

# Little Known Veteran Benefit

Here is some information that you may not know about for Veterans. Please take time to read this information it could help you out in some hard times.

Regardless of your personal status, consider passing this along to all veterans, families of veterans or individuals with veterans in their family.

**"Aid and Attendance"** is an underutilized special monthly pension benefit offered by the Veterans Administration for veterans and surviving spouses who require in-home care or live in nursing homes.

To qualify, a veteran (includes the surviving spouse) must have served at least 90 days of active military service, one day of which is during a period of war, and must be discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

The veteran's benefit is \$18,234 annually (paid monthly) and increases to \$21,615 if a veteran has one dependent. The surviving spouse alone is \$11,715 annually.

For more information, call 1-800-827-1000  
Visit <http://www.va.gov/> (type "Aid and Attendance" in the search block), or contact your local VA office.  
Apply on-line at  
<http://vabenfits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>

The Special Pension for Veterans' Aid and Attendance pays up to \$1,644 a month, \$19,736

annually, toward assisted living, nursing homes or in-home care for veterans 65 and older who served at least 90 days and one day during wartime - stateside or overseas. Veterans and their spouses can receive up to \$23,396 annually and spouses of deceased veterans, \$12,681.

Yet, an estimated \$22 billion a year goes unclaimed. In 2007, only 134,000 seniors nationwide received the benefit, which was established in 1952.

Literally hundreds of thousands of veterans don't even know about this benefit. Of those that do many disqualify themselves on income or assets or find the paperwork too burdensome."

Streamlined process board helps families complete the necessary forms, so that approval comes in four to six months. The process is streamlined for vets who are blind or have memory issues and widows with medical needs. If applicants qualify, payments are retroactive. The few who are denied on excessive liquid assets can seek financial advice to qualify.

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**(Ed. Footnote: If you qualify for this help—GO FOR IT !!**

**The way things are today it can be a big help to you and your family.**

**Better that you get it than having it go to non-citizens!)**