



PENSION AND FIDUCIARY

VA PENSION

WHAT IS VA PENSION?

Pension is a needs-based benefit paid to wartime Veterans, who meet certain age or non-service connected disability requirements.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

You may be eligible if:

- You were discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions, **AND**
- You served 90 days or more of active duty with at least 1 day during a period of war time*, **AND**
- Your countable income is below the maximum annual pension rate (MAPR), **AND**
- You meet the net worth limitations, **AND**
- You are age 65 or older, **OR**, you have a permanent and total non-service connected disability, **OR**, you are patient in a nursing home, **OR** you are receiving Social Security disability benefits.

*Veterans who entered active duty after September 7, 1980, must also serve at least 24 months of active duty service. If the total length of service is less than 24 months, the Veteran must have completed their entire tour of active duty.

For current maximum annual pension rate (MAPR), visit our [Veterans Pension Rate Table](#).

HOW MUCH DOES VA PAY?

VA calculates annual pension by first determining for your particular circumstances that Maximum Annual Pension Rate (MAPR), an amount set by Congress. For example, if you are a Veteran with no dependents, the MAPR is \$12,868. Next, VA determines your countable income. VA determines countable income by subtracting from your total income received in a particular 12-month period, the amount of those exclusions provided by law. VA subtracts your countable income from the MAPR; the difference is your annual pension entitlement. VA divides this amount by 12 and rounds down to the nearest dollar, this is the approximate amount of your monthly pension payment.

VA deducts certain expenses paid by you, e.g., unreimbursed medical expenses, from your annual household income, which will decrease your countable income and increase your monthly pension



Disabilities determined by VA to be related to your military service can lead to monthly non-taxable compensation, enrollment in the VA health care system, a 10-point hiring preference for federal employment and other important benefits. Ask your VA representative or Veterans Service Organization representative about Disability Compensation, Pension, Health Care, Caregiver Program, Career Services, Educational Assistance, Home Loan Guaranty, Insurance and/or Dependents and Survivors' Benefits.



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

payment. A complete list of these exclusions is provided in section 3.272 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations. These regulations are available at the [Government Printing Offices website](#).

HOW CAN YOU APPLY?

You may apply for pension by filling out VA Form 21-527EZ, Application for Pension, and mailing it to the [Pension Management Center](#) having jurisdiction over your claim. If you do not know which [PMC](#) has jurisdiction over your claim, you may submit your request to the VA regional office closest to your current residence. A directory of VA regional offices is available at [Directory of VA Regional Offices](#). You can also apply online through [VONAPP](#).