



aid&attendance

VETERANS AFFAIRS



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DISCLAIMER - The information provided in this pamphlet should not be considered legal advice. To decide how these rules apply to a particular situation, you are encouraged to seek the advice of a professional.



What is Aid and Attendance* ?

Aid and Attendance is a monthly cash benefit that is available to a veteran or surviving spouse.

Who qualifies?

The veteran need not have been injured in service. The veteran must have served at least ninety days of consecutive active duty, one day of which was during a period of conflict.

A veteran with a spouse who needs assistance may also qualify for this benefit.

*** Aid and Assistance is an additional benefit in the Veterans Pension Program**

What are the Periods of Conflict?

- WWII: December 7, 1941 - July 25, 1947
- Korea: June 27, 1950 - January 31, 1955
- Vietnam: August 5, 1964 - May 7, 1975

Are there asset and/or income eligibility rules?

Yes - both. The claimant must have limited income and assets available. The VA evaluates whether or not the claimant has enough financial resources to sufficiently meet the claimant's needs without assistance from the VA. This figure varies depending on the situation.

The benefit amount is based upon household income. Again, this figure is dependent on the situation.



How much is the benefit?

The benefit is based on need. Basically, the benefit is the shortfall in income that the veteran and/or their spouse need to pay for their care costs. The maximum monthly benefits are:

- Single veteran: **\$1,704 per month***
- Veteran with a dependent (including a spouse): **\$2,020 per month***
- Veteran with a sick spouse: **\$1,338 per month***
- Surviving spouse of a veteran: **\$1,094 per month***

* Figures may change as adjustments occur yearly

Will the costs for an assisted living facility or adult foster care home be considered?

Yes, but only if the care received is necessary due to a medical condition. The medical condition may be physical or may be cognitive impairment such as Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia.



Are there medical needs requirements?

Yes. The veteran, spouse, or surviving spouse must need the assistance with activities of daily living in order to medically qualify for this benefit.

What about financial planners who sell annuities as a way to qualify for VA benefits?

It is not necessary or even helpful to purchase any particular financial product to qualify for Aid and Attendance. Veterans and their families should be careful when financial products are presented to them.

