

Amputee and Paralyzed Veteran Pension

The Commonwealth provides for a pension of \$150 per month to any honorably discharged resident veteran suffering an injury or disease resulting in the loss of use of two or more extremities.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The veteran must be certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as having wartime service-connected disabilities rated as 100% permanent and total
- Must have entered the military as a PA resident.

Blind (Vision Severely Impaired) Pension

The Commonwealth provides for a pension of \$150 per month to any honorably discharged resident veteran suffering an injury or disease resulting blindness to the extent that he or she has 3/60 or 10/200 or less normal vision in the better eye, or includes circumstances where the widest diameter of the visual field of the better eye has contracted to an angular distance of not greater than 20 degrees.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must have entered the military as a PA resident.

Contact a Veteran Service Officer at
610-278-3285 to learn more and
schedule an appointment.

Contact Us

Montgomery County Human Services Center
1430 DeKalb Street
Norristown, PA 19404-0311
610-278-3285
Fax: 610-278-5935

MontcoHHS@montcopa.org
www.montcopa.org/veteransaffairs



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1-855-634-HOPE (4673)



Office of Veteran Affairs



Pensions

For ALL benefits, please contact a Veteran Service Officer at 610-278-3285 to learn more and schedule an appointment.

For *Improved Pension* and *Non-Service Connected Death Pension*, applicants must also bring required documents:

- Veteran's Discharge Paperwork
- Voided Check or Checking Account Information
- Claimant (and spouse) last three months of bank statements
- Any "net worth" statements (Investments, IRAs, Annuities)
- Income Statements [1099, W2s, 1040 (as applicable), VA Award Letter]
- Medical Expense Invoices (out of pocket payments that have been paid and will not be reimbursed)
- Marriage License
- Veteran Death Certificate

Special Monthly Pension

Some veterans with severe disabilities are entitled to increased VA benefits known as special monthly pension (SMP). There are two levels of SMP: "housebound" and "aid and attendance." Veteran Service Officers are experts at helping you attain necessary medical opinions and completing forms to apply with the VA.

- Housebound benefits are available to veterans with a single permanent disability rated as 100 percent disabling who are essentially confined to their homes. These veterans do not actually have to be housebound.
- Aid and attendance (A&A) benefits are available to veterans who require the regular (but not constant) assistance of another person to perform the tasks of daily living.

In making this determination, the VA considers their "Activities for Daily Living", whether the veteran is able to dress or undress without assistance; can feed himself or herself; can keep himself or herself clean and presentable; frequently needs adjustments to any special prosthetic or orthopedic appliances; is able to attend to the wants of nature; and has a physical or mental incapacity that requires assistance on a regular basis to protect the claimant from the hazards of his or her daily environment.

Entitlement can also be established by showing that the veteran is blind or nearly blind (5/200 vision in both eyes, with corrective lenses, or contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less); or is a patient in a nursing home because of mental or physical incapacity.



Improved Pension

Non-service-connected VA pension is a monthly payment available to wartime veterans who are permanently and totally disabled and have very low incomes and net worth. The pension program is designed to supplement the income of disabled veterans who had to give up career opportunities while they served their country during a time of war and were unable to accumulate enough resources to support themselves adequately after they became disabled.

Veteran Service Officers will assist wartime veterans to apply for a non-service connected pension by completing necessary paperwork for submittal to the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).



Non Service Connected Death Pension

Non-service-connected death pension benefits are pension payments for low-income surviving spouses and surviving dependent children (Dependent parents are not eligible for non-service-connected death pension).

Eligibility Requirements:

- The veteran must have met the basic eligibility requirements for VA pension benefits (wartime service, discharge under conditions other than dishonorable, and the additional service requirement for veterans who first entered into active duty on or after September 8, 1980) and
- The survivor must demonstrate financial need and not have an excessive net worth.

Unlike the pension rules for veterans, the survivor does not need to be disabled to qualify for non-service-connected death pension.

