

VETERANS
AID & ATTENDANCE
BENEFITS



2013

Common Sense Companies



Veteran's Benefits 2013

Qualifications for Non-Service Connected Aid & Attendance Veteran, Widowed Spouse, or Disabled Adult Child (Any May be a Claimant)

- Veteran Must have served at least Ninety Days on Active Duty; One Day of which had to have been During a War Time Period. Two years of service for Persian Gulf War.
- Veteran Must have had any other than Dishonorable Discharge
- Claimant's Physicians Must Declare Him/Her as Housebound and/or in Need of Assistance from another individual, which may include services offered by Home Health Care, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Care
- Meet Income Requirements
- Widowed Spouse Must have been married to the veteran at the time of the veteran's death or have had children by the veteran and never remarried (Minor or Disabled Children May Qualify for Benefits on Their Own)
- Widowed Spouse Must have been living with the veteran at the time of the veteran's death, unless the separation was due to medical or military reasons (There may be some exceptions related to separations due to abuse).

War Time Periods

<u>WW II:</u>	December 7, 1941 thru December 31, 1946
<u>Korean War:</u>	June 27, 1950 thru January 31, 1955
<u>Vietnam Era:</u>	August 5, 1964 thru May 7, 1975 (if serving anywhere) February 28, 1961 thru May 7, 1975 (if in the country of Vietnam)
<u>Persian Gulf:</u>	August 2, 1990 thru Present

2013 Maximum Pension Rates for Aid and Attendance

Single Veteran	\$1,732.00 Per Month/	\$20,784.00 Per Year
Married Veteran	\$2,053.00 Per Month/	\$24,636.00 Per Year
Widowed Spouse	\$1,113.00 Per Month/	\$13,356.00 Per Year
Healthy Veteran/Ill Spouse	\$1,360.00 Per Month/	\$16,320.00 Per Year

Once Awarded Aid & Attendance, a Veteran may obtain Free Medications, Medical Equipment, Incontinence Supplies, Glasses and Hearing Aides from the VA Hospital/Clinic via U.S. Mail without going to the VA.

VA Benefits that Increase Income to Pay for Long Term Care

If you are a Veteran or a Widow of a Veteran, you may be able to obtain tax free income from the VA to help pay for the cost of home health care, assisted living care, and nursing home care. The benefit is called "Aid and Attendance." A person who is housebound or in need of the assistance of another person with activities of daily living may receive additional pay called the Aid and Attendance Benefit. The basic eligibility requirements are detailed below:

I. Aid & Attendance

Pension benefits with an Aid & Attendance supplement area available to a veteran or Widow(er) of a veteran who meets one of the following conditions:

1. Claimant is blind;
2. Claimant is living in a nursing home; OR
3. Claimant is unable to:
 - a. dress/undress or keep self clean and responsible;
 - b. unable to attend to the wants of nature; OR
 - c. has a physical or mental incapacity that requires assistance on a regular basis to protect claimant from daily environmental hazards

II. Accreditation by VA

As of June 23, 2008, the VA began REQUIRING that ANYONE who assists a veteran or family member with preparation, presentation and prosecution of a claim for benefits to be accredited by and through the VA BEFORE they can legally provide assistance. Thus, to protect yourself while going through the VA process, make sure you are using an accredited agent. To check if a person is accredited, email info@commonsensecompanies.com and you will be provided with that information..

(A one time agent - usually a family member - does not need to be accredited).

III. Fees for Assistance

None.

IV. Legal Disclaimer

This information has been provided for informational purposes only.

Contact Common Sense Companies at (618)
251-0694, (609) 723-3800, or (904) 729-4044 to be
referred to a VA Accredited Attorney