



# Benefits for Veterans

## AKF's Financial Assistance Programs

Veterans with kidney disease may be eligible for any one of the American Kidney Fund's (AKF) **grants or financial assistance programs**. AKF provides assistance with transportation costs, prescription medications and other expenses related to care.

- **Safety Net grants:** Small grants to help people on dialysis with health care expenses not covered by insurance, such as transportation, over-the-counter medicines and co-payments.
- **Disaster relief grants:** Grants to help kidney patients replace lost medications and special renal diet foods, pay for temporary housing and transportation to treatments, and replace clothing and personal essentials lost in a natural disaster.
- **Post-Transplant Testing Program:** Assistance to cover innovative new blood tests that offer ongoing tracking of the health of a transplanted kidney to look for kidney injury or rejection without the need for a kidney biopsy.

**Other financial assistance programs are available. Visit [KidneyFund.org/financial-assistance](https://www.kidneyfund.org/financial-assistance) for details.**

**For further information, please call 1.800.795.3226 or email [patientservice@kidneyfund.org](mailto:patientservice@kidneyfund.org).**

## VA Kidney Services

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) offers enrolled Veterans **kidney services** that can help slow down kidney disease and prevent kidney failure, as well as services to treat those veterans living with kidney failure.<sup>1</sup>

- **Specialty care:** VA employs over 200 nephrologists who specialize in the care and management of patients with kidney disease.
- **Dialysis:** Over 150 VA medical centers provide dialysis. VA encourages home dialysis for medically suitable veterans. VA also pays for veterans to receive dialysis from over 6,600 VA-contracted community providers.
- **Telehealth:** VA uses telehealth technologies that allow Veterans to connect to their care team from their home, clinic or hospital. Ask your healthcare team about receiving care through telehealth.
- **Kidney transplant:** VA performs over 150 kidney transplants annually. Clinically-eligible veterans can receive a transplant at a VA Transplant Center. Veterans may also receive a transplant from a community transplant center if they meet VA's community care eligibility criteria.
- **Kidney research:** VA has a kidney research portfolio focus on prevention and optimal treatment.

**For questions about VA kidney services, email [VHANationalKidneyProgramOffice@va.gov](mailto:VHANationalKidneyProgramOffice@va.gov).**

## Are you eligible for VA services?

Veterans who stay on VA health care have access to comprehensive care services beyond dialysis to help you get—and stay—healthy.

Find out if you are eligible for VA services at: [VA.gov/health-care/eligibility](https://www.va.gov/health-care/eligibility)

**VA health care covers services to help:**

- Treat illnesses and injuries
- Prevent future health problems
- Improve your ability to function
- Enhance your quality of life

1. [https://www.va.gov/HEALTH/services/renal/documents/Veteran\\_Toolkit\\_Kidney\\_Disease\\_General\\_Information\\_and\\_Key\\_Resources\\_for\\_Veterans\\_3-10-20.pdf](https://www.va.gov/HEALTH/services/renal/documents/Veteran_Toolkit_Kidney_Disease_General_Information_and_Key_Resources_for_Veterans_3-10-20.pdf)