



WISCONSIN MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS PROGRAM

ON BEHALF OF A GRATEFUL NATION



STIPEND PROGRAM

The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs recognizes that Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) incur costs in providing honors to Wisconsin veterans. To help offset those costs, a stipend program has been established that allows eligible VSOs to receive a stipend of up to \$50.00 for each honors ceremony conducted. To learn more about this program and how your VSO can participate, please call 877-944-6667.

TRAINING

The MFHP provides training and honors refresher courses to Veterans Service Organizations upon request. This includes both flag folding and rifle team training. Call 877-944-6667 to learn more about training and making arrangements.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS PROGRAM

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LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR STATE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
1-800-WIS-VETS (947-8387) | WisVets.com



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OUR MISSION

To provide and coordinate the appropriate final tribute to eligible Wisconsin veterans, acknowledging their faithful and honorable service to the state of Wisconsin and our nation.

The Military Funeral Honors Program (MFHP) is designed to complement and augment existing organizations that provide this solemn and dignified ceremony to honor veterans at the time of burial. The MFHP is committed to serving veterans and their families. The MFHP ensures all stakeholders are coordinated in their efforts, honors are conducted with dignity and respect, and services meet an acceptable military standard.

MILITARY HONORS

Nationally, Military Funeral Honors became a statutory benefit to all veterans with the signing of the National Defense Authorization Act. The law requires that, upon the family's request, every eligible veteran receive a military funeral honors ceremony to include folding and presenting the United States burial flag and the sounding of taps.

A standard military honors ceremony consists of the firing of three rifle volleys, the sounding of taps, the folding of the flag, and the presentation of the flag to the next of kin. Rifle teams are made up of volunteer veteran service organizations. Due to the availability of personnel, a rifle detail is not always possible.

Each veteran is entitled, by law, to at least two uniformed service personnel who will sound taps, fold the flag, and present it to the next of kin. The family needs to express the desire to have uniformed personnel present to the funeral director, who in turn will contact the MFHP for coordination of the military honors ceremony.



ARRANGING MILITARY HONORS

The process starts when a family expresses its desire for military funeral honors to a funeral director. The funeral director then only needs to submit an Honors Request form, found on WisVets.com, via email to Honors@dva.wisconsin.gov or fax to 866-454-0356. If family members are arranging military honors without the assistance of a funeral director, they may call staff at 877-944-6667 for assistance.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR HONORS?

Veterans are eligible for military honors at their funeral if they meet one of the following requirements:

- Currently serving on active duty or in the Selected Reserve (drilling with a unit).
- Discharged from active duty under conditions other than “dishonorable” while meeting appropriate length of service criteria.
- Completed at least one term of enlistment or period of initial obligated service in the Selected Reserve or National Guard under conditions other than “dishonorable.”
- Discharged from the Selected Reserve or National Guard due to a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.