Claims Assistance - Bourbon County, Kansas

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United States Veteran Charity | www.usvetcharity.com | Bourbon County, Kansas Veteran Resource

Bourbon County resources for Veterans, active duty service members, National Guard members, and their families. This PDF is only the Claims Assistance category, so you can print just this category without printing the whole county guide. For Kansas statewide resources, see the separate Kansas Statewide Claims Assistance PDF.

Claims Assistance (7)

1. Kansas Office of Veterans Services (KOVS) — Region 11, Independence (Veteran Service Representative)

Website: https://www.kovs.ks.gov/veteran-services/field-office-locations/independence

Address / Access: 201 North Penn Ave, Suite 105, Independence, KS 67301

Resource Type: State field office — assigned to Bourbon County

Coverage: Regional — serves Bourbon County

Description / Services Provided: State VSR assigned to Allen, Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, Labette, Montgomery, Neosho and Wilson Counties (Region 11). VA-accredited, free help filing claims for disability compensation, non-service-connected pension, education, health care, survivor, spouse and dependent benefits, and obtaining military documents. Bourbon County has no county Veterans Service Office or county Veteran Service Officer — this is the primary claims-assistance route for Bourbon County residents. Bourbon County visits are by appointment only. Monthly itinerant clinics: Parsons 1st Tuesday (Public Library, 311 S 17th St), Pittsburg 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (Homer Cole Activity Center, 3003 N Joplin St), Iola 3rd Tuesday (County Clerk's Office, 1 N Washington Ave), 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Eligibility: Kansas veterans, their relatives and eligible dependents.

Contact Information: (620) 331-0540 | The KOVS facility directory lists the Independence ZIP as 67401, which appears to be a typo — Independence, KS is 67301; confirm before visiting.

2. KOVS — Remote / Virtual Claims Assistance

Website: https://www.kovs.ks.gov/veteran-services/remote-virtual-claims-assistance

Address / Access: Virtual

Resource Type: State claims programme

Coverage: Statewide

Description / Services Provided: Free claims counselling and development by video or phone from home, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. via listed VSRs.

Eligibility: Kansas veterans and their families.

Contact Information: See kovs.ks.gov for the VSR list

3. KOVS — Topeka (Colmery-O'Neil VAMC VSR)

Website: https://www.kovs.ks.gov/veteran-services/field-office-locations
Address / Access: Colmery-O'Neil VAMC, Bldg 24, Rm B106C, 2200 Gage Blvd, Topeka, KS 66622
Resource Type: State field office at VA medical center
Coverage: Regional — Topeka
Description / Services Provided: VSR at the VA medical center; free claims help.
Eligibility: Kansas veterans and their families.
Contact Information: 785-559-0061

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4. Bourbon County Register of Deeds — military discharge recording

Website: http://www.bourboncountyks.org/
Address / Access: Bourbon County Courthouse, 210 S National Ave, Fort Scott, KS 66701
Resource Type: County office
Coverage: Bourbon County
Description / Services Provided: Records military discharges (DD-214) among county land and vital records — useful for veterans needing a recorded copy for claims. Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Eligibility: All county residents.
Contact Information: (620) 223-3800 ext. 106

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5. Fort Scott National Cemetery — burial benefits

Website: https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/ftscott.asp
Address / Access: 900 E National Ave, Fort Scott, KS 66701
Resource Type: National cemetery (VA)
Coverage: Bourbon County
Description / Services Provided: VA national cemetery: burial for eligible veterans, their spouses and dependent children, with military honors; annual Veterans Day memorial service sponsored by VFW Post 1165 and American Legion Post 25.
Eligibility: Eligible veterans, their spouses and dependent children.
Contact Information: 620-223-2840 (from the VFW Auxiliary of Kansas facilities list, updated 08/20/2026 — confirm before publishing)

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6. VFW Post 1165 / American Legion Post 25 post service officers

Website: https://www.vfw.org/
Address / Access: VFW Post 1165, 1745 S National Ave, Fort Scott; American Legion Post 25, Memorial Hall, 1 E 3rd St, Fort Scott
Resource Type: Local post service officers
Coverage: Bourbon County
Description / Services Provided: VFW and Legion post service officers traditionally help members file VA claims free of charge; no named accredited officer or office hours for these posts could be verified — contact the post to confirm.
Eligibility: Post members.
Contact Information: VFW 620-223-5261

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7. VA benefits hotline

Website: https://www.va.gov/

Resource Type: National benefit service

Coverage: National

Description / Services Provided: Federal claims, compensation and pension questions; contact the KOVS Independence VSR (above) for filing assistance.

Eligibility: Veterans and their families.

Contact Information: 800-827-1000

Contact each organization directly to confirm current eligibility, availability, hours, and services before sharing or printing. Programs, phone numbers, websites, and eligibility can change. This guide is for information and referral only and is not an endorsement or a guarantee of eligibility or availability. Urgent help: Veterans Crisis Line 988, press 1; text 838255. Homeless veteran assistance: 877-424-3838. Local starting point: Iola VA Clinic (formerly Fort Scott), 1408 East St, Iola, KS 66749; claims help: KOVS Region 11, Independence office, 620-331-0540, 201 North Penn Ave, Suite 105, Independence. Note: the Fort Scott VA Clinic at 902 Horton St closed and moved to Iola — do not use the old Fort Scott address.