



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits Administration

Enhanced or Special Monthly Pension Aid and Attendance or Housebound

What is enhanced or Special Monthly Pension?

Aid and Attendance (A&A)

Aid and Attendance is a higher monthly pension amount paid to a Veteran or surviving spouse. You may be eligible if one (or more) of the following is true:

- You require help to perform activities of daily living. These include bathing, feeding, dressing, toileting, adjusting prosthetic devices or protection from environmental hazards.
- You are bedridden. This means your disability requires you to stay in bed when you are not receiving treatment.
- You are a patient in a nursing home due to mental or physical incapacity.
- You have corrected visual acuity of 5/200 or less in both eyes.
- You have concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less.

Housebound

Housebound is an increased monthly pension amount. It is paid to permanently disabled Veterans who are greatly confined to their homes. Veterans may qualify for this increased amount if one of the following is true:

- You have a single permanent disability evaluated as 100-percent disabling. Because of this, you are permanently confined to your immediate location.
- You have a single permanent disability evaluated as 100-percent disabling and another disability (or disabilities) evaluated as 60-percent or more.

You may not receive enhanced or special monthly pension without first establishing eligibility for VA pension. However, enhanced pension is based on a higher income limit. For this reason, a claimant who is not eligible for basic pension may still qualify for increased pension benefits. You may not receive pension at the A&A and Housebound rate at the same time.

How much does VA pay?

Visit the webpages below to view pension rate tables, including the A&A and Housebound rates:

- Veterans pension:
http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/current_rates_veteran_pen.asp.
- Survivors pension:
http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/current_rates_survivor_pen.asp.

How to apply for Aid and Attendance and Housebound

You may apply for pension at the A&A or Housebound rate by submitting a completed VA Form 21-2680, "Examination for Housebound or Permanent Need for Regular Aid and Attendance," located at www.va.gov/vaforms/form_detail.asp?FormNo=21-2680.

Provide copies of any evidence that would help prove your need for A&A or that you are housebound. Examples of this include a report from your physician validating your need for A&A or your housebound status.

Remember, if you are not currently receiving VA pension benefits, you must attach a completed application to VA Form 21-2680. VA cannot make a decision on your claim without it.

Mail or fax the form your form and documentation to the Pension Management Center serving your state.

Philadelphia VA Regional Office

Department of Veterans Affairs
Claims Intake Center
Attention: Philadelphia Pension Center
P. O. Box 5206
Janesville, WI 53547-5206
Fax: 1-844-655-1604

Service Area

Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and all other foreign countries not listed below under the St. Paul VA Regional Office

Milwaukee VA Pension Center

Department of Veterans Affairs
Claims Intake Center
Attention: Milwaukee Pension Center
Janesville, WI 53547-5192
P. O. Box 5192
Fax: 1-844-655-1604

Service Area

Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, Wisconsin

St. Paul VA Regional Office

Department of Veterans Affairs
Claims Intake Center
Attention: St. Paul Pension Center
PO BOX 5365
Janesville, WI 53547-5365
Fax: 1-844-655-1604

Service Area

Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean

For more information on VA Pensions visit the web pages listed above, or call 1-800-827-1000.