



Compensation & Pension

Purpose: To bring Veteran VA pension payments up to established support levels (Federal poverty guidelines)

In order to get this pension you **must have Wartime Service**

If you entered active duty prior to September 7, 1980:

- at least 90 days of active duty service
- at least one day during a **wartime period**

If you entered active duty after September 7, 1980,

- must have served at least 24 months or the full period for which you were called or ordered to active duty (with some exceptions),
- at least one day during a **wartime period**

In addition you must be:

1. Age 65 or older

OR

2. Totally and permanently disabled

OR

3. A patient in a nursing home receiving skilled nursing care

OR

4. Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance

OR

5. Receiving Supplemental Security Income

Wartime Service Determination

War	Start	End
WWII	07 December 1940	31 December 1946
Korea	27 June 1950	31 January 1955
Viet Nam (In Country)	05 August 1964 28 February 1961	07 May 1975 07 May 1975
Gulf War/ OIF/OEF	02 Aug 1990	Present

*Note**You cannot receive both a VA non-service connected pension and service-connected compensation payments at the same time. However, if you apply for pension and are awarded payments, VA will pay you whichever benefit is the greater amount.*

Income and Net Worth Limitations

Countable income includes income from most sources as well as from any eligible dependents. It generally includes:

- earnings, disability and retirement payments
- interest and dividend payments from annuities
- net income from farming or a business

Some expenses, such as unreimbursed medical expenses, may reduce your countable income.

Net worth includes assets such as:

- bank accounts
- stocks, bonds, mutual funds, annuities

➤ any property other than your residence and a reasonable lot area.

You should report all of your net worth. VA will determine whether your assets are of a sufficiently large amount that you could live off of them for a reasonable period of time.

SURVIVOR PENSION

The Survivor Pension is so referred to as Death Pension. It is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to

- low-income, un-remarried surviving spouse

AND/OR

- unmarried child of a deceased Veteran with wartime service

ELIGIBILITY

For service **on or before** September 7, 1980:

- Veteran must have served at least 90 days of active military service, with **at least one day during a war time period**

If he or she entered active duty **after** September 7, 1980:

- served at least 24 months or the full period for which called or ordered to active duty with **at least one day during a war time period**

- Was discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions

Your yearly family income must be less than the amount set by Congress

