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WHAT EVERY VETERAN SHOULD KNOW

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2024 DISABILITY COMPENSATION RATES

Disability Compensation is a tax-free monetary benefit paid to veterans with disabilities that are the result of a disease or injury incurred or aggravated during active military service. Compensation may also be paid for post-service disabilities that are considered related or secondary to disabilities occurring in service and for disabilities presumed to be related to circumstances of military service, even though they may arise after service. Generally, the degrees of disability specified are also designed to compensate for considerable loss of working time from exacerbations or illnesses.

The benefit amount is graduated according to the degree of the veteran's disability on a scale from 10 percent to 100 percent (in increments of 10 percent). Compensation may also be paid for disabilities that are considered related or secondary to disabilities occurring in service and for disabilities presumed to be related to circumstances of military service, even though they may arise after service.

If you have dependents, an additional allowance may be added if your combined disability is rated 30% or greater. Your compensation may be offset if you receive military retirement pay, disability severance pay, or separation incentive payments.

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VA compensation and pension benefits cost of living allowance (COLA) is paid based on the Social Security Administration (SSA) COLA. By statute, compensation COLA may not be more than the SSA COLA; and pension COLA is equal to the SSA COLA.

This year there was a COLA increase of 3.2%.

Basic Rates of Disability Compensation Rates Effective December 1, 2023:		
Title 38, USC 1114sub-section:	Disability Rating	Monthly Benefit
(a)	10 percent	\$171.23
(b)	20 percent	\$338.49
(c)	30 percent	\$524.31
(d)	40 percent	\$755.28
(e)	50 percent	\$1075.16
(f)	60 percent	\$1361.88
(g)	70 percent	\$1716.28
(h)	80 percent	\$1995.01
(i)	90 percent	\$2241.91
(j)	100 percent	\$3737.85

Additional Amount Payable for Spouse Requiring Aid & Attendance Rates Effective December 1, 2023								
Disability Rating	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Monthly Benefit	\$57	\$76	\$95	\$114	\$134	\$153	\$172	\$191.14

Additional Amount Payable For Each Additional Child Under Age 18 Rates Effective December 1, 2023								
Disability Rating	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Monthly Benefit	\$31	\$41	\$51	\$62	\$72	\$82	\$93	\$103.55

Additional Amount Payable for Each Additional Child Over Age 18 Attending School								
Rates Effective December 1, 2023								
Disability Rating	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Monthly Benefit	\$100	\$133	\$167	\$200	\$234	\$267	\$301	\$334.49

Detailed Rates of Disability Compensation										
Rates Effective December 1, 2023										
DEPENDENT STATUS	Disability Rating									
	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Veteran Alone	171.23	338.49	524.31	755.25	1075.16	1361.88	1716.28	1995.01	2241.91	3737.85
Veteran & Spouse	171.23	338.49	586.31	838.28	1179.16	1486.88	1861.28	2161.01	2428.91	3946.25
Veteran & Spouse & 1 Child	171.23	338.49	632.31	899.28	1255.16	1577.88	1968.28	2283.01	2565.91	4098.87
Veteran & No Spouse & 1 Child	171.23	338.49	565.31	810.28	1144.16	1444.88	1813.28	2106.01	2366.91	3877.22
Veteran & Spouse & No Children and 1 Parent	171.23	338.49	636.31	904.28	1262.16	1586.88	1978.28	2294.01	2578.91	4113.51
Veteran & Spouse & 1 Child & 1 parent	171.23	338.49	682.31	965.28	1338.16	1677.88	2085.28	2416.01	2715.91	4266.13
Veteran & Spouse & No Child & 2 Parents	171.23	338.49	686.31	970.28	1345.16	1686.88	2095.28	2424.01	2728.91	4280.51
Veteran & Spouse & 1 Child & 2 Parents	171.23	338.49	732.31	1031.28	1421.16	1777.88	2202.28	2549.01	2865.91	4433.39
Veteran & No Spouse & No Children & 1 Parent	171.23	338.49	574.31	821.28	1158.16	1461.88	1833.28	2128.01	2391.91	3905.11
Veteran & No Spouse & 1 Child & 1 Parent	171.23	338.49	615.31	876.28	1227.16	1544.88	1930.28	2239.01	2516.91	4044.48
Veteran & No Spouse & No Children & 2 Parents	171.23	338.49	624.31	887.28	1241.16	1561.88	1950.28	2261.01	2541.91	4072.37
Veteran & No Spouse & 1 Child & 2 Parents	171.23	338.49	665.31	942.28	1310.16	1644.88	2047.28	2372.01	2666.91	4211.74

Notes: Rates for Children over age 18 attending school are shown separately in the above chart. All other entries in the above charts reflect rates for children under age 18, or helpless.. All references in the preceding charts to parents refer to parents who have been determined to be dependent by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Non-Service Connected Pension

Non-Service Connected Disability Pension is a Department of Veterans Affairs benefits program that provides financial support to wartime veterans having limited income. The amount payable under this program depends on the type and amount of income the veteran and family members receive from other sources. Monthly payments are made to bring a veteran’s total annual income (including other retirement and Social Security income) to an established support level. (Unreimbursed medical expenses may reduce countable income.)

Improved Pension Annual Rates Effective December 1, 2023	
STATUS OF VETERAN:	ANNUAL LIMIT
Permanently & totally disabled veterans:	
Veteran alone	\$16,551
Veteran with one dependent	\$21,674
Each additional dependent child	\$2,831
Veteran – Aid and Attendance:	
Veteran alone	\$27,609
Veteran with one dependent	\$32,729
Each additional dependent child	\$2,831
Veteran – Housebound:	
Veteran alone	\$20,226
Veteran with one dependent	\$25,348
Each additional dependent child	\$2,831
Two veterans married to one another:	\$25,348
Each additional dependent child	\$2,831
Child Earned Income Exclusion effective 1-1-2024 – \$14,600	

Eligibility

Veteran was discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions; and veteran served 90 days or more of active duty with at least 1 day during a period of war time. However, 38 CFR 3.12a requires that anyone who enlisted after 9/7/80 generally has to serve at least 24 months or the full period for which a person was called or ordered to active duty in order to receive any benefits based on that period of service; and

Veteran is permanently and totally disabled, or is age 65 or older; and

Veteran's countable family income is below a yearly limit set by law.

Protected Pension Rates

Maximum Annual Income Limitations for Protected Pensions Effective December 1, 2023.

Pensioners entitled to benefits as of December 31, 1978, who do not elect to receive a pension under the Improved Pension Program, may continue to receive pension benefits at the rates they were entitled to receive on December 31, 1978 or June 30, 1960, as long as they remain permanently and totally disabled, do not lose a dependent, and their income does not exceed the income limitation, adjusted annually.

Pension Law In Effect on December 31, 1978 (Section 306):	
The rate entitled to on December 31, 1978 may be continued if the recipient's 2023 IVAP is below the following limits:	
Status of Recipient	Annual Income Limitation
Veteran / widow with no dependents	\$18,824 or less
Veteran / widow with one or more dependent	\$25,303 or less
Child (no entitled veteran or surviving spouse)	\$15,393 or less
Veteran with no dependents in receipt of A&A	\$19,502 or less
Veteran with one dependent in receipt of A&A	\$25,978 or less
Surviving spouse's income exclusion	\$6,013
Pension Law In Effect on June 30,1960 (Old Law):	
The rate entitled to on June 30,1960 may be continued if the recipient's IVAP for 2023 is below the following limits:	
Status of Recipient	Annual Income Limitation
Veteran / widow with no dependents	\$16,485
Veteran / widow with one or more dependents	\$23,757
Child /no entitled veteran or surviving spouse	\$16,485
Monthly Benefit Payable To Eligible Veterans Receiving Disability Pension	
Under Laws In Effect June 30,1960 OR December 31,1978	
VETERAN'S ENTITLEMENT:	RATE PAYABLE:
Basic Rates	\$66.15
10 Years or Age 65	\$78.75
If Entitled To Aid & Attendance	\$135.45
If Entitled To Housebound	\$100.00

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

DIC is a tax-free benefit paid to eligible survivors of servicemembers or veterans. Surviving spouses of veterans who died after January 1, 1993, receive a basic monthly rate of \$1,612.75 (effective December 1, 2023) Surviving spouses entitled to DIC based on the veteran’s death prior to January 1, 1993, receive the greater of:

- The basic monthly rate of \$1,612.75
- An amount based on the veteran’s pay grade. (See following sections for Pay Grade tables and Determination of Pay Grade.)

There are additional DIC payments for dependent children. (Refer to the following charts.)

Surviving Spouse DIC Rates If Veteran’s Death Was Prior to January 1, 1993			
	Monthly Rate	Pay Grade	Monthly Rate
E-1*:	\$1612.75	W-4**:	\$1928.66
E-2*:	\$1612.75	O-1**:	\$1703.03
E-3*(see footnote#1):	\$1612.75	O-2**:	\$1761.43
E-4*:	\$1612.75	O-3**:	\$1882.19
E-5*:	\$1612.75	O-4:	\$1995.01
E-6*:	\$1612.75	O-5:	\$2195.47
E-7**:	\$1668.49	O-6:	\$2475.55
E-8**:	\$1761.43	O-7:	\$2671.96
E-9**(see footnote#1):	\$1837.09 or \$1983.09	O-8:	\$2934.81
W-1**:	\$1703.03	O-9:	\$3139.21
W-2**:	\$1770.71	O-10 (see footnote#3):	\$3443.18 or \$3695.39
W-3**:	\$1822.47		

Footnotes to Table:

Increase payment to \$1,955.21 if veteran rated totally disabled 8 continuous years prior to death, and surviving spouse was married to veteran those same 8 years.

A surviving spouse of an Aviation Cadet or other service not covered by this table is paid the DIC rate for enlisted E-3 under 34.

\$1,983.09 is for a veteran who served as Sergeant Major of the Army or Marine Corps, Senior Enlisted Advisor of the Navy, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, or Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard. \$3580.80 is for a veteran who served as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Chief of Staff of the Army or Air Force, Chief of Naval Operations, or Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Whenever there is no surviving spouse of a deceased veteran entitled to DIC, DIC shall be paid in equal shares to the children of the deceased veteran at the following monthly rates (effective December 1, 2023):

Number of Children	Total Payable (to be divided in equal shares):
1	\$680.94
2	\$979.58
3	\$1278.27
4	\$1521.18
5	\$1764.09
6	\$2007.00
7	\$2249.91
8	\$2492.82

If DIC is payable monthly to a person as a surviving spouse, and there is a child (of such person's deceased spouse) who has attained the age of 18, and who, while under such age, became permanently incapable of self-support, DIC shall be paid monthly to each such child, concurrently with the payment of DIC to the surviving spouse, in the amount of \$680.94.

If DIC is payable monthly to a person as a surviving spouse, and there is a child (of such person's deceased spouse) who has attained the age of 18 and who, while under the age of 23, is pursuing a course of instruction at a VA-approved educational institution, DIC shall be paid

monthly to each such child, concurrently with the payment of DIC to the surviving spouse, in the amount of \$338.49.

Death Pensions for Surviving Spouses/Children

Pension Rate Table for Surviving Spouses & Children Rates Effective December 1, 2023		Pension Law In Effect Through December 31,1978 (Section 306): Rates Effective December 1, 2023	
Maximum Annual Pension Rate (MAPR) Category	Annual Income Must Be Less Than:	Status of Recipient:	Annual Income Limitation:
Surviving Spouse Alone (No Dependent Child):	\$11,102	Surviving spouse with no dependents	\$18,824
Surviving Spouse With One Dependent Child:	\$14,529	Surviving spouse with one or more dependents	\$25,303
Child Alone:	\$2,831	Child (no entitled veteran or surviving spouse)	\$15,393
Housebound Spouse Without Dependents:	\$13,568	Pension Law In Effect on June 30,1960 (Old Law): Rates Effective December 1, 2023	
Housebound Spouse With One Dependent:	\$16,989	Status of Recipient:	Annual Income Limitation:
Surviving Spouse In Need Of Aid And Attendance (No Dependent Child):	\$17,743	Surviving spouse with no dependents	\$16,485
Surviving Spouse In Need Of Aid And Attendance With One Dependent Child:	\$21,166	Surviving spouse with one or more dependents	\$23,757
For Each Additional Child:	\$2,831	Child only (no entitled veteran or surviving spouse)	\$16,485
Child Earned Income Exclusion Effective 1/1/2024:	\$14,600		



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