

VETERAN AID & ATTENDANCE BENEFIT

Patriarch_{placement}

Veteran Benefits

The Department of Veteran Affairs offers a special benefit to war era veterans and their surviving spouses called Aid and Attendance.

This is a tax-free benefit designed to provide financial assistance to help cover the cost of long term care in the home, in an assisted living facility or in a nursing home.

This Benefit is for those veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of another person or caregiver in at least two of the daily activities of living such as bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, and transferring. Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits can be paid to a veteran in addition to his or her monthly V.A. pension benefits. Neither Aid and Attendance nor Housebound benefits can be paid to a veteran unless the veteran is eligible for a V.A. pension.

Maximum Monthly

Benefit for:

- **Surviving Spouse \$1149**
- **Single Veteran \$1788**
- **Married Veteran \$2120**
- **Veteran Couple \$2837**



Key Points

- There is help for War Period Veterans
- It is worth the time and effort to apply
- These benefits can make a big difference in obtaining the care and support you may need!

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General Eligibility Requirements

- Must have served at least 90 days of active duty with at least one day during a period of war.
- Must have anything other than a Dishonorable discharge.
- A surviving spouse must have been married to the veteran at the time of his passing.
- Must require the assistance of another person to perform some of the daily activities of living.
- Must meet income and countable asset criteria established by the VA.
- Must be 65 years and older or totally disabled.

**Remember we are
here to help**

We work with many estate planners, financial advisors, elder law attorneys and many other professionals who can help you. Please be sure to share your concerns with us and we will direct you to the help you need.

Eligible Periods of War

World War II: December 7, 1941 – December 31, 1946, inclusive. If the veteran was in service on December 31, 1946, continuous service before July 26, 1947, is considered World War II service.

Korean conflict: June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955, inclusive.

Vietnam era: The period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May 7, 1975, inclusive, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period. The period beginning on August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7, 1975, inclusive, in all other cases.

Persian Gulf War: August 2, 1990, through date to be prescribed by Presidential proclamation or law.



What is a V.A. pension?

A V.A. pension is a monthly benefit paid to a veteran who has very low income, served during a period of war, and is age 65 or older or is permanently and totally disabled. The amount of the pension depends on the veteran's income and can be as much as \$930 per month for a single veteran or \$1,220 for a couple, but it's usually much less. Veterans who are more seriously disabled may also qualify for additional amounts called Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits.

Who's eligible for V.A. Aid and Attendance Benefits?

A veteran who's receiving a V.A. pension, or a survivor who's receiving a V.A. Death Pension, may also be eligible for Aid and Attendance benefits if one or more of these conditions apply to the veteran or survivor:

- He or she requires regular assistance from another person in order to perform activities of daily living, including bathing, feeding, dressing, using the toilet, getting in and out of bed or chair, using a prosthetic device, and keeping free from injury in his or her daily environment.
- He or she is bedridden, meaning that a disability keeps him or her in bed except when undergoing prescribed rehabilitation or medical treatment.
- He or she is a patient in a nursing home, due to mental or physical incapacity.
- He or she is blind (corrected visual acuity of 5/200 or less) in both eyes or has concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less.

Who's eligible for V.A. Housebound Benefits?

A veteran who's receiving a V.A. pension, or a survivor receiving a V.A. Death Pension, may also be eligible for Housebound benefits if one or more of these conditions apply to the veteran or survivor:

- He or she has a single permanent disability evaluated by the V.A. as 100 percent disabling and, due to that disability, the veteran or survivor is permanently and substantially confined to his or her home.
- He or she has a single permanent disability evaluated by the V.A. as 100 percent disabling and also has another disability or disabilities evaluated as 60 percent or more disabling.

How do I apply for V.A. Aid and Attendance or Housebound Benefits?

A veteran or survivor applies for Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits by contacting the V.A. regional office where the veteran filed a claim for a V.A. pension or the survivor filed a claim for V.A. Death Pension. If the veteran or veteran's family doesn't know where the pension claim was filed, or the veteran or survivor is now living in a different region of the country, a request to apply for Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits may be made with any V.A. regional office.

Documents you will need to apply:

The Veterans Administration (VA) requires certain documentation in order to file an Aid and Attendance Claim. Aid and Attendance is an INCOME and ASSET based benefit. It is very important to disclose all income and assets at the time of filing the claim.

The following items are required to file your aid and attendance claim:

- Military discharge papers (DD-214 or equivalent) for all military service
- Marriage certificate, notarized statement of separation, divorce decree.
- Information on any previous marriages for both veteran and spouse of veteran, including divorce decree and/or death certificate
- Veteran's death certificate or spouse's death certificate, if applicable
- Retired military pay statement
- Proof of all gross monthly income, Social Security statements, pension statements, interest income or income of any kind. You must disclose all income at the time of filing the claim.
- Proof of all current assets, including IRA's, Certificates of Deposit, rental properties or assets of any kind.
- Your most recent bank statements (including bank account number and routing number of bank) must be provided and you must disclose all assets at the time of filing the claim.
- Copy of most recent supplemental medical insurance, unless on Medicaid
- All Power of Attorney forms
- Social Security number of veteran and spouse

We know you may have many other questions in regard to eligibility and the application process for VA Benefits. We are here to help walk you through the process and have several local professionals who we feel are experts in applying for benefits who will gladly assist as well.



Patriarch Placement values our Veterans and we are passionate about helping them and their families receive the benefits they are entitled to. We are grateful for their service to our country and sincerely say
~ Thank you !

Patriarch_{placement}
of Pittsburgh

Support . Guidance . Advice

When living alone is no longer safe...we're here for you!

412-257-2515

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