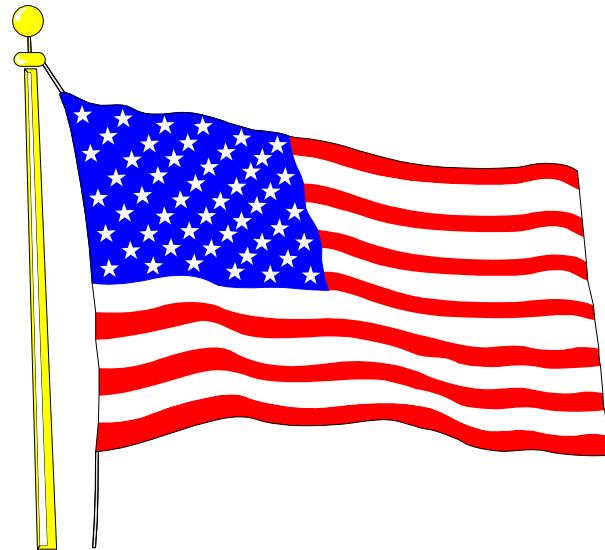


# Kansas Soldiers' Home



Fort Dodge, Kansas

**Admission Handbook**

# Kansas Soldiers' Home

## Serving Those Who Served...

The Kansas Soldiers' Home is located on the North bank of the Arkansas River, 5 miles East of Dodge City, Kansas. The setting is village like with beautiful tree lined streets, creating a serene and relaxing setting for the members.

## Facts about our facility...

The Home is a state operated facility located on the grounds of Old Fort Dodge, an active military post from 1865-1882. The fort was purchased by the State of Kansas in 1889 to convert to a Soldiers' Home. The first resident of the Home arrived in 1890. The Kansas Soldiers' Home has been in existence now for over 115 years. Twenty-four hour nursing care is provided for the 183 Domiciliary beds and 85 Long Term Nursing Care beds. Long term care was added in 1998. Other services that are provided are:

- ◆ Nutritious meals individualized to meet the members needs.
- ◆ Transportation to and from local health care providers, including the Veterans Administration Medical and Regional Office Center at Wichita is available.
- ◆ Security systems and grounds control.
- ◆ Trained professional staff is on duty to meet the needs of the members.
- ◆ Physician on staff.
- ◆ Registered nurse on duty 24 hours a day.
- ◆ Private and semi-private rooms with resident optional cable television and telephone.
- ◆ Library and library services available.
- ◆ A VA funded Community Based Outpatient Clinic is located on site.
- ◆ Art and activity areas including a ceramics shop, woodworking shop and a greenhouse.
- ◆ Affordable costs, based on income and assets.
- ◆ Social opportunities to interact with other members and the outside community.
- ◆ Qualifying medications are provided by the Veterans Administration formulary.
- ◆ Trips too many local activities are available.
- ◆ Sutlers store on grounds for members and visitors convenience.
- ◆ Clothing facility for members.

# Levels of Care. . .

The Kansas Soldiers' Home offers two levels of care: Long Term Nursing Care and Domiciliary Care. The facility is fully accredited and surveyed by the Veterans Administration as a State Veterans Home. Status as a State Veterans Home means the Home has been approved by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs which our state has established primarily for veterans disabled by age, disease, or otherwise, and who by reason of such disability are incapable of earning a living. The Kansas Soldiers' Home Long Term Care must also meet compliance standards as required by the Kansas Department of Aging, which conducts yearly inspections of the facility.

## **1. Long-Term Nursing Care**

Long-term nursing care is performed by or under the immediate supervision of a registered professional nurse and additional licensed and certified nursing personnel. This level of care includes administration of medications, treatments as prescribed by a licensed physician, and other nursing functions. Individuals who are acutely ill and in need of hospital care would not be eligible for nursing home care. Long-term nursing care provides assistance with activities of daily living required by an individual for continued well being.

### Long Term Care Services

- Assist in attaining physical, mental and social well being through special rehabilitative programs designed to maintain or restore patients to their highest level of functioning

## **2. Domiciliary Care**

Domiciliary care provides shelter, food, medication administration and necessary services required by each resident to allow or maintain independence. Residents in this area may need assistance or supervision in activities of daily living to compensate for various limitations.

### Domiciliary Care Services

- A. Assist eligible veterans who are suffering from a disability, disease, or defect of such a degree that incapacitates the veterans from earning a living.
- B. Assist in attaining physical, mental, and social well being through special rehabilitative programs designed to maintain or restore patients to their highest level of functioning.

## Soldiers' Home Mission . . .

The Kansas Soldiers' Home mission is to enhance the overall well being of honorably discharged veterans and their dependents in an environment that supports the individuals' physiological, sociological and psychological needs.

## Philosophy . . .

The philosophy of the Kansas Soldiers' Home is to provide quality long-term health care to the individual veteran, their spouse and eligible dependents by a dedicated professional staff. We provide an atmosphere that recognizes and promotes the uniqueness of every individual, in which each individual is treated with the respect and dignity to which they are entitled.

## Basic Eligibility Requirements . . .

- A. Veterans must have active federal service. Active service means full-time service as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, or as a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, the Environmental Services Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration, or other persons as authorized by the Department of Veterans Affairs. (C.F.R. 38, 3.7)
- B. The discharge from the period of active federal service on which the application is based must have been under conditions other than dishonorable. Discharge under conditions other than dishonorable include: Honorable Discharge, General Discharge under Honorable or Bad Conduct Discharge on a case by case determination.
- C. Proper documentation of the veteran's military service is required prior to admission.

### **Eligibility**

#### **Long Term Care**

A veteran is an eligible veteran if the United States Department of Veterans Affairs determines that the veteran needs nursing home care and the veteran is within one of the following categories:

1. Veterans with service-connected disabilities.
2. Veterans who are former prisoners of war.
3. Veterans who were discharged or released from active military service for disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.

4. Veterans who receive disability compensation under 38 U.S.C. 1151.
5. Veterans whose entitlement to disability compensations is suspended because of the receipt of retired pay.
6. Veterans whose entitlement to disability compensation is suspended pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 1151, but only to the extent that such veterans continuing eligibility for nursing home care is provided for in the judgement or settlement described in 38 U.S.C. 1151.
7. Veterans who VA determines are unable to defray the expenses of necessary care as specified under 38 U.S.C. 1722(a).
8. Veterans of the Mexican border period or of World War I.
9. Veterans solely seeking care for a disorder associated with exposure to a toxic substance or radiation or for a disorder associated with service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War as provided in 38 U.S.C. 1710(e).
10. Veterans who agree to pay to the United States the applicable co-payment determined under 38 U.S.C. 1710(f) and 1710(g), if they seek VA hospital nursing home or outpatient care

### Domiciliary Care

The Kansas Soldiers' Home will accept applications for Domiciliary care from individuals that meet the requirements of Title 38, U.S.C. 601(b), 38 C.F.R. 17.47(e), KSA 76-1908 and applicable supplements, KAR 97-1-1 to 97-2-8.

- a. The veteran must be able to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Soldiers' Home Superintendent and admissions committee that deficits in health and/or functional status render the veteran/applicant incapable of pursuing substantially gainful employment, or is otherwise without the means to provide adequately for self.
- b. An additional requirement for eligibility for Domiciliary Care is the ability of the veteran to perform the following:
  1. Conduct, without assistance, daily functions, such as brushing teeth; bathing; combing hair; and feed oneself.
  2. Dress with minimal assistance.
  3. Proceed to and return from the dining hall without staff assistance.
  4. Ability to evacuate building without assistance in case of emergencies.
  5. Secure medical attention on an ambulatory basis or by use of a personal assistance device.

6. Have voluntary control over bodily elimination or control by use of an appropriate prosthesis.
7. Share in some measure, however slight, in the maintenance and operation of the facility to maintain the highest level of personal independence possible.
8. Able to make rational and competent decisions as to whether to remain, leave and return to the facility.

### Dependents

- a. On a space available basis, the Home may also provide care to eligible veteran-related family members, i.e. spouses, surviving spouses, Gold Star parents and disabled adult children who are entitled to payment of VA aid in accordance with KSA 76-1908 and applicable supplement, KAR 97-1-1 to 97-2-8.
- b. No spouse, widow, mother, or father, unless fifty years of age shall be admitted unless warranted by such person's physical or mental condition in accordance with KSA 76-1908 and applicable supplements, KAR 97-1-1 to 97-2-8.
- c. No person shall be admitted as the spouse of the applicant unless the marriage is valid under the laws of the State of Kansas, KAR 97-1-3.
- d. The membership of the spouse or other dependents of a veteran shall terminate upon the death or discharge of the veteran. Once membership has terminated, they may be readmitted based upon applicable admission criteria in accordance with KSA 76-1908 and applicable supplements, KAR 97-1-1 to 97-2-8.

# Eligibility: (Special Categories)

## Mental Illness

No person who has been diagnosed by a competent medical authority, as being mentally ill shall be admitted unless the mental illness is controlled by medication prescribed by a competent medical authority. The medical authority must certify that with the prescribed medication(s) and or treatment,

- (1) The individual will not be a danger to self or others or property of others and,
- (2) That the person can be cared for and medicated by the staff of the KSH with prescribed medications that are reasonably available.

## Legal Incompetence

No person who has been adjudicated Legally Incompetent shall be admitted unless a person who has legal custody of the individual is available to make the legal decisions about care.

## Alcohol/Drug Abuse

Any person who currently abuses alcohol or drugs will be denied admission until such person has successfully completed an approved treatment/rehabilitation program for Alcohol/Drug abuse at least 30 days prior to admission to the Kansas Soldiers' Home. Any member found abusing alcohol or drugs while on State property will be given the option of attending and successfully completing an appropriate rehabilitation program or face involuntary discharge from the Home. This does not include addictions to medications prescribed by competent medical authority.

## Felons

No convicted Felon shall be admitted to the Kansas Soldiers' Home except upon waiver from the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs. Temporary admission may be granted at the discretion of the Superintendent provided all other application requirements are met, until the next meeting of the KCVA.

## Residency Requirements

Kansas residents will receive priority for acceptance.

## Priorities for Admission

1. Priorities for admission shall be made by the Admissions Staff based on a review of applications and the ability of the Home to provide the required patient care according to Federal and State regulations. The Superintendent will coordinate with the admissions staff in the prioritization of applicants as necessary.
2. Those with limited ability to pay for medical care will receive priority.
3. Transfers from other institutions, including transfers from the Kansas Veterans Home or VA medical centers shall have lower priority.

## The Nursing Home Cost...

Determination of charges to veterans and qualifying dependents are based upon the ability to pay. While there are no income and net worth limitations, all applicants will need to disclose their income and net worth so that a determination can be made to assess charges. No veteran will be denied services because of the lack of income or excessive income. Therefore, some veterans and/or dependents may pay more or less than others, but in no event will a veteran or dependent pay more than the monthly-established charges for the level of care needed.

All applicants who seek admission to the Kansas Soldiers' Home must provide a complete accounting of all income and assets as requested on the Application for Admission. A waiver is available for veterans and eligible dependents that do not wish to release financial information to the facility and are willing to accept the maximum monthly charge for residency.

In comparison to private nursing homes, the Kansas Soldiers' Home offers a very affordable alternative living arrangement. Included in the monthly charges are:

- ❖ Medications provided by the VA formulary for qualifying residents.
- ❖ Incontinent supplies.
- ❖ Transportation provided to local physicians and the Wichita VA.
- ❖ 24 hour registered nurse on staff.
- ❖ Physician on staff.
- ❖ Contracted specialty services (rehabilitation and occupational therapy) work on site.

In addition, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and the State of Kansas help defray the monthly charges. Eligible veterans, depending on their income, assets, and time of service, may be entitled to a Veterans Administration Non-Service Connected Pension. Pensions based on need may be available to surviving spouses

of deceased veterans with wartime service. For your convenience, a Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Field Service Representative is located in Pershing Barracks adjacent to the Outpatient Clinic to help identify your Veterans Administration Benefits based upon individual needs. **Any retroactive pension/compensation award shall be applied towards charges at the Home or any past due charges.**

## The application process...

Application for admission requires the completion of standard forms including a medical examination signed by a physician. **Military service documentation is required.**

Applications are available at

- Kansas Veterans Service Representative offices located throughout the State. Service offices are listed in the phone book and may also be accessed through the Internet via [www.kcva.org](http://www.kcva.org).
- The Kansas Commission for Veterans Affairs, Central Office, located in Topeka.
- Veterans Service Offices located in:
  - The Dwight D. Eisenhower Veterans Administration Medical Center in Leavenworth.
  - The Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Administration Medical Center in Topeka.
  - The Veterans Administration Medical and Regional Office Center in Wichita.

Applications are also available by contacting the Kansas Soldiers' Home directly at 620-227-2121 ext 148, or by accessing the internet at <http://www.kcva.org> or by writing to: Kansas Soldiers' Home, ATTN: Admissions Coordinator, 714 Sheridan, Unit 128, Ft Dodge, KS 67843.

Dear Wartime Veterans and Widows,

Although the Kansas Soldiers' Home admits veterans from all periods of service, wartime veterans and their widows should be aware that they may be entitled to VA Pensions to help pay for their care. Wartime veterans, honorably discharged, with 90 days of Active Duty and at least one day of wartime service should apply. Determination of the various Veterans Administration Pension programs are based on Income and Net Worth information that must be provided.

### **Wartime Qualifying Dates**

- a. World War I: April 6, 1917 – November 11, 1918
- b. World War II: December 7, 1941 – December 31, 1946
- c. Korean War: June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955
- d. Vietnam War: August 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975
- e. Vietnam-In Country: February 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975
- f. Persian Gulf War: August 2, 1990 – Future date to be set by law or Presidential Proclamation.

In Kansas, when a person applies for Medicare, they must apply for any other benefits that could be awarded including Veterans benefits. This is the law and Medicare benefits may be denied if the applicant does not apply for all annuities and pensions due them.

### **Documents required to apply for DVA Pension are:**

1. Military Discharge Certificates, DD214 (original or certified copy).
2. Marriage Certificate.
3. Death Certificate of Veteran, if a widow is applying.
4. Divorce decrees, if married more than once.
5. Verification of all sources of income (Social Security, pensions, annuities, interest from savings and investments, spouse's income, etc.)

**Any award of Veterans Administration benefits to KSH members shall be applied to Soldiers' Home charges or any past due charges.**

### ***Additional information and assistance may be obtained by contacting:***

Kansas Soldiers' Home  
Attn: Admissions Coordinator  
714 Sheridan, Unit 128  
Fort Dodge, KS 67843  
(620) 227-2121 ext. 148

Veteran Service Representative  
714 Sheridan, Unit 87  
Fort Dodge, KS, 67843  
(620) 225-4041

The following adjustments to the reported income can be made:

### **Long-Term Nursing Care**

- Married** Joint net income and net worth assets minus,
- \$1,562 sheltered for non-admitted spouse.
  - Maximum monthly allowance for extended Medicare coverage for member only.
  - Medical insurance premiums.
  - Monthly premium for an irrevocable burial trust fund\*.
  - \$90 comfort money for a veteran member
  - \$75 comfort money for non-veteran member
  - \$180 monthly allowance for couples – two veterans
  - \$165 monthly allowance for veteran and non-veteran member

Maximum monthly charge is \$2,240.00 for veterans.

Maximum monthly charge is \$4,197.92.for non-veterans.

- Single** Net income and net worth assets minus,
- Maximum monthly allowance for extended Medicare coverage for member only.
  - Medical insurance premiums.
  - Monthly premium for irrevocable burial trust fund\*.
  - \$90 comfort money for veteran member
  - \$75 comfort money for non-veteran member.

Maximum monthly charge is \$2,240.00 for veterans.

Maximum monthly charge is \$4,197.92.for non-veterans.

\*If an irrevocable burial trust fund is paid up, it may be excluded as an asset.

## Domiciliary Care

### **Married**

Joint net income and net worth assets minus,

- \$1,562 sheltered for non-admitted spouse.
- Maximum monthly allowance for extended Medicare coverage for member only.
- Medical insurance premiums.
- Monthly premium for an irrevocable burial trust fund\*.
- \$90 comfort money for veteran member
- \$75 comfort money for non-veteran member
- \$180 monthly allowance for couples – two veterans
- \$165 monthly allowance for couples – veteran and non-veteran member.

Maximum monthly charge is \$ 950.00 for veterans.

Maximum monthly charge is \$1,744.40 for non-veterans.

### **Single**

Net income and net worth assets minus,

- Maximum monthly allowance for extended Medicare coverage for member only.
- Medical insurance premiums; minus monthly premium for an irrevocable burial trust fund\*.
- \$90 comfort money for veteran member
- \$75 comfort money for non-veteran member.

Maximum monthly charge is \$950.00

Maximum monthly charge is \$1,744.00 for non-veterans.

\*If an irrevocable burial trust fund is paid up, it may be excluded as an asset.

## **Domiciliary Living (Cottages)**

**Married/Single** Joint net income and net worth assets minus,

- Maximum monthly allowance for extended Medicare coverage for member only.
- Medical insurance premiums.
- Monthly premium for irrevocable burial trust fund\*.

Maximum monthly charge is \$ 1,200.00 for couples or \$600.00 for singles.

\*If an irrevocable burial trust fund is paid up, it may be excluded as an asset.

## **Maintenance Charges. . .**

Care and maintenance charges become effective the date of admission to the facility.

Payments shall be made to the Home according to rules and prescribed regulations on or about the first of each month, for care and maintenance for the current month.

Any resident seeking discharge to avoid payment of maintenance charges shall not be readmitted until payment is satisfied.

Any resident who knowingly withholds or falsifies his monthly income is subject to involuntary furlough by the Superintendent and may be discharged for cause by the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs. Any changes in income must be reported to the Home's Business Office.

Members may opt to have their Pension, Compensation, Social Security and other checks sent to a personal account in the Members and Patients Fund. Monies received will be logged in and deposited into the member's interest bearing account. These funds will be disbursed as necessary for each member's financial requirements.

# Kansas Soldiers' Home Rate Sheet

**Calendar Year 2007**

	<b>VETS</b>	<b>NON - VETS</b>
<b>Long-Term Nursing Care (Semi Private)</b>		
Maximum Monthly Charges	\$2,240.00	\$4197.92
Maximum Daily Rate	\$73.64	\$137.98
<b>Domiciliary Care</b>		
Maximum Monthly Charge	\$950.00	\$1,744.40
Maximum Daily Rate	\$31.23	\$57.35

## **1 and 2 Bedroom Cottages (Independent Living)**

To apply for a cottage, you must have come from an independent living situation, have all of your own furnishings (this includes appliances) and be able to make own transportation arrangements to and from town for groceries and supplies.

**Cottage Maximum Monthly Charges** If liquid assets over the maximum allowable by KSH, charges will be \$1,200 for couples or \$600 for singles. If liquid assets below the maximum allowable, 30% of monthly income.

Notes:

- (1) The veteran's and eligible dependent's financial obligations towards the monthly charges will be determined from available income and net worth sources.
- (2) No veteran or eligible dependent will be turned down because of the inability to defray any of the costs.
- (3) To help defray the costs of charges, eligible veterans and dependents may be entitled to Veterans Administration Pension Benefits.
- (4) Increase comfort money for domiciliary residents to provide an additional 2.5% of their paid resident fee charges.
- (5) Cottage Non-Vets would be allowed to move into a duplex on a space available basis after the death of the veteran. Rent would be increased to 50% of income.
- (6) A 10% reduction in Cottage rent for those who use their Tricare or other pharmaceutical insurance program for their prescription drugs, if this equates to a cost savings for KSH.

- (7) Increase spousal allowance to \$1,562 for those spouses who remain living in the local economy.

Items Included or Not Included in the Daily Rate:

INCLUDED	NOT INCLUDED
<p><b>Basic Services:</b>            Semi-private room            24 hour nursing care            Housekeeping services            Laundry services            Meals, special diets, adaptive eating utensils            Diversified activity program            Recreation room with pool table, large screen TV            Library services (including services for the blind)            Personal funds assistance            Rehabilitation services            Mail delivery services            24-hour security system</p>	<p>Meals outside the facility.            Postage for outgoing mail.</p>
<p><b>Special Services:</b>             Transportation to/from local and Wichita VA medical appointments.             Physical, Occupational, Speech therapy, and Audiology Services as prescribed by a physician.</p>	<p>Payment for Ambulance.</p>
<p><b>Social Services:</b>            Licensed Master and Bachelor Social Workers available.            Volunteer services (letter writing, special assistance, etc.).</p>	<p>Personal needs such as clothing, hygiene items, and gifts.</p>
<p><b>Physician Visits</b>             Visits per regulations and as needed by staff physician.</p>	<p>Services outside the Kansas Soldiers' Home.</p>

**INCLUDED****NOT INCLUDED****Dental Services:**

Transportation to local dentists and to the Wichita Veterans Administration Medical and Regional Center.

Services outside the Kansas Soldiers' Home

**Medications:**

Qualifying medications from the Veterans Administration formulary will be provided and administered in accordance with Federal and State regulations.

Prescribed medications that are not on the Veterans Administration formulary.

**Transportation Service**

Local Doctors Office Visits. \*\*  
Local Dental Appointments. \*\*  
Area activities as arranged.  
Veterans Administration in Wichita.  
Local Veteran Service Organizations.

Personal transportation arrangements are the responsibility of the member or legally responsible person.

**Phone Service/Cable Television**

Public phones are available for members.

Private phones in rooms.

Cable in commons room.

Private cable television in rooms.

\*\* (Specialty doctors within a 60 mile radius on a case by case basis.)