



## DISABILITY COMPENSATION

### WHAT IS VA DISABILITY COMPENSATION?

Disability compensation is a benefit paid to a Veteran because of injuries or diseases that happened while on active duty, or made worse by active military service. It is also paid to certain Veterans disabled from VA health care. The benefits are tax-free.

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

You may be eligible for disability compensation if you have a service-related disability and you were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

#### HOW MUCH DOES VA PAY?

The amount of basic benefit paid ranges, depending on how disabled you are.

**Note:** You may be paid additional amounts, in certain instances, if:

- you have very severe disabilities or loss of limb(s)
- you have a spouse, child(ren), or dependent parent(s)
- you have a seriously disabled spouse

#### HOW CAN YOU APPLY?

You can apply by filling out [VA Form 21-526](#), Veterans Application for Compensation and/or Pension. Or [VA Form 21-526EZ](#), Fully Developed Claim (Compensation).

If you have any of the following material, please attach it to your application:

- Discharge or separation papers (DD214 or equivalent)
- Dependency records (marriage & children's birth certificates)
- Medical evidence (doctor & hospital reports)

You can also [apply online](#).

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



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## Related Benefits

- [Priority Medical Care](#)
- [Vocational Rehabilitation](#)
- [Clothing Allowance](#)
- [Grants for Specially Adapted Housing](#)
- [Automobile Grant & Adaptive Equipment](#)
- [Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance](#)
- [Federal Employment Preference](#)
- [State/Local Veterans Benefits](#)
- [Military Exchange & Community Privileges](#)