



# Elder Veterans Legal Aid Group, P.C.

*an independent law firm helping elderly Veterans and their Families before the Department of Veterans Affairs*

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## **About Our Law Firm**

We are a zero-net profit, nationwide law firm that focuses on helping families find ways to pay for long term care (in-home and residential). This can include Medicaid or Veterans disability benefits, including Service-Connected Disability Compensation and Non-Service-Connected Disability Pension (aka "Aid & Attendance"). We are happy to answer any questions you may have about any benefit. Please feel free to contact us at **1-800-878-2149**.

## **Service-Connected Disability Compensation**

The compensation program pertains to those who have had a direct service-connected injury/disability or a presumed illness due to certain exposures during military service. There is also a Dependency Indemnity Compensation ("DIC") available to qualifying surviving spouses. The special Aid & Attendance benefit for Compensation claims may also apply to qualifying individuals as well. No income or asset information is required.

## **Non-Service-Connected Disability Pension**

The Pension benefit guarantees a Veteran who served honorably during an authorized wartime period (see below for a list of dates) or their un-remarried Surviving Spouse, a net monthly income. Pension is not a simple financial stipend or a benefit that pays directly for care, such as assisted living or in-home care. It is an income guarantee. The Pension benefit has its major application when the claimant (Veteran or Surviving Spouse) has significant deductible medical expenses due to the cost of in-home or facility-based care such as Independent living or Assisted Living. In these cases, the Pension benefit may be able to provide additional income that could cover **20-50%** (or more) of the monthly care cost. For 2025, the Pension at the special rate for Aid and Attendance can provide up to the following amounts:

<b>Single Veteran</b>	<b>\$2,358.00</b> per month
<b>Married Veteran</b>	<b>\$2,795.00</b> per month
<b>Veteran Couple</b> (both vets, both in need)	<b>\$3,740.00</b> per month
<b>Surviving Spouse</b>	<b>\$1,515.00</b> per month

## **Eligibility Requirements for Non-Service-Connected Disability Pension**

- Veteran must have served at least 90 days of active duty with at least one day served during an authorized period shown below.
- Veteran or surviving spouse must show "limited net worth". Net worth is determined by reviewing net income (gross income minus the cost of qualifying medical expenses -including cost of care and medical insurance premiums) and assets below the limit of **\$159,240**. (Assets do not include your personal residence on 2 acres or less, automobiles, or personal property.)
- To add the special monthly Aid & Attendance benefit to Pension, medical evidence is required to show that the claimant needs the assistance of others to safely execute normal daily tasks such as bathing, dressing, toileting, transfers, mobility, and eating.

## **Authorized Service Periods**

<b>WWI-</b>	<b>4/6/1917 thru 11/11/1918</b>
<b>WWII-</b>	<b>12/7/1941 thru 12/31/1946</b> (For Merchant Marines: 12/7/1941 thru 8/15/1945)
<b>Korea-</b>	<b>6/27/1950 thru 1/31/1955</b>
<b>Vietnam-</b>	<b>11/1/1955 thru 8/4/1964</b> (Veteran must have served in country Vietnam only)
	<b>8/5/1964 thru 5/7/1975</b>
<b>Persian Gulf-</b>	<b>8/2/1990 – end date has not been set</b>