

Arizona Department of Veterans Services



presents:

Federal and State Benefits for Veterans

Benefits for Veterans



VA Compensation

VA Pension

VA Health Care



VA Home Improvement Grants

VA Automobile Adaptive Equipment

Arizona State benefits for veterans





VA Service Connected Compensation:

is a monetary benefit paid to veterans who are determined by the VA to be disabled by an injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated during military service.

* Discharge must be under conditions other than dishonorable.

* VA pays benefits in 10% increments.

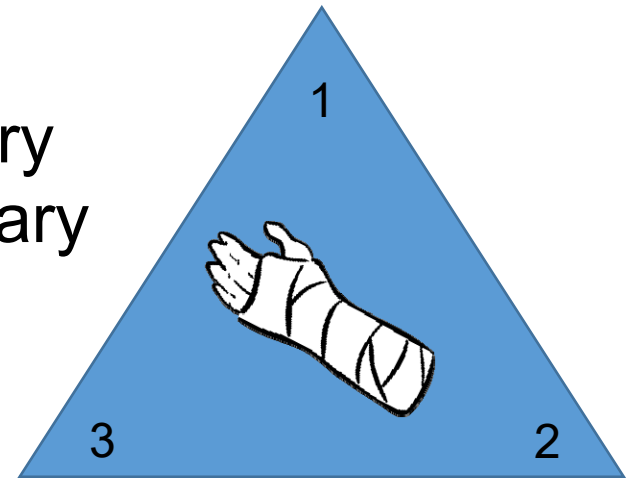
* Advocates assist in filing for VA benefits. (ADVS, ALG, VFW, DAV)

- A successful VA claim for compensation must include:

1. Proof of a chronic illness or injury in service (usually found in military service treatment records).

2. A current chronic medical diagnosis

3. A nexus or connection between what happened in military service and the current diagnosis.



Complete the Triangle





2017 Monthly VA Compensation Rates:

Veteran only

10%	\$	133.57
20%	\$	264.02
30%	\$	408.97
40%	\$	589.12
50%	\$	838.64
60%	\$	1,062.27
70%	\$	1,338.71
80%	\$	1,556.13
90%	\$	1,748.71
100%	\$	2,915.55

Veteran and Spouse

10%	\$	133.57
20%	\$	264.02
30%	\$	456.97
40%	\$	654.12
50%	\$	919.64
60%	\$	1,159.27
70%	\$	1,451.71
80%	\$	1,686.13
90%	\$	1,894.71
100%	\$	3,078.11

Special Monthly Compensation

K	\$ 103.54	
L	\$3,627.87 (A&A)	L^{1/2} \$3,815.41
M	\$4,003.72	M^{1/2} \$4,278.80
N	\$4,554.51	N^{1/2} \$4,822.42
O/P	\$5,090.83	
R1	\$7,274.39	
R2	\$8,343.91	
S	\$3,263.43(Home Bound)	

*SMC for Aid and Attendance is paid at the "L" rate.

*SMC for Housebound is paid at the "S" rate.

Non-Service Connected Pension



is a monetary benefit paid to low income wartime veterans. *Criteria includes:*

- Other than dishonorable discharge;
- 90 days active duty or two years active duty after September 8, 1980;
- One day of war time service;
- over age 65 or permanently and totally disabled;
- low income; low net worth (Less than \$80,000)

* Guard/ Reserve must complete time called to federal service.

War time Service for VA purposes

Mexican Border Period: May 9, 1916 through Apr 5, 1917

World War I: Apr 6, 1917 through Nov 11, 1918 (with exceptions)

World War II: Dec 7, 1941 through Dec 31, 1946

Korean War: Jun 27, 1950, through Jan 31, 1955

Vietnam War: Aug 5, 1964 (Feb 28, 1961 for veterans who served "in country" before Aug 5, 1964) through May 7, 1975

Gulf War: Aug 2, 1990 through a date to be set.



Current Veteran's Maximum Annual

Pension Rates:

Veteran Only

Veteran and Spouse

Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
\$12,907	\$1,075.58	\$16,902	\$1,408.50



Special Monthly Pension rate for Aid and Attendance

Veteran Only

Veteran and Spouse

Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
\$21,531	\$1,794.25	\$25,525	\$2,127.08



*Reduce income using unreimbursed medical expenses.

*SMP A&A is for need of assistance with active daily living skills.

VA Health Care

- The VA operates the nations largest integrated health care system with more than 1,700 sites of care.
- Eligibility – a person who served in the active military, naval, or air services and was discharged under other than dishonorable conditions may qualify for VA health care benefits.
- Guard/Reserve called up to federal service under Title 10 orders or line of duty disability.



VA | Defining
HEALTH CARE | **EXCELLENCE**
in the 21st Century

- **The VA has implemented Priority Groups for enrollment in VA health care.**

1. Service connected 50% or higher
2. Service connected 30 or 40%
3. Former POW's, Purple Heart, Medal of Honor, or service connected 10 or 20%
4. In receipt of Aid and Attendance, Catastrophically disabled
5. Non-service connected or 0% service connected, Pension, eligible of Medicaid benefits
6. Compensable 0% service connected, wartime and Camp Lejeune service 1957 - 1987
7. Income below geographical means test
8. Income above national income thresholds, must pay co-pays



Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) Grant

- The SHA grant can be used to increase the mobility of eligible veteran and service members throughout their residences. Veterans and service members with specific service-connected disabilities may be entitled to this type of grant, up to the current maximum of \$15,462.



SHA Grants Can Be Used To

Adapt a Home the Veteran or a Family Member Already Owns

Adapt A Home the Veteran or a Family Member Intends to Buy

Help A Veteran Purchase a Home Modeled to Their Needs

Special Adaptive Housing (SAH) Grant

- The SAH grant is designed to help disabled veterans by providing a barrier-free living environment, such as a wheelchair accessible home, that affords veterans a level of independent living they may not otherwise enjoy. Veterans and service members with specific service- connected disabilities may be entitled to a grant for the purpose of constructing or modifying a home to meet their adaptive needs, up to the current maximum of \$77,307.



SAH Grants Can Be Used To

Build a Home On Purchased Land, if it is Suitable for Disabilities or Special Needs

Construct an Adapted Home On Land To Be Bought

Remodel an Existing Home to be Suitable For Disabilities or Special Needs

Pay the unpaid Principal Mortgage Balance of an Adapted Home Previously Acquired without the Assistance of a VA Grant

Home Improvements Structural Alterations (HISA) Grant



This grant provides medically necessary improvements and structural alterations to veterans and service members' primary residence for the following purposes:

- Allowing entrance to or exit from their homes
- Use of essential lavatory and sanitary facilities (e.g. roll in showers or walk in tubs)
- Allowing accessibility to kitchen or bathroom sinks or counters (e.g. lowering counters/sinks)

Lifetime benefit up to \$6,800 may be provided for:

- Veterans and service members who have a service connected condition
- Veterans who have a non-service connected condition rated 50% or more
- Lifetime benefit up to \$2,000 may be provided for Veterans who have a non-service connected condition



Automobile Adaptive Equipment

- The Automobile Adaptive Equipment (AAE) program permits physically challenged persons to enter, exit, and/or operate a motor vehicle or other conveyance.
- Veterans are trained, through the VA Driver's Rehabilitation Program, how to safely operate their vehicle on our nation's roadways.
- The VA also provides necessary equipment such as platform wheelchair lifts, UVLs (under vehicle lifts), power door openers, lowered floors/raised roofs, raised doors, hand controls, left foot gas pedals, reduced effort and zero effort steering and braking, and digital driving systems.
- **Automobile Allowance** – One time use \$20,235.20 eff. 10-1-16.



Death Benefits

- Death gratuity - **\$100,000** Military Service Org.
- Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC) *
- Parent Dependency Indemnity Compensation (Income Based)
- Death Pension - Surviving Spouse Maximum annual income - **\$721.00** and child **\$944.00** per month)
- Burial Benefits - Interment, plot, transportation reimbursement, flag, headstone/marker,
- No fee passports to visit American military cemeteries on foreign soil.



Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

Requirements:

- Veterans death due to service connected disability, or
- 100% service connected for over ten years –
Surviving Spouse **\$1257.95** per month, each dependent child **\$311.64**)
- 100% Total and Permanently Disabled eight years –
Additional **\$267.12** per month
- Aid and attendance –
Additional **\$145.99 per month**

Dependent requirements:

- Must have been married to the veteran for at least one year prior to death.
- Or, must have been with child at the time of the veteran's death.

Additional benefits include:

- Up to **\$2000.00** burial reimbursement
- Chapter 35 Dependent Education Benefits
- CHAMPVA Medical
- VA Home Loan and Commissary Entitlement



VA Education

The VA offers five education programs for veterans and dependents:



Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill

Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation

Chapter 33 Post 9/11 GI Bill

Chapter 35 Dependent Education

Chapter 1606 MGIB Selective Reserve Education



*VA Education contact number is 888-442-4551
or, contact the Veteran Certifying Officer at a college*

VA Life Insurance

The VA currently acknowledges five Life Insurance programs that have specific eligibility requirements.

- SGLI Service members Group Life Insurance
- VGLI Veterans Group Life Insurance
- TSGLI Traumatic Injury Protection
- S-DVI Service-Disabled Life Insurance
- VMLI Veterans Mortgage Insurance

VA Life Insurance contact number is: 800-669-8477.





VA Home Loan Guaranty



- The VA offers veterans and eligible surviving dependents VA Home Loan Guaranties.
 - The VA Home Loan Department offers many other services to veterans and eligible dependents.
 - A veteran or eligible dependent may obtain a Home Loan Guaranty to:
Buy or build a home or condo unit; repair, alter or improve a residence owned by the veteran; refinance an existing home; install a solar heating or cooling system or other energy-efficient improvements.
- * Guard/Reserves must complete 6 years of service unless disabled.

VA Home Loan telephone number is 888-827-3702

State of Arizona Department of Veterans Services



- Administration
- State Veterans Homes
- Veterans Services Division
- Other State benefits for veterans

Administration

- **Director**
Retire Colonel Wanda Wright
- **Deputy Director**
Robert Barnes
- **Assistant Deputy Director**
John F. Scott, II
- **States Veterans Home Administrators**
North - James Ross
South – Robert Tunila



Arizona State Veteran Homes

- Phoenix – 200 bed skilled care nursing home



(602)248-1594

- Tucson – 120 bed skilled care nursing home



(520)638-2150

Website - <https://dvs.az.gov/>

Veterans Services Division

- **Veterans Donation Fund**
- **Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF)**
- **Women Veterans Program**
- **Homeless Program**
- **Veteran Benefits Counselors**
- **State Approving Agency**
- **State Veterans Cemeteries**



Website - <https://dvs.az.gov/>

Arizona State Veteran's Memorial Cemeteries

- **Camp Navajo (North)**
(928)214-3473
- **Marana (Central)**
(520)638-4869
- **Sierra Vista (South)**
(520)458-7144



Website - <https://dvs.az.gov/>

Additional State benefits for veterans

- Recording of discharges
- Public record certification
- Education
 - Tuition and fees-deferred payments
 - Tuition Waivers for war-wounded and dependents of KIA www.dvs.az.gov
- Employment preferences
- Tax and Licensing Exemptions
- Special License Plates and Veteran indicator on Drivers License www.azdot.gov/
- Hunting and Fishing Licenses <https://www.azgfd.com/>
- Arizona State Parks azstateparks.com/index.html
- Professional and Occupational Licenses





ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN SERVICES

To serve Arizona's veterans and their families by providing information and assistance in securing their rightful benefits provided by the State and Federal Law.



Veteran Benefits Counseling (VBC) Offices - Permanent Locations

Phoenix Central Office	Surprise	Flagstaff	Show Low
3333 N Central Ave - Suite 1052	13985 W Grand Ave - Room 1015	1016 W University Ave - Suite 210	5171 Cub Lake Road - C-380
Phoenix, AZ 85012-2402	Surprise, AZ 85374	Flagstaff, AZ 86001	Showlow, AZ 85901
602-627-3261	623-583-1025	928-779-4166	928-537-2044
Casa Grande	Bullhead City	Lake Havasu City	Sierra Vista
401 N Marshall St	2249 Clearwater Drive - Unit B	2160 McCulloch Blvd - Suite 105	1300 Buffalo Soldier Trail
Casa Grande, AZ 85222	Bullhead City, AZ 86442	Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403	Sierra Vista, AZ 85365
520-510-5142	928-763-9401	928-505-4616	520-458-7150
Chandler	Chinle	Prescott	Tucson
3130 N Arizona Ave - Suite 114	(ADVS Office Closed)	600 E Gurley St - Suite D	1661 N Swan Rd - Suite 128
Chandler, AZ 85224	Call Prescott for information	Prescott, AZ 86301	Tucson, AZ 85712-3659
480-558-2052	928-443-0167 (c/o Prescott)	928-443-0167	520-207-4960
Maricopa	Kingman	Safford	Yuma
17945 N Regent Dr - Bldg A, Rm 106	2301 Harrison St	624 S 5th Ave	1450 E 16 St
Maricopa, AZ 85138	Kingman, AZ 86401	Safford, AZ 85546	Yuma, AZ 85364
520-510-5142	928-718-7621	928-428-3403	928-726-2851

ADVS Veteran Benefits Counselors are certified by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, and accredited by the State of Arizona to assist our Veteran Community.

Important VA information

- **Veteran's Administration website:**
www.va.gov
- **VA Call Center for Benefits:**
1-800-827-1000
- **Health Care:**
1-877-222-VETS (8387)
- **VA Inspector General:** 1-800-488-8244
- **Veterans Crisis Line:** 1-800-273-8255 Press 1

**Scott Fincher,
VBC Training Manager and Information Officer**

ADVS website:

- <https://dvs.az.gov/>

Telephone:

- 602-234-8432

Email:

- rfincher@azdvs.gov

Address:

- 3839 North 3rd Street, Suite 209
Phoenix, AZ 85012

The End!

