

INFORMATION FOR VETERANS & THIER SPOUSES

# VETERANS BENEFITS

For Non-service Connected Disability

## MAXIMUM MONTHLY PENSION RATE CATEGORY AMOUNT

### Veterans Pension

Without Spouse or Child With 1 Dependent	\$1,161 \$1,520
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Housebound Without Dependents	\$1,419
Housebound With 1 Dependent	\$1,778

Aid & Attendance Without Dependents	\$1,937
Aid & Attendance With 1 Dependent	\$2,296

### Survivors Pension

Without Dependents	\$779
With 1 Dependent	\$1,019

Housebound Without Dependents	\$952
Housebound With 1 Dependent	\$1,192

Aid & Attendance Without Dependents	\$1,245
Aid & Attendance With 1 Dependent	\$1,485

## VETERANS PENSION RATE TABLE:

EFFECTIVE 12-1-2020

VETERAN ALONE & WITH DEPENDENTS

DATE OF COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE: 12-1-2020

INCREASE FACTOR: 1.3%

STANDARD MEDICARE DEDUCTION: DETERMINED BY SSA BASED ON INDIVIDUAL INCOME.

\*NET WORTH LIMIT: \$130,773

PENALTY PERIOD RATE: \$2,295



Daniel Hooper Smith, Esq.  
VA Accredited Attorney

ADVOCATES IN AGING  
LAW OFFICE OF  
WIESNER | SMITH



Phone: (941) 365-9900

Email: [daniel@wiesnerlaw.com](mailto:daniel@wiesnerlaw.com)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ELIGIBLE WARTIME PERIODS:

Under current law, VA recognizes the following wartime periods to determine eligibility for VA Pension benefits:

- WORLD WAR II: December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946
- KOREAN CONFLICT: June 27, 1950 - January 31, 1955
- VIETNAM ERA: February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975 for Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period; otherwise August 5, 1964 - May 7, 1975
- PERSIAN GULF WAR: August 2, 1990 - through date to be determined

Q. Is there a VA benefit for me if I don't have a service connected disability?

A. YES. The VA provides 2 broad categories of Pension benefit programs: 1) Veterans Pension, a tax-free monetary benefit paid to low-income Veterans, & 2) Survivors Pension, a tax-free monetary benefit paid to low-income, un-remarried surviving spouse and/or unmarried children of a deceased Veteran. In addition, Veterans & Survivors who require assistance with ADLs or are housebound may be eligible for an additional monetary amount, called Aid & Attendance (A&A) and Housebound (HB), respectively.

Q. What are the eligibility criteria?

A. The basic eligibility requirements are: 1) The veteran must have at least 90 consecutive days of active duty service, one of which must have been during a wartime period (see chart); 2) discharge other than dishonorable; 3) the claimant must have limited income and assets; & 4) the claimant must be age 65+ or have a permanent and total disability at the time of application.

Q. Are there VA Pension Benefits for a Surviving Spouse and Dependent Children?

A. YES, provided the surviving spouse is un-remarried and the children are under the age of 18. The application is subject to the same net worth limit.

Q. What is the "Housebound Pension"?

A. Housebound (HB) Pension is an increased amount added when the claimant is substantially confined to his/her home because of permanent disability.

Q. What is "Aid & Attendance"?

A. Aid and Attendance (A&A) is an increased monthly pension amount which may be added to the claimant's monthly pension if the claimant meets one of the following conditions: 1) is blind; 2) is bedridden; 3) lives in a nursing home; or 4) lives in an Assisted Living Facility; or, a) unable to dress/undress or keep self clean and presentable; or, b) unable to attend to wants of nature; or, c) has a physical or mental incapacity that requires assistance on a regular basis to protect the claimant from daily environmental hazards.

Q. How does VA calculate the Pension?

A. The annual pension is calculated by first totaling all your countable income which includes income received by the claimant. Then any deductions are subtracted from that total. These deductions include un-reimbursed medical expenses as well as amounts paid to others (including family) who are providing care. The remaining countable income is deducted from the appropriate annual pension limit which is determined by the number of your dependents. This amount is then divided by 12 and rounded down to the nearest dollar. This gives you the amount of your monthly payment.

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