

Helpful Information about VA Aid and Attendance

A Little Known Financial Resource for Veterans

Many families are unaware of the VA Aid and Attendance benefit for Veterans and surviving spouses. The benefit applies to Veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of another person to assist in bathing, dressing, meal preparation, medication monitoring or other activities of daily living. This benefit is available to individuals who reside in assisted living communities, personal care homes, skilled nursing facilities and those receiving personal in-home care.

How can these benefits help?

Aid and Attendance can help pay for care in the home, skilled nursing facility, personal care home or an assisted living community.

- A Veteran may be eligible for up to \$1703/month
- Surviving Spouse of a Veteran up to \$1093/month
- A married couple up to \$2019/month.
- If the Veteran is healthy and his or her spouse needs assistance, he/she may qualify for a regular pension up to \$1290/month.

Qualifications

Medical Qualifications: Proof must be provided showing the applicant requires daily assistance of another person in performing routine activities of daily living due to an illness, injury, or mental illness.

Financial Qualifications: Certain income qualifications do apply, however some unreimbursed medical expenses such as insurance premiums, the cost of assisted living or nursing home care, or home care can assist in reducing your countable income. There is no set limit on how much net worth a Veteran and his dependents can have, but net worth cannot be "excessive". The decision as to whether a claimant's net worth is excessive depends on the facts of each individual case but typically it is around \$100,000 in liquid assets. In most cases the VA does not consider the claimant's home or car an asset.



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Who is Eligible?

- Any Veteran with 90 days consecutive active duty service who served at least one day during active war time. The Veteran did not have to serve overseas or in combat.
- The surviving spouse of a Veteran if married to the Veteran at the time of the Veteran's death.

Periods of War

World War I: May 9, 1916 to November 11, 1918
World War II: December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946
Korean Conflict: June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955
Vietnam Era*: August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975
Persian Gulf War: August 2, 1990 to present

*Starts February 28, 1961 for those who served in the Republic of Vietnam

How do I apply for benefits?

- Many communities partner with companies that provide consulting services to Veterans and their families. Be sure to ask when you tour!
- Go to www.va.gov and use the Veterans ON-Line Application (VONAPP)
- Contact your VA Regional Office. To locate the closest regional office to you visit the VA website at <http://www2.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp?isflash=1>