

## What is Non Service Connected Disability Pension?

Non Service Connected Disability Pension is a benefit paid to wartime veterans with limited income who are no longer able to work.

## Who is able to receive a Disability Pension?

You may be eligible if:

You were discharge from service under other than dishonorable conditions, AND

You served 90 days or more of active duty with at least one day during a war, AND

You have disabilities that keep you from working a regular, full-time job, AND

Your countable family income is below a yearly limit set by law.

## How much does VA pay?

VA pays you the difference between your countable family income and the yearly income limit which describes your situation. This difference is usually paid in 12 equal monthly payments.

## Disability Pension Topics

**Improved Pensions:** Veterans with low incomes may be eligible for monetary support if they served 90 days or more of active military service, one day of which was during a period of war. The veteran must be permanently and totally disabled for reasons other than the veteran's own willful misconduct. The pension is reduced by the amount of the countable income of the veteran and the income of the spouse or dependent children. When a veteran without a spouse or child is being furnished nursing home or domiciliary care by VA, the pension cannot exceed \$90 per month.

**Protected Pension Programs:** pensioners entitled to benefits as of December 31, 1978, who do not elect to receive a pension under the Improved Pension program continue to receive pension benefits at the rate they were entitled to receive on December 31, 1978, as long as they remain permanently and totally disabled, do not lose a dependent, and their incomes do not exceed the income limitation, adjusted annually.

**Aid and Attendance or Housebound:** A veteran who is a patient in a nursing home, who is otherwise determined by the VA to be in need of regular aid and attendance of another person or who is permanently housebound may be entitled to higher income limitations or additional benefits, depending on the type of pension received.

## Other Disability Benefits

**Automatic Assistance:** Veterans and service members qualify for this benefit if they have service-connected loss of one or both hands or feet, or permanent loss of use or permanent impairment of vision of both eyes (VA regulations specify how great the impairment must be in order to qualify for the benefit). Veterans entitled to compensation for analysis of one or both knees or one or both hips may be eligible for adaptive equipment for an automobile.

**Clothing Allowance:** Any veteran who is entitled to receive compensation for service-connected disability for which he/she uses prosthetic or orthopedic appliances may receive an annual clothing allowance. The allowance

also is available to any veteran whose services-connected skin condition requires prescribed medication that damages the veteran's outer garments.