



## 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*

