in order to receive the benefit of the deduction.

The amount remaining (if any) after the deductions will be the monthly maintenance charge. The monthly maintenance could range from \$0.00 to a maximum of \$4,163.00 for a single member or \$8,326.00 for couples who both reside in the State Veterans Home.

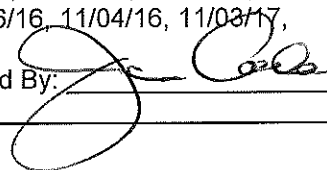
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At the Veterans' Homes Board meeting immediately prior to January 1st, the Board shall set the maintenance charges and deductions for the next calendar year. The Board will use whichever is greater the Social Security Cost of Living Allowance or the Nursing Home Consumer Price Index rate in determining the increase. The new maintenance charge and deductions will go into effect January 1st.