



# A Summary Of VA Benefits

## Putting Veterans First

VA pledges to:

- ✓ Treat you with courtesy, compassion and respect at all times
- ✓ Communicate with you accurately, completely and clearly
- ✓ Provide timely service to you
- ✓ Make our services accessible to you
- ✓ Fully answer your questions and concerns

Veterans Benefits  
Administration  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Washington, DC 20420

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

*“...to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan...”*

- Abraham Lincoln -

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## Toll-Free Service

### Benefits Information & Assistance

For more information about specific benefits, visit the nearest VA regional office or call

**1-800-827-1000**

### Special Toll-Free Numbers

Health Care	877-222-8387
Education & Training	888-442-4551
VA Life Insurance	800-669-8477
Office of SGLI	800-419-1473
CHAMPVA	800-733-8387
Helpline (Agent Orange & Gulf War)	800-749-8387
Direct Deposit	877-838-2778
Headstones ( <i>status of claims only</i> )	800-697-6947
Telecommunication	
Device for Deaf ( <i>TDD</i> )	800-829-4833

### Internet

For detailed information about all VA benefits and services, visit

[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

Survivors. Information specific to survivors is available. Select “Benefits,” then “Survivors’ Benefits.”

Applications. Apply for Compensation, Pension, Health Care, Education, or Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment benefits by selecting “Apply Online.”

Inquiries. A “Contact VA” link is available for e-mail inquiries.

**Death Pension** is payable to some surviving spouses and children of deceased wartime veterans. The benefit is based on financial need.

**Parents’ DIC** is payable to some surviving parents. The benefit is based on financial need.

**VA Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA)** shares the cost of medical services for eligible dependents and survivors of certain veterans.

**Dependents & Survivors Education & Training:** Some family members of disabled or deceased veterans are eligible for education and training benefits.

**Home Loans:** Certain surviving spouses may be eligible for this benefit.

**Time Limits:** For education and training benefits, spouses and surviving spouses have 10 years from the date VA first finds them eligible, and surviving spouses of servicemembers who died while on active duty have 20 years. Children are eligible from age 18 to 26. These time limits can sometimes be extended. There are no time limits to apply for the other benefits described above.

## Burial

VA offers certain benefits and services to honor our Nation's deceased veterans.

- ❑ **Headstones and Markers:** VA can furnish a monument to mark the unmarked grave of an eligible veteran.
- ❑ **Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC):** VA can provide a PMC for eligible recipients.
- ❑ **Burial Flag:** VA can provide an American flag to drape an eligible veteran's casket.
- ❑ **Reimbursement of Burial Expenses:** Generally, VA can pay a burial allowance of \$2,000 for veterans who die of service-related causes. For certain other veterans, VA can pay \$300 for burial and funeral expenses and \$300 for a burial plot.
- ❑ **Burial in a VA National Cemetery:** Most veterans and some dependents can be buried in a VA national cemetery.

**Time Limits:** There is no time limit to claim reimbursement of burial expenses for a service-related death. In other cases, claims must be filed within two years of the veteran's burial.