

How do I know if I served under an eligible wartime period?

Under current law, we recognize the following wartime periods to decide eligibility for VA pension benefits:

- Mexican Border period (May 9, 1916, to April 5, 1917, for Veterans who served in Mexico, on its borders, or in adjacent waters)
- World War I (April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918)
- World War II (December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946)
- Korean conflict (June 27, 1950, to January 31, 1955)
- Vietnam War era (February 28, 1961, to May 7, 1975, for Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period. August 5, 1964, to May 7, 1975, for Veterans who served outside the Republic of Vietnam.)
- Gulf War (August 2, 1990, through a future date to be set by law or presidential proclamation)

WAR PERIODS

- ▶ Surviving Spouse \$14,934 or \$1244 mo
- ▶ Vet alone \$23,238 or \$1936 mo
- ▶ Vet married \$27,549 or \$2295 mo

- ▶ 1.3% increase over prior year

2021 RATE SCHEDULE VA



Am I eligible for Veterans Pension benefits?

You may be eligible for the Veterans Pension program if you meet the requirements listed below.

Both of these must be true:

- You didn't receive a dishonorable discharge, **and**
- Your yearly family income and net worth meet certain limits set by Congress. Your net worth includes all personal property you own (except your house, your car, and most home furnishings), minus any debt you owe. Your net worth includes the net worth of your spouse.

[Find out about Veterans Pension rates](#)

And at least one of these must be true about your service. You:

- Started on active duty before September 8, 1980, and you served at least 90 days on active duty with at least 1 day during wartime, **or**
- Started on active duty as an enlisted person after September 7, 1980, and served at least 24 months or the full period for which you were called or ordered to active duty (with some exceptions) with at least 1 day during wartime, **or**
- Were an officer and started on active duty after October 16, 1981, and you hadn't previously served on active duty for at least 24 months

And at least one of these must be true. You:

- Are at least 65 years old, **or**
- Have a permanent and total disability, **or**
- Are a patient in a nursing home for long-term care because of a disability, **or**
- Are getting Social Security Disability Insurance or Supplemental Security Income

AM I ELIGIBLE?

REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS

* Requests from veterans or deceased veteran's next-of-kin may be submitted online by using eVetRecs at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/> *

(To ensure the best possible service, please thoroughly review the accompanying instructions before filling out this form. Please print clearly or type.)

SECTION I - INFORMATION NEEDED TO LOCATE RECORDS (Furnish as much as possible.)

1. NAME USED DURING SERVICE (last, first, and middle) 2. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. 3. DATE OF BIRTH 4. PLACE OF BIRTH

5. SERVICE, PAST AND PRESENT (For an effective records search, it is important that all service be shown below.)

	BRANCH OF SERVICE	DATE ENTERED	DATE RELEASED	OFFICER	ENLISTED	SERVICE NUMBER (If unknown, write "unknown")
a. ACTIVE COMPONENT						
b. RESERVE COMPONENT						
c. NATIONAL GUARD						

6. IS THIS PERSON DECEASED? If "YES" enter the date of death. NO YES _____ 7. IS (WAS) THIS PERSON RETIRED FROM MILITARY SERVICE? NO YES

SECTION II - INFORMATION AND/OR DOCUMENTS REQUESTED

1. CHECK THE ITEM(S) YOU WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A COPY OF:

- DD Form 214 or equivalent.** This form contains information normally needed to verify military service. A copy may be sent to the veteran, the deceased veteran's next of kin, or other persons or organizations if authorized in Section III, below. NOTE: If more than one period of service was performed, even in the same branch, there may be more than one DD214. Check the appropriate box below to specify a deleted or undeleted copy. When was the DD Form(s) 214 issued? YEAR(S):
 - UNDELETED:** Ordinarily required to determine eligibility for benefits. Sensitive items, such as, the character of separation, authority for separation, reason for separation, reenlistment eligibility code, separation (SPD/SPN) code, and dates of time lost are usually shown.
 - DELETED:** The following items are deleted: authority for separation, reason for separation, reenlistment eligibility code, separation (SPD/SPN) code, and for separations after June 30, 1979, character of separation and dates of time lost.
- All Documents in Official Military Personnel File (OMPF)**
- Medical Records** (Includes Service Treatment Records (outpatient), inpatient and dental records.) If hospitalized, provide facility name and date for each admission: _____
- Other** (Specify): _____

2. PURPOSE: (An explanation of the purpose of the request is strictly voluntary; however, such information may help to provide the best possible response and may result in a faster reply. Information provided will in no way be used to make a decision to deny the request.) Check appropriate box:

- Benefits Employment VA Loan Programs Medical Medals/Awards Genealogy Correction Personal
- Other, explain: _____

SECTION III - RETURN ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE

1. REQUESTER IS: (Signature Required in # 3 below of veteran, next of kin, legal guardian, authorized government agent or "other" authorized representative. If "other" authorized representative, provide copy of authorization letter.)

- Military service member or veteran identified in Section I, above Legal guardian (Must submit copy of court appointment.)
- Next of kin of deceased veteran (Must provide proof of death.) Other (specify) _____

Show relationship: _____

REQUEST DD214 RECORD

OTHER RULES

- ▶ Asset Testing \$130,773
- ▶ Allow car and house excluded generally
- ▶ If receiving partial disability rating then those dollars would be subtracted or netted.
- ▶ Can not pay spouse but all others allowed.

About 1500 pages to VA Manual and almost 800 pages are related to Improved Pension Benefit.

Forms for nearly everything and it must be done on VA forms. Example name personal representative.

Three Year Look Back Rule when over assets

Guidance along the changes

COMPLEX
AND
MANY ARE
DENIED



My cell is 407-340-4070



Next step is call to discuss your situation



If complex due to assets we are here to assist



If simple claim we direct you to non-profit partner to assist you now.

SCOTT
THOMAS