

VA Benefits Guide



What are VA Benefits?

VA Benefits, also known as veteran benefits, are awarded to veterans of the United States Uniformed Services in exchange for their commitment to the military. The benefits your loved one may be eligible for are dependent upon several factors, including their length of service, disability status, military rank/title, etc.

Many veterans are unaware of the benefits they are eligible for, as benefits are added and modified on an ongoing basis.

We want to share a few of the benefits your loved one may be eligible for, as well as some of the steps they'll need to take to receive those benefits!

Benefits Your Loved One May Be Eligible for

- Disability Compensation
- Health Care
- Education and Training
- Employment Services
- Home Loans and Housing-Related Assistance
- Life Insurance
- Pension
- Spouses, Dependents, and Survivors Benefits
- Memorial Benefits



Applying for Benefits

To Apply for Benefits:

- When applying for VA benefits, it is recommended that you and your loved one work closely with a [designated benefits representative](#).
- Depending on which benefit your loved one is applying for, they will have to complete the necessary application forms. The forms for each benefit can be found on the [U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs website](#).
- Forms can also be requested via telephone, mail, or at a [local regional office](#).

Required Documentation

In order for your loved one to begin receiving their benefits, they will have to provide documentation that proves they are a veteran. The documents required vary depending on the benefit your loved one is applying for.

The documents your loved one will need are:

- **Military Information**
- **Personal Information**
- **Financial Information**
- **Medical Information**

Personal Information Required

- Copies of All Divorce Papers or Death Certificates from Previous Marriages
- Copies of Marriage Licenses from All Marriages of Veteran and His/Her Current Spouse
- Names, Dates, and Places of All Previous Marriages of Veteran and His/Her Current Spouse
- Veteran's Last Date of Employment and Job Description

Financial Information Required

Proof of All Household Assets

- Most Recent Bank and Financial Statements
- Most Recent IRA and 401K Statements
- Trust Fund and Annuity Statements
- Latest CD Statements
- Statements from Life Insurance Company
- Most Recent Mutual Fund Statements
- Current Value of All Stocks and Bonds
- Value of Any Business Interest
- Value of Any Real Estate include copies of deeds to any real estate
- Value of All Other Investments
- Voided Deposit Slip for Checking Account

Financial Information Required (Cont.)

Proof of All Household Gross Income

- Current Monthly Pension Statements Showing Gross Amount before Taxes/ Insurance or Other Deductions
- Proof of Current Monthly Social Security Payments – Award Letter
- Current Year's Annuity Statements, Showing Gross Amount before Any Deductions
- Statement Showing Expected Current Year's IRA Distribution
- Expected Total Interest/Dividends for Next Twelve Months
- Statement Showing Net Income from Rental Property, including Primary Place of Residence
- SSI and SSDI Payments

Military Information Required

- Military Discharge or Separation Papers (DD214) for All Active Duty, Reserve Service, and National Guard Service
- Proof of Name Change, if Applicable

Medical Information Required

- Signed Care Provider Report
- Print Out from Pharmacy Showing Last Six Month's Out-of-Pocket Medical Costs Related to Prescriptions for Veteran and His/Her Dependents
- Proof of Medical Insurance Premiums with Name of Company and Frequency of Payments
- Statement Showing Medicare Part D Premium Amount (if Applicable)
- Picture ID and Health insurance cards
- Signed Physician's Statement

Understanding Your Benefits

Due to the wide array of benefits that are offered to veterans, understanding each benefit intimately can be near impossible.

The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs recommends that you consult with a designated representative or seek assistance at a local office.

For additional inquiries, requests, concerns or complaints, you and your loved one can:

- Visit the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs website
- Call MYVA311 (1-844-698-2311)
- **Contact a local regional office**

Additional Resources

Summary of Veteran Benefits:

https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/benefits_summary_materials.asp

Additional VA Resources:

<https://www.va.gov/opa/persona/index.asp>

United States Department of Veteran Affairs Website:

<https://explore.va.gov/>

