

Home Pension benefits Aid and Attendance benefits and Housebound allowance

Pension benefits

- Get benefits
Eligibility
How to apply
Apply now
Aid and Attendance benefits and Housebound allowance
Survivors Pension
Manage benefits
More resources

VA Aid and Attendance benefits and Housebound allowance

VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits provide monthly payments added to the amount of a monthly VA pension for qualified Veterans and survivors. If you need help with daily activities, or you're housebound, find out if you qualify.

You can still file a claim and apply for benefits during the coronavirus pandemic

Get the latest information about in-person services, claim exams, extensions, paperwork, decision reviews and appeals, and how best to contact us during this time. Go to our coronavirus FAQs

Am I eligible for VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits as a Veteran or survivor?

VA Aid and Attendance eligibility

You may be eligible for this benefit if you get a VA pension and you meet at least one of these requirements.

At least one of these must be true:

- You need another person to help you perform daily activities, like bathing, feeding, and dressing, or
You have to stay in bed—or spend a large portion of the day in bed—because of illness, or
You are a patient in a nursing home due to the loss of mental or physical abilities related to a disability, or
Your eyesight is limited (even with glasses or contact lenses you have only 5/200 or less in both eyes; or concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less)

Housebound benefits eligibility

You may be eligible for this benefit if you get a VA pension and you spend most of your time in your home because of a permanent disability (a disability that doesn't go away).

Note: You can't get Aid and Attendance benefits and Housebound benefits at the same time.

How do I get this benefit?

You can apply for VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits in one of these ways:

Send a completed VA form to your pension management center (PMC)

Fill out VA Form 21-2680 (Examination for Housebound Status or Permanent Need for Regular Aid and Attendance) and mail it to the PMC for your state. You can have your doctor fill out the examination information section.

Download VA Form 21-2680 (PDF) Find your PMC

You can also include with your VA form:

- Other evidence, like a doctor's report, that shows you need Aid and Attendance or Housebound care
Details about what you normally do during the day and how you get to places
Details that help show what kind of illness, injury, or mental or physical disability affects your ability to do things, like take a bath, on your own

If you're in a nursing home, you'll also need to fill out a Request for Nursing Home Information in Connection with Claim for Aid and Attendance (VA Form 21-0779).

Download VA Form 21-0779 (PDF)

Apply in person

You can bring your information to a VA regional office near you. Find your nearest VA regional office

How long does it take VA to make a decision?

It depends. We process claims in the order we receive them, unless a claim requires priority processing.

Last updated: January 14, 2022

Feedback

Veteran programs and services

- Homeless Veterans
Women Veterans
Minority Veterans
LGBTQ+ Veterans
PTSD
Mental health
Adaptive sports and special events
VA outreach events
National Resource Directory

More VA resources

- VA forms
VA health care providers
Accredited claims representatives
VA mobile apps
Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs)
State Veterans Affairs offices
Doing business with VA
Careers at VA
VA outreach materials
Your VA welcome kit

Get VA updates

- VAntage Point blog
News releases
Email updates
Facebook
Instagram
Twitter
Flickr
YouTube
All VA social media

In crisis? Talk to someone now

Veterans Crisis Line

Get answers

- Resources and support
Contact us

Call us

800-698-2411
TTY: 711

Visit a medical center or regional office

Find a VA location

Language assistance

Español Tagalog Other languages